

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

Hearing transcripts - 24 January 2011 - Morning session

1 Monday, 24 January 2011

2 (11.00 am)

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr O'Connor?

4 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Good morning, my Lady. My Lady, may

5 I invite you to call Carlos Daravina?

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Can I hand back, through Mr Suter --

7 I think it's a report from Friday.

8 MR CARLOS ALEX DARAVINA (affirmed)

9 Questions by MR ANDREW O'CONNOR

10 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Could you give your full name, please?

11 A. My name is Carlos Alex Daravina.

12 Q. Thank you, Mr Daravina. Mr Daravina, if I could invite

13 you to try to keep your voice as loud as possible while

14 you're giving evidence, please. I'm afraid the

15 microphone in front of you doesn't actually amplify the

16 sound of your voice within this room.

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. There are a number of people in the room, and so, if you

19 can speak as loudly as possible, they should all hear

20 you.

21 Mr Daravina, in July 2005, you were the head porter

22 at the BMA building in Tavistock Square. Is that right?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. How many porters were there in the building,

25 Mr Daravina?

1 A. At that time, we were four porters in total.

2 Q. Four porters, and you were one of them?

3 A. I was one of them, yes.

4 Q. Can you give us a description of the duties that the

5 porters carried out in the building, please?

6 A. Yes, we set up meeting rooms, we have to deal also with

7 deliveries that arrive to the building, any emails that

8 people in the building are requesting things to bring up

9 to the department. All those things we do in there.

10 Q. I see. Did you wear a uniform?

11 A. We Interserve, so we use our uniform for Interserve.

12 Q. Can you give us a description of what the uniform looked

13 like, then?

14 A. It has changed now, but I think it was a blue T-shirt

15 and blue trousers as well in that time.

16 Q. I see, so it was a blue shirt?

17 A. That's it.

18 Q. Thank you. We are aware that there were security

19 personnel in the BMA building as well, Mr Daravina, and

20 we're going to hear evidence this morning from Mr Hughes

21 who worked in the security.

22 Can we take it that the security members of staff

23 and the porters, were they -- did they work separately?

24 A. Yes, we do work separately, yes.

25 Q. I see. On 7 July 2005, Mr Daravina, you were at the BMA

1 building at Tavistock Square?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. We've seen the statement that you gave to the police
4 a little while after that day, and you describe that you
5 arrived on that morning quite early, at 7.15 in the
6 morning.

7 A. That's right, yes.

8 Q. You describe how the first thing you did, having arrived
9 at work, was to spend some time setting up conference
10 rooms?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Would that have involved moving tables and other pieces
13 of furniture around?

14 A. We did move tables and furniture around, that's right.

15 Q. We see from your witness statement that you recall
16 finishing that task at about 8.50 in the morning.

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. As we now know, the time at which the first of the first
19 three of the bombs that morning were going off around
20 London.

21 A. That's right.

22 Q. What did you do when you had finished that task?

23 A. We went to the porters' office and we went for a coffee
24 and, while we were having a coffee, one of my colleagues
25 received a call from his wife, and his wife says that

1 apparently there was an explosion at Liverpool Street,
2 and then, when he hung up, he says to me, "Can you call
3 your wife and ask her to watch TV?", because his wife
4 obviously was working as well so couldn't turn on a TV
5 or so.

6 Q. I see.

7 A. So he asked me to call my wife and give the news and if
8 she could get to the TV and turn it on and see what was
9 going on. So I did that, I called my wife and I said,
10 "Apparently there's been an explosion at
11 Liverpool Street, will you be able to turn the TV on?".
12 "I'm going to do that", she said. I hung up and carried
13 on drinking my cup of tea.

14 Q. Thank you. Can I ask you this, Mr Daravina: you say you
15 were in the porters' office --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- where was or is the porters' office in that building?

18 A. At that time, there was at the rear of the building,
19 near the back gate.

20 Q. I see. Would that be the gate on to Burton Street?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Just so that we can orientate ourselves a little, can
23 I ask you to look at a photograph which we can bring up
24 on the screen? It's INQ10348 [INQ10348-1] .

25 I think, Mr Daravina, what we're looking at here, we

1 have our backs to Tavistock Square, we're looking
2 through the courtyard and I think what we see in the
3 distance there is the rear gate on to Burton Street. Is
4 that right?

5 A. That's Burton Street, but that's not the back gate.

6 Q. I see. Where's the back gate in relation to this
7 photograph?

8 A. The back gate will be located at east wing of the
9 building.

10 Q. I see. So in relation to this photograph, is it over to
11 the right or over to the left?

12 A. To the left.

13 Q. Is there an access from the back gate that you're
14 talking about into this courtyard?

15 A. There will be access to there as well, yes.

16 Q. So perhaps it's only just over to the left in relation
17 to this photo?

18 A. Yes, that's it.

19 Q. We read from your statement that, having spoken to your
20 colleague and spoken to your wife about the television
21 and so on, you heard the noise of the explosion.

22 A. Yes, I remember I was --

23 Q. Can I just ask you this. Were you still in the porters'
24 office when you heard that?

25 A. Oh yes.

1 Q. Can you tell us, then, what you remember about that
2 moment?

3 A. Yes, I heard a tremendous noise, a big blast and, while
4 I was eating a piece of bread, I said "What was that?".
5 Then I stood up and I went running to the back gate
6 because it was so loud that I thought it was just by the
7 back gate outside in the street. When I got back there,
8 I found one of the security guys, Terry, and I --

9 Q. Pause there, so you say "the back gate", so you mean the
10 Burton Street gate that we were just talking about?

11 A. That's right, correct.

12 Q. Do go on.

13 A. Then I asked Terry "What was that?", and he was having
14 a joke with one of the colleagues, but he also heard
15 this blast, but he was carrying on doing his joke and
16 laughing and he says "I don't know", and then in some
17 time I heard on the radio, and his radio -- because
18 we've got different channels -- that a bus was just
19 recently blown up in front of the BMA House. So he ran
20 to the front of the building and I ran behind him.

21 Q. I see. Did you run through the courtyard that we've
22 just been looking at in the photograph?

23 A. No, we ran through the car park and there's a tunnel
24 that leads to the courtyard and then the front gate.

25 Q. Sorry a tunnel that leads to ...?

1 A. To the courtyard and then to the front gate.

2 Q. I see. How long do you think it was between hearing the
3 blast and you actually going into Tavistock Square
4 itself?

5 A. That happened so quick. Probably two, three minutes.

6 Q. I see. What did you see, Mr Daravina, when you went out
7 into Tavistock Square?

8 A. When we went out, I saw a bus, that was its up part
9 taken -- blow up and rip apart, and there was a lot of
10 mess, there was a lot of rubbish around, and so a lot of
11 people crawling on the floor and some people were coming
12 into the building like zombies, like they don't know
13 where to go, and there was a lot of smoke and a terrible
14 smell, and people covered in blood.

15 Q. Yes. Now, what did you do? Did you go and assist them
16 or did you go back into the building?

17 A. The security, chief security, Steve, start shouting "We
18 evacuate the building. Can you help to us evacuate the
19 building?", and then Terry start doing that. I start
20 walking through the back of the building through the --
21 that gate that we saw but, when I was just outside, we
22 hear on the radio calling "Porters, porters, we need top
23 tables", and then I came back to the front of the
24 building.

25 Q. I see. So if I understand you right, you went into the

1 square in the first instance and had a view of the bus
2 and the casualties near it?

3 A. That's it.

4 Q. But you were only there a short period of time and you
5 went back into the courtyard towards the back gate?

6 A. That's right.

7 Q. Then you heard a call for assistance. On your radio,
8 would this have been?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. You went back into the Tavistock Square for a second
11 time?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. We've heard already some evidence about that time when
14 the casualties were moved from the road into the
15 courtyard, and I want to ask you about that in a moment.
16 But before I do, in your witness statement you describe
17 seeing one particular casualty on the bus. You describe
18 her as a black lady on the nearside of the bus, so the
19 side that was facing on to the BMA building.

20 A. That's right.

21 Q. You describe her as sort of part hanging out of the bus.
22 Do you remember the lady I'm talking about?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. We've heard a fair amount of evidence about this lady
25 already. We believe that you're referring to a lady

1 called Shyanuja Parathasangary, who was, in fact, from
2 a Sri Lankan family. You describe her in your statement
3 as staring at you and we've heard other evidence that
4 her eyes were open at this point. Is that your memory?

5 A. I do remember she was -- her eyes were wide open and it
6 appears she was looking at me.

7 Q. Can I ask you this, Mr Daravina -- it may be that you
8 simply can't remember this -- but was this the first
9 time you went into the square or the second time when
10 you went back to assist with removing casualties?

11 A. That was the first time.

12 Q. How close did you get to her on that occasion?

13 A. It was from the main gate, so that would probably be
14 four metres, five metres away.

15 Q. So you were simply standing -- was it inside that gate
16 or did you go a little bit out of the gate?

17 A. No, I was out of the gate.

18 Q. On the pavement?

19 A. That's right.

20 Q. Again, doing the best you can, how long did you look at
21 her for on that occasion?

22 A. Not long.

23 Q. Just a fleeting glance?

24 A. A few seconds.

25 Q. Did you see any signs of life from her at that moment?

1 A. I did, I did see -- I thought she was alive.

2 Q. Just pause there. You thought she was alive. You saw
3 her eyes open. Apart from her eyes being open, did you,
4 in fact, see anything about her that suggested to you
5 that she was still alive at that point?

6 A. She was looking at me.

7 Q. She had her eyes open. All the other evidence that
8 we've heard, Mr Daravina, is that no one else thought
9 she was alive at that time.

10 Doing the best you can, apart from the fact that her
11 eyes were open, is there anything else that you can
12 actually remember -- for example, her talking or her
13 moving or seeing her breathe -- is there anything else
14 that leads to you think that she was actually alive
15 apart from the fact that her eyes were open, as you've
16 said?

17 A. No, she wasn't moving, she wasn't talking at all.

18 Q. You refer in another part of your witness statement to
19 seeing the same person, in fact out of the bus, being
20 covered up.

21 A. That's right.

22 Q. That was later the same day. Is that your memory?

23 A. That was the same.

24 Q. In fact, Mr Daravina, we know that
25 Shyanuja Parathasangary's body wasn't moved from the bus

1 until much later on, in fact during the night, 7 July.

2 There were, of course, other casualties around, some of
3 them being covered up, so is it possible that you were
4 mistaken about that and that you saw someone being
5 covered up, but it wasn't actually the same person that
6 you'd seen with her eyes open on that first time you
7 came into the square?

8 A. Probably. Everything was so confused and everything was
9 going on so fast.

10 Q. Of course. We do understand just how much was going on
11 and how much there was to take in at that time.

12 Can I come back, then, to the exercise that you
13 helped with, I think, in moving the casualties from the
14 road into the BMA building?

15 First of all, do you know why it was that the
16 casualties were being moved in this way?

17 A. We hear a police officer saying that we needed to go
18 back to the rear of the building because another device
19 might be still in the bus.

20 Q. I see. So it was a concern that there might be another
21 explosion which would then catch up the people who were
22 lying on the road?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. We've heard that they were moved using makeshift
25 stretchers in the main -- tables, doors, pieces of the

1 wreckage. Is that your memory too?

2 A. We took top tables from the committee rooms we used, we
3 bring them to the front of the building and we put the
4 casualties on top of these top tables. We lifted them
5 and bring them to the safe place inside the courtyard.

6 Q. Again, we do understand how difficult it is to estimate
7 timings, but can you remember roughly how long it was
8 after the explosion that this process of bringing the
9 casualties into the courtyard took place?

10 A. You mean all of them?

11 Q. Yes, I mean -- well, perhaps I should ask you
12 a different question first.

13 How long did it take from when you started moving
14 the casualties in to when the last one had been brought
15 into the courtyard?

16 A. I can't remember.

17 Q. No?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Five minutes, ten minutes, twenty minutes?

20 A. Probably five minutes.

21 Q. Okay. Do you recall -- and I think you refer to this in
22 your witness statement -- two particular casualties that
23 you helped to carry in, both of them ladies, both
24 looking quite similar, both wearing jeans? Do you
25 remember them?

1 A. I do.

2 Q. It may be that you can't help me with this, then, but do
3 you remember whether they were some of the first to be
4 moved in or towards the end of that process?

5 A. I think they were the first I helped to move in.

6 Q. I see. Do you remember that one of those ladies was
7 more seriously injured than the other?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What do you remember about the more seriously injured
10 one? Was she conscious or unconscious?

11 A. When we moved them in, first of all, we moved the less
12 injured and then we brought the other one in. But
13 I remember there was a man talking to her, talking to
14 both of them. But then like five, eight minutes later,
15 we were doing so many things. Then we come back and the
16 guy say to me, "Carlos, can you help me here? Can you
17 take this lady away from here because she has died?"

18 Q. That's what you describe in your witness statement. We
19 believe that the lady you're referring to, the more
20 seriously injured of the two, was a lady called
21 Marie Hartley, who, as you say, did die that morning.
22 You mentioned in your witness statement this timing
23 of 8 minutes after she had been brought into the
24 courtyard that you became aware that she had died. It's
25 quite a particular time. Is there a particular reason

1 that you recall it being 8 minutes or was that just your
2 estimation of the time period?

3 A. That's my estimation.

4 Q. Can you remember whether you were still helping to carry
5 other casualties into the courtyard at this time or was
6 it after that process had been finished?

7 A. No, we didn't have to bring any more people. I was
8 bringing water, tapes and more top tables.

9 Q. As you say, this gentleman who had been with the two
10 ladies as you'd carried them in -- had he? -- he asked
11 you to move what was, by that time, the body of
12 Marie Hartley out of the courtyard?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did he tell you why he wanted you to move it?

15 A. He was assisting the other lady who was still alive and
16 he says that the other lady who has died was her friend
17 and he didn't want her to get upset because that might
18 get her worse. So he asked us to remove this lady away
19 somewhere.

20 Q. Yes, and the other lady, of course, was Camille Scott.
21 You may not have known her name, but we've already heard
22 her give evidence in these proceedings.

23 So I think it's right to say that you did then move
24 Marie Hartley's body out of the courtyard. You were
25 helped by others, were you?

1 A. I was -- yes, we took a top table and I remember
2 a colleague, Antonio, and Santos, and ourselves would
3 lift the body.

4 Q. He's another of the porters, I think?

5 A. That's right.

6 Q. Where did you take her body?

7 A. We didn't know where to take her, so I asked security,
8 chief of security, Patrick Reed, and he sounds a bit
9 confused about it and he says, "Just take her to the
10 basement", a safe place.

11 Q. We see in the statements that we've been provided with,
12 Mr Daravina, sometimes the place that Marie Hartley's
13 body was taken to is referred to as a basement,
14 sometimes it's referred to as a garage. Do both
15 descriptions accurately describe where she was taken?

16 A. Yes, it's a basement car park area.

17 Q. Is it a fully enclosed area?

18 A. Well, not really.

19 Q. Let me put it a different way. Is it actually visible
20 from the pavement, for example, the area where her body
21 was taken?

22 A. Oh no, no.

23 Q. I think it's right to say that, later in the day, you,
24 in fact, went and took her body and brought it back up
25 above ground and I think into the courtyard. Is that

1 right?

2 A. We didn't took it back. I think police did that. But
3 what I did was show to the police where the body was.

4 Q. I see. So did you actually go back down to the garage
5 to the basement with them?

6 A. I did.

7 Q. But they were the ones who actually carried it back
8 upstairs?

9 A. I don't know. Somebody brought it back.

10 Q. We think there may have been firemen who helped with
11 that task as well. It may be that you don't remember
12 that level of detail.

13 A. I don't know, I don't remember being brought her up.

14 Q. All your memory, Mr Daravina -- and, please, we
15 understand how difficult it is to remember these small
16 details this long after the events, but -- so you simply
17 remember showing them where the body was and leaving it
18 at that, really?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Do you have any idea roughly when that was? It was the
21 same day, wasn't it?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Some time in the afternoon, would that be right?

24 A. It would be done in the afternoon.

25 Q. Early afternoon, late afternoon, or can't you remember?

1 A. I can't remember.

2 Q. Mr Daravina, one other thing I want to ask you about is
3 another of the casualties on the bus, this time someone
4 who was alive when you saw him. You describe him in
5 your statement as a Chinese looking man. Again, the
6 description you give is quite clear and we've heard
7 quite a lot of evidence about this man.

8 He was, in fact, or his family were, from Vietnam.

9 His name was Sam Ly. We've heard about him also, in
10 fact, just in front of where Shyanuja Parathasangary was
11 leaning out of the bus, but he, I think, was making
12 a noise, he was very definitely still alive. Is that
13 what you remember?

14 A. I remember a Chinese man. He was very bad injured on
15 part of his body, on his leg, and he was screaming,
16 I remember he was screaming and in terrible pain.

17 Q. Did you assist him or were you assisting those who
18 themselves were helping him?

19 A. Somebody else was with him. I didn't assist him, no.
20 I brought some felt and water for him because the guy
21 who was assisting was asking for water. Everybody was
22 asking for water and screaming for tapes to wrap the
23 people up, and covers, so we were running up and down.

24 Q. Running up and down helping those who were themselves
25 helping the casualties?

1 A. Yes, it was difficult in that moment to find things to
2 help, so we went to the offices to find tapes, we went
3 to the basement to look for felt to cover the people,
4 and we were -- at the basement we were running out of
5 tables, we needed to go up to the third floor to bring
6 more tables.

7 Q. Does that describe, in fact, much of the rest of that
8 day for you, running around helping as you could with
9 those who were themselves treating the casualties?

10 A. That's right.

11 Q. We see in your statement that you stayed at
12 Tavistock Square until about 5.00 that day?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Then you left to go home?

15 A. Correct.

16 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Thank you very much, Mr Daravina.
17 Those are all the questions I have for you. It may be
18 that some of the other barristers in court have some
19 questions for you now. Thank you.

20 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Gallagher?

21 Questions by MS GALLAGHER

22 MS GALLAGHER: Mr Daravina, I just have some brief questions
23 for you. First of all, you've described earlier, when
24 you were first going outside from the building, that you
25 were requested to help with the evacuation of the

1 building and you go back in, and you say a call came
2 over the radio asking for table tops, the tops of
3 tables, and you said the call included the phrase
4 "Calling porters". Do you know who made that request?

5 A. It probably was Steve.

6 Q. That's certainly what you thought in your statement
7 in October 2005. You thought it was Steve from
8 security. So it was a request which came from security
9 in the BMA building?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. You also describe in your statement how, after getting
12 the table tops and bringing them outside, you also get
13 some tablecloths to cover people up.

14 Again, could you help us with who asked you to get
15 the tablecloths? Do you remember?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Even if you can't remember the person, could you assist
18 us with whether it was someone from the BMA building,
19 like security, or whether it was medical personnel?

20 A. I think it was a medical personnel, yes, probably
21 a woman. I can't remember properly.

22 Q. Do you think, when you say medical personnel, possibly
23 a woman, was it someone in a uniform or was it a doctor
24 from the BMA building in ordinary clothes? Can you
25 assist us with that?

1 A. It was probably a member of BMA.

2 Q. Thank you. In your statement, you describe having
3 orders throughout the day and requests throughout the
4 day from a number of people, mainly security staff and
5 police, when you were told to move back because of the
6 possible secondary device, and you've also just
7 described possibly getting a request from a BMA doctor.
8 Do you recall taking directions or following
9 instructions during the day from medical staff in
10 uniform at any time?

11 A. I don't remember that.

12 Q. Just one last thing, Mr Daravina. In your statement,
13 you describe how, after helping with the two ladies,
14 members of security were taking the obvious dead people
15 to the D entrance of the BMA building. That's just to
16 quote from your statement. My Lady, for your note it's
17 at page 2.

18 Do you recall anything further about that, seeing
19 members of security taking what you describe as
20 obviously dead people to the D entrance?

21 A. I knew because I heard people around saying, "Dead
22 people is being taken to the D entrance", and we
23 couldn't get out of the building, so ...

24 Q. You can't recall who was directing it, if it was being
25 directed by security staff --

1 A. No.

2 Q. -- BMA doctors or paramedics?

3 A. No.

4 MS GALLAGHER: Thank you very much, Mr Daravina. I've

5 nothing further.

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Saunders?

7 Questions by MR SAUNDERS

8 MR SAUNDERS: Mr Daravina, I have only a few very brief

9 questions for you. You've described the lady you saw on

10 the downstairs of the bus, do you remember, that you

11 thought was looking at you? Do you remember that lady,

12 first of all?

13 A. That was stuck on the bus?

14 Q. That was stuck on the bus, that's it. I represent her

15 family. I think I've understood this, Mr Daravina, that

16 you remember seeing her eyes open, which is why you

17 thought she was looking at you. Yes?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. I think that the next day somebody had said that they

20 thought somebody was alive. Yes?

21 A. I don't remember that.

22 Q. You don't remember that? Well, it's in your statement,

23 but I'm not going to trouble you with all the detail.

24 The only point was you thought that she may have been

25 alive because her eyes were open?

1 A. Correct, yes.

2 Q. We've heard, and her Ladyship has heard, a lot of
3 evidence from people who have described this young lady
4 with her eyes open, but nothing else at all to suggest
5 she was alive.

6 I think that's what you remember, her eyes open and
7 looking, and that's it, isn't it?

8 A. That's what I remember, yes.

9 MR SAUNDERS: Mr Daravina, I won't press you any further.
10 Thank you very much.

11 MS SHEFF: No thank you.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions? It looks as if
13 those are all the questions for you, Mr Daravina. It
14 wasn't just the doctors who played a significant part in
15 helping the desperately injured that day, obviously you
16 and some of your colleagues did too. You worked
17 tirelessly throughout the day to get equipment, even if
18 it was makeshift, to the doctors and to the casualties.
19 Thank you for everything you did.

20 A. My pleasure.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you. Mr Hay?

22 MR HAY: Good morning, my Lady. My Lady, may I invite you
23 to call Terence Hughes?

24 MR TERENCE ALAN HUGHES (sworn)

25 Questions by MR HAY

1 MR HAY: Good morning, Mr Hughes.
2 A. Good morning.
3 Q. Can you give your full name to the court, please?
4 A. My name is Terence Alan Hughes.
5 Q. Mr Hughes, in July 2005, you worked as a security
6 supervisor at the BMA?
7 A. That's correct.
8 Q. Is it right that you weren't actually employed by the
9 BMA, though?
10 A. No, we were a security contract company employed by the
11 BMA.
12 Q. How long had you been based at the BMA for?
13 A. Probably a year and a half, in total, I suppose, a year,
14 I can't remember exactly the time, I think I started
15 about 2004, 2003, 2004.
16 Q. Mr Hughes, if I could ask you to do your best to keep
17 your voice up --
18 A. Yes, no problem.
19 Q. -- this is a very large room and it's very important
20 that people at the back can hear you as well.
21 On 7 July, do you recall what time you started work?
22 A. Yes, I officially start at 8.00, I generally get in
23 a few minutes before, a little bit earlier, but, yes,
24 8.00 officially.
25 Q. Do you wear a uniform?

1 A. Yes, we wear grey -- dark grey trousers, white shirt,
2 red/blue stripey company tie and normally identification
3 badge.

4 Q. How many security guards are there normally at one time?

5 A. At that time -- it's cut down, from what I hear now, but
6 there's normally two, two on the back gate, one on the
7 A entrance, one on the B entrance, one on the
8 D entrance, one in the lodge and normally one -- there
9 used to be one coming down in breaks, so it's one, two,
10 three, four, five, six -- about seven, seven, eight.

11 Q. We heard Mr Daravina refer to Steve.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Do you know who he was referring to?

14 A. Yes, Steve Boyd, Steve Boyd was a security supervisor,
15 but he was an inhouse supervisor directly employed by
16 the British Medical Association.

17 Q. In your statement, you refer to the fact that you were
18 based at the rear security lodge. Perhaps may we have
19 up on screen, please, [INQ10285-9] ? If we could focus in
20 on the right-hand side of the page, please.

21 Mr Hughes, this is a plan of the BMA building. Do
22 you see Tavistock Square at the front?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You can then see the Hastings suite at the back and then
25 Burton Street where the ambulance access eventually was.

1 Can you just help us with where the rear security lodge
2 is?

3 A. Exactly, yes. If you look at the Hastings suite, go to
4 your left, and you'll see like a corridor going out to
5 the back. Just before you go out the back on the
6 right-hand side, there's a small room, it says here
7 "GBD E21". That was kind of a little place where we
8 were. That's -- that would probably maybe be mainly the
9 front office, but we were just in that tiny little bit
10 there just below it.

11 Q. Where is the porters' room in relation to that?

12 A. Behind, behind it. It would probably be either just
13 below that or just to the side of it. I'm trying to
14 think -- this is the staircase. Yes, it would be this
15 room, it would be this room here on the corner, just
16 below it on the corner.

17 Q. Just below where the --

18 A. The one -- it's got no numbers in, but below GBD E21
19 there's a room. That's it, there.

20 Q. Thank you very much. Whilst you were working between
21 8.00 and then eventually the time when we know that the
22 bomb was detonated on the number 30 bus, were you aware
23 of other incidents happening in London?

24 A. We were until a short while before, yes, but there was
25 something going around that -- something like power

1 surges or something was going on in the Underground,
2 because people weren't aware what was actually going on.

3 Q. There presumably then came the point when you heard the
4 bomb detonating on the number 30 bus. Can you just
5 describe what you heard?

6 A. Just heard a loud explosion. I didn't know what it was.
7 I first of all thought it was coming from Euston
8 station, hence, previously, the power surges, but
9 I thought it was quite loud to be coming -- even though
10 we were close to Euston station, it was quite loud to be
11 coming from that far away.

12 Then what happened, I obviously heard people come
13 towards the rear gate to leave the building and
14 questioned me, so then I questioned -- got on the radio
15 and asked the main lodge, which was situated at the
16 front where the situation happened, what was happening
17 and basically what the noise was.

18 Q. What did you hear from the people based at the main
19 lodge?

20 A. It took them a while because obviously the initial
21 shock, but it took them a while, and they said, "There's
22 been an explosion, there's been an explosion", and
23 obviously they presumed it was a bomb, but then
24 basically I just said "Right" -- because I had someone
25 with me, so I ran -- I started running, that is what

1 happened with me and Carlos, we ran to the front to
2 assist, to see what was going on.

3 Q. Before you ran to the front to assist, did you perform
4 any role in evacuating the BMA building itself?

5 A. What happened, the people did not evacuate immediately
6 because they weren't aware of what's going on or where
7 the explosion was coming from. They didn't want to go
8 out the back way, because they weren't sure where the
9 explosion came from, until we got confirmation.

10 Then one of the events managers came out, and her
11 name was Maria McCall. She -- while we -- we sort of
12 done it together, but she said, "Everybody's got to go
13 out now".

14 Q. Out from the rear of the building?

15 A. Out from the rear entrance to a safe place.

16 Q. Did you help evacuate any other part of the BMA in
17 particular?

18 A. Yes, the rear, just went up and ensured the upstairs
19 offices, from opposite me -- where I was, there was
20 a door opposite me, and then I went up there and just
21 checked floors.

22 Q. How long did that evacuation process take?

23 A. Not long, because a lot of the people were already sort
24 of gathering around the rear, so it wasn't very long,
25 but they had their own sort of marshals up there as well

1 clearing the building as well.

2 Q. There came a point when you made your way to the front
3 gate and saw the scene in front of you. Can you just
4 describe to us what you saw?

5 A. Initially, obviously, shock, initially, and then went
6 out, saw pretty -- carnage, really, I don't know how to
7 describe it. Well, I saw obviously the bus with the
8 roof blown off, saw bodies and -- and, I don't know,
9 I saw a torso in front of the building as well.

10 Q. In the statement which you provide to the police you
11 refer to a number of specific individuals. I want to
12 ask you about those. The first one I want to ask you
13 about is you refer to seeing a body in the basement well
14 at the front of the building.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Are you able to help us with whether or not --

17 A. Basically, the basement well -- that wasn't known, first
18 of all, but there was a body where the -- you had the
19 basement well with the fence here, you had a bus here,
20 and there was a body actually in the basement well of
21 our building.

22 Q. We believe that body was of a young male named
23 Jamie Gordon. When you saw that person there, did they
24 exhibit any signs of life at all?

25 A. No, none at all.

1 Q. You also refer in your statement to looking at the bus
2 and seeing a male who appeared to be embedded in the
3 bus. Where on the bus was that male?

4 A. At the back.

5 Q. At the back, so as you're facing the bus from the BMA --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- at the rear? Was that male being assisted by anyone
8 at the point you saw him?

9 A. The actual embedment I saw was actually -- wasn't a full
10 body.

11 Q. Was that person exhibiting any signs of life at all?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did there come a point when you were -- you heard
14 a request for stretchers?

15 A. Yes, I think the stretchers initially came from a member
16 of the emergency services or medical staff, and that
17 then Steve suggested we get it from there. So it came
18 through a -- I think initially came through them, then
19 came through the emergency services, and I think it was
20 relayed to Steve Boyd and then Steve Boyd requested us
21 to get the table tops.

22 Q. You mentioned getting table tops to use as stretchers.
23 Did you use anything else as stretchers?

24 A. Anything we could find, basically. If we had boards,
25 anything that was strong enough to carry a -- put a body

1 on.

2 Q. In your statement, you also describe collecting blankets
3 and cutting up a roll of felt?

4 A. Yes. Basically, people suggested keeping bodies warm,
5 so I suggested a roll of felt the events team used,
6 because obviously we don't keep -- didn't keep blankets.
7 So I suggested a roll of felt to use to cover the
8 bodies. So myself, Carlos, we actually unrolled the
9 felt and one of his colleagues, we actually cut them
10 into blanket sizes, 20, 30 blankets, something like
11 that.

12 Q. Did you assist at all in actually carrying any of the
13 injured from the street into the courtyard area?

14 A. A few. After initially running around, carried a few
15 in, yes, carried a few in. They obviously -- they had
16 different areas. They arranged for less seriously
17 injured people to go elsewhere, and the more seriously
18 injured and fatally injured to stay in position.

19 Q. Whilst doing that, did you become aware of a black taxi
20 positioned close to the crossing by Tavistock Square?

21 A. Yes, yes.

22 Q. Did you see anything under that taxi?

23 A. Yes, I saw a male body.

24 Q. The male body, was the person lying face up or face
25 down?

1 A. As far as I can remember, the taxi was near the
2 crossing, and the top -- the upper torso was face up.

3 Q. I know it's difficult, but are you able to say how long
4 after the explosion it was when you first saw that body
5 underneath the taxi?

6 A. Basically immediately, when I saw -- when I saw,
7 I looked all around and saw that.

8 Q. You saw it when you first came out?

9 A. When I first went out I saw the roof blown off, I saw
10 the taxi and I saw other bits and pieces.

11 Q. Again, was that male exhibiting any signs of life at
12 all?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Did there come a point when people were moved from the
15 front courtyard to the rear of the building?

16 A. Yes, they -- the majority of people, I think -- I can't
17 remember if it was going to rain or something like that,
18 but they wanted to -- there were some bodies we didn't
19 move, but the majority of them, yeah, we moved, the ones
20 we could move, were moved more to the rear and under the
21 shelter, under shelter.

22 Q. Was that partly because it started to rain?

23 A. Yes, I think so, yes.

24 Q. Was there also a concern about secondary devices?

25 A. Yes, there was, yes. They -- there was concern, the

1 hazard team had done a thorough search and they were
2 still contemplating there being a second device,
3 incendiary device.

4 Q. In your statement, you describe seeing a seriously
5 injured female being treated near the front lodge.

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. Do you recall what injuries that female had?

8 A. Yes, foot -- I don't know how to describe it politely,
9 her badly, badly injured foot, it was cut, basically her
10 limb was hanging.

11 Q. We believe that to be a lady named Marie Hartley who
12 subsequently died. Were you present when she died?

13 A. No, what I remember is, as my colleague said, the
14 request was to take her friend, who was less seriously
15 injured, to the area for less injured people, maybe, you
16 know, for shock purposes, you know, just because I don't
17 know if they thought, you know, that something might --
18 bad might happen or something, but she was --

19 Q. She was distressed by the fact that her friend had died?

20 A. She was obviously distressed by her friend and, you
21 know, so she was moved to kind of maybe lower the --
22 I don't know.

23 Q. The lady who died, Marie Hartley, do you recall her
24 being moved?

25 A. Yes, I do. It was -- I can't remember now, I know it

1 was Carlos and his friend Antonio, I can't remember if
2 there was a third person, but obviously, after the
3 official announcement, they -- of the person passing
4 away, they -- yes, they carried the -- they were told to
5 get the body out of the way, obviously in case the
6 friend returned and so they moved the body out of her
7 friend's vision and they took it to the basement car
8 park area.

9 Q. We know that you started work at 8.00 that morning.
10 What time did you finally leave the BMA?

11 A. Blimey, some time after 9.00, 9.00-ish in the evening.

12 MR HAY: Mr Hughes, thank you very much. I have no more
13 questions for you, but the other barristers may.

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Gallagher?

15 Questions by MS GALLAGHER

16 MS GALLAGHER: Mr Hughes, I just have a few limited
17 questions for you. The first thing is: you described
18 your uniform earlier; dark grey trousers and a white
19 shirt, stripey tie and normally an ID badge. Where
20 would you usually wear the ID badge, as security staff?

21 A. Generally, it depends on what shirt you've got -- it
22 depends on what shirt you're wearing. Some shirts have
23 a clip where you can wear it, or you would wear it on
24 like a garland, I think, like, just a piece of -- you
25 know, material which is attached to the badge itself, so

1 it would be either around your neck or clipped to your
2 shirt pocket.

3 Q. But your security staff wouldn't wear a laminate pass
4 card clipped to the belt, would they?

5 A. Not generally, no, because we have to basically have
6 them on display. If you're wearing a jacket, you can't
7 visually see the badge, so it would either be around the
8 neck or on their pockets.

9 Q. I'm asking you, Mr Hughes, because last week we heard
10 evidence about a gentleman who was in a white shirt with
11 a laminate pass card clipped to his belt, and we haven't
12 identified who that person is, and they took the pulse
13 of a lady called Miriam Hyman and I represent her
14 family.

15 From your security role, is there anyone else in the
16 BMA building who would be likely to wear such a pass
17 card routinely?

18 A. There is actually BMA staff, BMA security staff
19 themselves. At the moment, what you had, you had
20 probably three or four, you had Ross Petrie, Steve and
21 Maureen -- I can't remember if Maureen was present, but
22 yeah, I think there was three. The other two are night
23 shift so they wouldn't have been there at the time.

24 Q. Thanks very much, Mr Hughes. Obviously, it's not
25 necessary to say it's them. There's all sorts of

1 people, including passers-by, who may have had ID and
2 chosen to wear it.

3 A. There are people in the staff, in the actual BMJ staff
4 who wear white shirts and wear -- you know, it's quite
5 common to wear dark trousers, white shirt and pin their
6 badges.

7 Q. Thank you very much, Mr Hughes. The next thing is just
8 the issue of timing.

9 Now, we know before you went to the front you played
10 a role in the evacuation process, and you've described
11 that in answer to questions from my learned friend
12 Mr Hay, and you also mentioned that there was resistance
13 from some occupants of the building to leaving. Can we
14 have [INQ8941-4] on the screen, please? It's paragraph 3.
15 This is from a doctor who we're going to hear from
16 later in the week, a Dr Holden, and he describes at
17 paragraph 3 several of the doctors declining to leave
18 because of concerns about a secondary device. He says:
19 "Our logic did not find favour with the staff who
20 evacuated the building on to Burton Street."

21 Do you recall any doctors expressing that kind of
22 concern?

23 A. Doctors, no. I remember people going against it.

24 I wasn't aware they were doctors, but there was a lot of
25 people, you know, humming and hawing because they

1 weren't aware where the explosion was, where the
2 secondary device was, where this -- everything was, so
3 there was a bit of panic because they didn't -- they
4 said, "Should we go out the front, should we go out the
5 back?", you know. Yes, there was a few people.

6 Q. Due to the lack of clarity, do you think?

7 A. Yes, because it wasn't particularly actually clear
8 whether there was a secondary device or not.

9 Q. Now, Mr Hughes, you said in evidence today when you were
10 asked how long you thought it might have taken to do the
11 evacuation before you get outside that you thought it
12 probably didn't take long.

13 Now, from your statement we know that, before you
14 get outside, and after the explosion, quite a few things
15 happen. We know you have the initial discussion with
16 Steve Boyd. We know there are these problems with some
17 people not wanting to evacuate. In your statement, you
18 describe going to the top floor of the east wing,
19 waiting until the building has been cleared and you have
20 the all clear that no one is left in the building, and
21 then designating your staff to their evacuation
22 positions at the muster point and car park and rear
23 gate.

24 Even if that all happened very efficiently and very
25 quickly, how long are we talking about? Can you give us

1 a rough estimate?

2 A. It wasn't very long, because, basically, when I got to
3 the floors themselves, the marshal -- some of the
4 marshals were there and assured me that all the building
5 was cleared anyway. I didn't -- so I got up to the top
6 and they basically -- I did the one floor and then
7 I came straight back down.

8 Q. In total, are we talking about ten minutes, five
9 minutes?

10 A. Maybe less than that, probably six, seven minutes,
11 I don't know.

12 Q. I'm pressing you on this because it's quite important to
13 one of the families that I represent, because we know,
14 when you come outside, as you've described, you see
15 a torso just outside the door, which we believe to be
16 the torso of the bomber Hasib Hussain.

17 A family whom I represent, their daughter was
18 covered, we believe, at the same time as the torso of
19 Hasib Hussain and they want to establish how long it was
20 before her body was covered and there's some confusion
21 about the timing. If we could have [INQ10345-1 - not for publication],
it's the
22 photograph from the hotel on screen.

23 We believe, if you look down at the bottom left,
24 Mr Hughes, underneath there's a NatWest sign and you can
25 see a blue covered area, that's where we believe the

1 torso of Mr Hussain was found, Hasib Hussain, was found.

2 Is that where you're describing the torso you see when
3 you come out through the entrance there?

4 A. I'm trying to think. That's the main entrance would be
5 there. I'm just to think what the one above was.

6 I thought it was a little bit further up, but not --
7 yeah, maybe a few feet, but, yes, it's probably that
8 one, then.

9 Q. If you can see just behind it there's a brown covered
10 area you obviously haven't described, either in your
11 statement or in your oral evidence, seeing any person
12 there. We take it you've no memory of seeing a person
13 in that area either alone or being treated?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Mr Hughes, you've described in your statement how, when
16 you came out, doctors from the BMA building were
17 liaising with the paramedics about what needed doing.
18 If we could just have the photograph back up on
19 screen again, you can see in this photograph, quite
20 close to the area you were looking, there's a number of
21 uniformed people in green. There's a gentleman, quite
22 tall with dark hair, and there's a lady with red hair
23 just off the pavement. Can you see them?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. I'm asking you about that because we believe that

1 they're private ambulance -- they're from a private
2 ambulance, they're not from the London Ambulance Service
3 and a number of people, when they refer to paramedics,
4 are, in fact, referring to those people.

5 So when you refer to the paramedics who were
6 assisting the doctors and directing, do you recall if it
7 was these people or if there were more ambulance
8 personnel in attendance by that stage?

9 A. I remember a lot of people treating, but I remember
10 going out and seeing initially straight in front of me,
11 but once I saw straight in front of me, all I saw --
12 I thought I saw two or three, but initially that was
13 what I saw, just directly in front of me.

14 Q. Certainly. So a limited number in front of you, two or
15 three, you think.

16 Just one final thing, Mr Hughes. Just regarding the
17 felt which you describe, you described you and Carlos
18 cutting the roll of felt into blankets. Could you just
19 tell us what colour that was?

20 A. Kind of -- I think I made it a bluey colour, I think.
21 Bluey -- blue or purple. Bluey, I think.

22 MS GALLAGHER: Thank you very much, Mr Hughes. I'm sorry
23 for the detective-style questions. It's quite important
24 to the family I represent to try to ascertain some more
25 about this time and your assistance has been valuable,

1 thank you.

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

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Sheff?

4 Questions by MS SHEFF

5 MS SHEFF: Mr Hughes, you said that you saw a man under

6 a taxi very soon after you came out of the building.

7 I'd like to ask you some questions on behalf of the

8 family of that man.

9 Can you tell us, first of all, how long after the
10 explosion you think you came out?

11 A. Possibly, I suppose, once the initial thing -- once we
12 found out, my initial thing was to go to the front, but
13 then what we did, like I said, we did the evacuation and
14 then went straight to the front of the building.

15 Once -- after seeing that, it was as soon as I went
16 out basically. I mean, that was -- because I went --
17 I didn't go through the lodge, I went through the
18 archway in the lodge, so the first things I saw was the
19 paramedics, the roof, the roof and the taxi.

20 Q. Yes, so from the time of the explosion to actually
21 seeing the taxi would have been, what, a few minutes?

22 A. Yes, a minute, I just looked around everywhere, I just
23 saw it all together.

24 Q. That's when you came out?

25 A. Yes, when I first went out there, yes.

1 Q. But making your way out, it had taken you how long?
2 A. Sorry, from the time -- probably six, seven minutes.
3 Q. Thank you. Can you remember anything about that man,
4 his clothing or anything of his injuries, and
5 approximate age perhaps?
6 A. I just remember the torso being -- I don't know --
7 I mean, from what I recall, because I didn't see the
8 actual top part of his body, I could see his face
9 forward, maybe wrong, maybe 40s, I don't know, maybe
10 40ish, I don't know.
11 Q. Anything about his injuries?
12 A. No, couldn't see. Couldn't see.
13 Q. You say he was under the taxi, that he was face up?
14 A. The bottom -- from what I remember, the taxi is there,
15 the legs were underneath, but his body was face up, the
16 top half of his body.
17 Q. Was that at right angles to the taxi?
18 A. No, I actually think it was face upwards, so his body
19 was -- from what I can remember, his body was actually
20 flat and his legs were flat underneath, he wasn't facing
21 to the right or to the left.
22 Q. But was it at right angles to the direction the taxi was
23 travelling in; in other words, were his feet underneath
24 the gap between the two wheels?
25 A. Yes, yes.

1 Q. It was. Thank you. Perhaps it will help if we just
2 have that last photograph up.

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I'm not sure I'm necessarily
4 following, Ms Sheff. You two have agreed, but I'm not
5 sure you've kept me with you.

6 MS SHEFF: I just wonder if we could have a closeup of that
7 taxi area.

8 What you seem to be describing is somebody who was
9 lying in the position that we can see underneath that
10 taxi. If the person bent over is tending to their head,
11 then that would be the position that you've described.

12 A. That would, yes, that was what I could recall.

13 Q. With face up?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Can I suggest to you that that wasn't a man, that that
16 was a woman?

17 A. I didn't see their face, I just saw the hair, the back
18 of the head and the top.

19 Q. Right, so you can't be sure whether it was a man or
20 a woman?

21 A. I initially thought it was a man.

22 Q. You thought it was a man at the time?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You can't tell anything about the injuries, but you're
25 sure the legs were underneath the taxi?

1 A. Yes, it certainly looked like, yes.

2 Q. Because we know that that photograph shows a young lady
3 who was being treated by the paramedics whose legs,
4 indeed, were underneath the taxi and was lying face up.
5 Is it possible you might have mistaken her for a man at
6 the time when you were taking in the distressing scene?

7 A. That's possible, yes. I was obviously -- with
8 everything else that I was looking at and going around,
9 it was -- you know, it was quite confusing, I was
10 looking and what I saw, you know, has affected me quite
11 badly, so I ...

12 Q. We absolutely understand that, Mr Hughes, and I'm sorry
13 to press you on it.

14 A. It could have been a -- it could have been a woman.

15 Q. Just one other aspect of that. Could we just have that
16 picture back up again? I'd like to ask you -- that's
17 just the position of the taxi. If we look at it on that
18 picture, you describe it as being at a crossing.

19 Now, on that picture -- I'm not sure how well we can
20 see it from that particular angle, but there is a gap
21 between the vehicle in front of the taxi, the Golf, and
22 the taxi itself, and there's also another vehicle --
23 I don't know if you remember that; we might show that to
24 you in another photograph, if you don't -- which was
25 a people carrier which was, as we look at this

1 photograph, to the right?

2 A. Just further back?

3 Q. Yes. If you look at where the tree is partially
4 obscuring the taxi, there's a people carrier in that
5 area towards the left and turning left -- sorry, towards
6 the right, as we look at it, and turning left into the
7 other side of Tavistock Square.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Now, when you saw the taxi, how close to that people
10 carrier and the Golf in front was it, if you can recall
11 that?

12 A. I'm just trying to think where that taxi was. I'd say
13 no more than 10 feet, probably.

14 Q. But there was a gap between the vehicles, was there?

15 A. Yes, yes, not a massive gap, but there was a gap.

16 Q. There was a gap, yes, that's helpful. Thank you. Did
17 you see the taxi moved at any time?

18 A. No.

19 MS SHEFF: I have no further questioners, thank you very
20 much.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions for Mr Hughes?

22 Mr Hughes, it was a long, tiring and emotionally
23 devastating day for you and, sadly, hundreds of others.

24 I've no doubt what you did with your colleagues made
25 a considerable difference to the rescue efforts that

1 day. Thank you very much.

2 A. Thank you.

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr O'Connor?

4 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: My Lady, may I invite you to call

5 Kevin Hume?

6 MR KEVIN ANDREW HUME (affirmed)

7 Questions by MR ANDREW O'CONNOR

8 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Could you give your full name, please?

9 A. Kevin Andrew Hume.

10 Q. Mr Hume, in July 2005, you were a firefighter based at

11 Soho fire station?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. I think it's right to say that, in terms of your rank,

14 you may have been formally a firefighter but you had

15 a temporary promotion to leading firefighter?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. Were you a member of red watch at the time?

18 A. Yes, that's correct.

19 Q. On 7 July 2005, I think it's right to say that you and

20 the rest of red watch had been working a night shift

21 that was finishing on the morning of 7 July. Is that

22 right?

23 A. Yes, finishing at 9.00.

24 Q. Sorry, I didn't quite hear that.

25 A. Finishing at 9.00.

1 Q. You were being relieved by blue watch?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. It appears from the statements that we have that, unlike
4 the rest of your watch, who were indeed relieved and
5 left at around that time, you stayed on. Is that right?

6 A. Yes, that's right, yes.

7 Q. Is that because the blue watch who were taking over were
8 one man short?

9 A. Yes, they were short of an officer for the hydraulic
10 platform.

11 Q. They had put messages out for someone to come from
12 another fire station and to fill that place, but until
13 he arrived, or she arrived, you were staying there so
14 that that fire appliance remained effective, as it were,
15 until your replacement arrived?

16 A. Yes, it's common practice for the off-going watch to --
17 we call it hanging on over the end of your shift.

18 Q. The watch who had taken over -- blue watch -- were led
19 by Sub-Officer Colebrook-Taylor. Is that right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. As you say, your role at that time was as one of the
22 crew members on the hydraulic platform fire appliance --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- which had a call sign of A244, I think.

25 A. That's right.

1 Q. Can you just tell us something about that appliance,
2 what it looks like, what it does?

3 A. It's approximately 14 tonnes, 27 feet long, has a crew
4 of two. It's not like a fire engine, it's for high rise
5 rescue purposes and for -- we call it as a water tower,
6 pouring water on large fires from a high vantage point.

7 Q. In effect, it's the type of fire appliance that has
8 a large sort of crane on the back?

9 A. That's right. It has -- it goes up in the air with
10 three booms like that.

11 Q. Yes. As you say, you were not the driver, I think you
12 were the other crew member?

13 A. Yes, officer in charge.

14 Q. So you stayed over from red watch and the person in blue
15 watch who had arrived, who became your crew member, was
16 a man called Firefighter Ford?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So they were arriving presumably a bit before 9.00 to
19 take over?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. We know from other evidence -- in particular, evidence
22 we've heard relating to the King's Cross scene that we
23 heard before Christmas -- that shortly after 9.00,
24 I think at about 7 minutes past 9, two of the fire
25 appliances from Soho were mobilised and sent off to what

1 we now know was the bomb that had exploded between
2 King's Cross and Russell Square?
3 A. Yes, that's right.
4 Q. They were one fire appliance that was commanded by
5 Leading Firefighter Roche?
6 A. Yes.
7 Q. And one by Sub-Officer Colebrook-Taylor?
8 A. That's right.
9 Q. Were those, in fact, the only other two fire appliances
10 at the fire station?
11 A. Yes, that's -- with the hydraulic platform, that's the
12 full complement.
13 Q. So they went off and left you and Mr Ford sitting there?
14 A. Yes.
15 Q. This may not matter very much, but was there a reason
16 why you weren't mobilised to go off to King's Cross as
17 well? Did you know at the time or find out later?
18 A. I believe, if I recall right, that one of the fire
19 engines was called to an automatic fire alarm, which --
20 aerial appliances aren't on the initial attendance.
21 Q. I see. I wondered about that. It was because you had
22 a hydraulic lift, that's not something that would
23 usually be sent to a Tube station?
24 A. No, we have predetermined attendances for certain types
25 of calls and it wasn't on that, so ...

1 Q. In any event, you and Mr Ford remained at the fire
2 station?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Did you become aware over the next half an hour or so of
5 the developing incidents around London?

6 A. We had Sky News on and we were watching that, yes. We
7 wasn't aware of explosions at the time. Again, we heard
8 a power surge. That's what we saw on Sky News that
9 morning.

10 Q. I'm going to ask you about the time you were mobilised
11 in a minute, but up to that time, you say you were
12 watching Sky News.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did you have any other information, any information that
15 members of the public watching Sky News wouldn't have,
16 or were you simply reliant on Sky News for your
17 developing understanding of what was happening?

18 A. That's right, yes. We'd had no messages from the
19 Brigade, if that's what you mean, "Come over", we were
20 just basically the same as someone sitting at home would
21 have seen on Sky News.

22 Q. You hadn't been put on any sort of special alert or
23 anything of that nature, you were just waiting, watching
24 the television?

25 A. That's right.

1 Q. We know that you were mobilised to go to

2 Tavistock Square at about 9.50. Is that right?

3 A. Yes, that's right.

4 Q. Can we look, please, at a document LFB24-2? There's
5 a message there at -- I may have the wrong page. Can we
6 look at the page before [LFB24-1]? Yes.

7 Can we first look at 09.50.33? Are you familiar
8 with these documents?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. These are what we describe as the MOBIS documents.

11 A. Yes, we don't get the whole lot like that at the fire
12 station --

13 Q. No.

14 A. -- but very similar.

15 Q. Just looking through it, we see there the passage that's
16 been marked 09.50. A244, that was your appliance?

17 A. That's right, yes.

18 Q. "Commit". As we understand it, that's a computer record
19 of a decision taken at headquarters to commit your
20 vehicle. That's not something you would have known
21 about?

22 A. No.

23 Q. What you would have known about is the entry immediately
24 underneath, which, of course, followed only a couple of
25 seconds later. This is the mobilise message, is it?

1 A. This is what we get at the fire station on our
2 teleprinter, yes.

3 Q. So the critical text, for your purposes, would be
4 "suspected explosion". We then see A6. Do you know
5 what that means or stands for?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Do you think that would have come through on the
8 teleprinter to you?

9 A. I thought I recalled it saying "on bus", but I could be
10 wrong. I know it definitely said "suspected explosion".

11 Q. Yes. You do say in your police statement that you
12 received a message that it was an explosion on a bus.
13 I wonder whether A6 was sort of Fire Brigade code for
14 "on a bus"?

15 A. I could be wrong, I definitely remember "suspect
16 explosion", I could be wrong about the term "on bus".

17 Q. Looking further down, we see then that A244, your
18 appliance, is one of the three appliances that was
19 mobilised at the time.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. There are two others, both, I think, from Holloway fire
22 station, and we'll be hearing --

23 A. Yes, I wasn't aware that A31 was Holloway at the time,
24 but I knew that they would have had two fire engines
25 coming on it.

1 Q. That's what I wanted to ask you. You may not have known
2 where they were from, but would you have seen, when the
3 slip of paper came out of the machine, that you were one
4 of three appliances being mobilised to this event?

5 A. Yes, I was aware of that.

6 Q. As you saw this piece of paper at the fire station, did
7 you have any understanding about what had caused this
8 explosion?

9 A. No, none.

10 Q. Did you link it with what you'd been watching on the
11 television?

12 A. No, not at the time.

13 Q. How quickly -- we see that the message was sent at
14 09.50. Presumably it emerges from the machine at very
15 much the same time?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. That's the way it works?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. How quickly did it take for you to, first of all,
20 mobilise and then get to Tavistock Square?

21 A. We would have been on our way within about a minute to
22 get down, to take the teleprinter, look at what it is,
23 and then to get on the fire engine and get the doors
24 open. That would be approximately a minute.

25 Q. A minute or so. And then how long for the journey

1 between the fire station and Tavistock Square?

2 A. Well, it was -- traffic was quite light that morning.

3 I would say three to four minutes.

4 Q. You did provide a witness statement to an -- an internal

5 statement to the Fire Brigade authorities in August,

6 5 August 2005, so about a month later when you described

7 it as a "couple of minutes". Was that you using the

8 term colloquially, just to mean a few minutes?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Could we look, please, at a later page of the same

11 document very briefly? It's [LFB24-3]. If we can zoom in

12 on that grid, which is just below halfway down, Mr Hume,

13 we see here A244, the line has been highlighted. We

14 know that -- just looking at the mobilisation message,

15 which was at 09.50 -- this document records you as being

16 mobile at 09.59 and, slightly oddly, not arriving at the

17 scene for several hours afterwards. Can we take it

18 that's simply an error?

19 A. That might have been an error on my part. We have --

20 our statuses are sent by a push button. Sometimes it's

21 very slow, sometimes you push the button and you haven't

22 pushed it hard enough. It could be my error or it could

23 be an error on the button box, yes.

24 Q. We don't perhaps need to explore how the error took

25 place, but the short answer is that that's not right?

1 A. No.

2 Q. You are content with the timing of when the mobilisation
3 message was sent at about 9.50?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Your evidence is you would have been mobile within
6 a minute or so of that, and you would have arrived at
7 Tavistock Square two, three, four minutes later,
8 something of that nature?

9 A. That's right.

10 Q. Thank you. You entered Tavistock Square, I think, from
11 the south of Tavistock Square.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Did you drive up past Russell Square Euston --

14 A. Correct, yes.

15 Q. -- arriving at Tavistock Square in that way?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Could we have a look, please, at the photograph
18 [INQ10345 - not for publication]?

19 Mr Hume, can you see here in the distance on the
20 right-hand side -- we see a bus, an intact bus on the
21 right-hand side of the road as we look at it, and then,
22 immediately behind that, we have what looks like a fire
23 engine with a large hydraulic lift on the back?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Is that your fire engine?

1 A. Our fire appliance, yes.

2 Q. While we're looking at that, just beyond that, I think
3 that's another bus, isn't it? Do you have a memory of
4 that?

5 A. I don't recall. It looks like a bus. I don't recall
6 it.

7 Q. What we do know is you're sure that's your fire
8 appliance?

9 A. Absolutely, yes.

10 Q. In fact, if we perhaps now go back out, do you see the
11 lamp post with the blue street sign on it?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you see, just mainly concealed by that sign, but
14 just visible, what looks like two firemen wearing fire
15 outfits?

16 A. Yes, that is.

17 Q. I'm not asking you whether that's you, Mr Hume, I think
18 that would be a bit of an unfair question, but was that
19 the clothing you were wearing at the time?

20 A. Yes, it is, yes.

21 Q. Can you tell us what your memory is of the scene as you
22 arrived at the scene?

23 A. There was a cordon across the south side of the square.

24 As we approached, the policeman was on that cordon and

25 he asked me, "What are you going to?", which at the time

1 I thought was an odd question so I just said to him,

2 "The bus", so he let me through, and we pulled up.

3 I was already rigged in my fire gear and the driver, as
4 general practice, drives in the normal clothes and gets
5 rigged on arrival.

6 Q. I see.

7 A. So I got off and had a -- went up the nearside of the
8 bus.

9 Q. On the pavement?

10 A. On the pavement. I walked up, I believe, yes. I had
11 passed the bus to have a reconnaissance of the scene.

12 I looked through the arch of the -- what I know now is
13 the BMA building, I wasn't aware it was that at the
14 time, and just saw -- tried to get a picture of
15 everything that was going on.

16 The policeman had given me some information on
17 letting me through the cordon as well.

18 Q. I'll come back to that in a minute, if I may. You
19 describe walking up the pavement. You would have walked
20 up next to the bus and then past it, as you say.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. The casualties who we know about, were they still in the
23 road at that point?

24 A. Yes, they were.

25 Q. In the statement that you gave to the police -- and

1 I think also in the statement that you made to the
2 Fire Brigade -- you refer to one particular female
3 casualty. You describe her as plainly dead and, in
4 fact, not having any legs.
5 First of all, do you remember her?
6 A. Yes, I do.
7 Q. Do you remember whereabouts she was?
8 A. I seem to recall --
9 Q. Would it help to have another look at that photograph?
10 A. Yes, it might do.
11 Q. Could we perhaps have it back up?
12 A. I believe it's the first person that I went to, because
13 I thought everyone that I could see had someone with
14 them attending to them. I believe this person didn't.
15 So I believe it was to the rear offside of the bus.
16 I can't be any more specific than that, I'm afraid.
17 Q. Can I ask you one question to see if it helps? Could it
18 have been -- do you see the taxi?
19 A. Yes.
20 Q. Behind that, a white van? Could it actually have been
21 over to the far side, that's the nearside of the white
22 van?
23 A. It could have been in that area, yes.
24 Q. Thank you. I stopped you when you were saying, a few
25 moments ago, that, as you had come through the cordon,

1 a police officer gave you some information.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Was that information relating to their fears about
4 a secondary explosion?

5 A. Yes, it was, yes.

6 Q. What did he or she tell you about that?

7 A. He said three things to me: that there were dead and
8 dying everywhere; that the walking wounded had gone
9 through the arch in the BMA building; and they suspected
10 a secondary device.

11 Q. What was your reaction, in terms of your decision as to
12 what needed to be done, in the light of that
13 information?

14 A. Once I'd seen the scene, my only thought was to clear it
15 as quick as possible.

16 Q. What do you mean by "clear the scene"?

17 A. Remove the casualties to a safe place.

18 Q. We've heard quite a bit of evidence now about that
19 process of moving the casualties from the road into the
20 BMA. Was it you, in whole or in part, who started that
21 process going?

22 A. I -- when Fireman Ford and I walked up as a team, we
23 started to move the casualties from that point. There
24 wasn't any casualty that was walking, as far as I was
25 aware, at that point. So I looked around for something

1 to use and I found a -- I think I've said bus window in
2 my statement, but a very thick, long, thin window on the
3 ground, which we used for, I believe, the first two
4 people, as a stretcher, to remove them.

5 Q. Mr Hume, could I say to you what you've probably heard
6 us say to others. If you could try to keep your voice
7 up. I know you are trying, but if you could keep
8 trying, it does help those sitting at the back. I can
9 see you've got a glass of water there.

10 So you and Fireman Ford actually started carrying
11 people yourselves, did you?

12 A. That's correct, with the help of others.

13 Q. Yes. We've heard from a number of police officers who
14 took part in this process. We've heard this morning
15 from Mr Daravina and Mr Hughes, who were providing table
16 tops. Is that something you remember --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- the table tops being used to carry casualties?

19 A. Yes, I believed that the window wasn't very suitable, so
20 I asked someone to get me something that could be used
21 as a stretcher.

22 Q. Can you help us with some sort of idea as to how long
23 this process of moving the casualties from the road into
24 the courtyard, the process as a whole, took?

25 A. I'm very vague on timing, but if I had to hazard

1 a guess, I would say ten minutes or under. But I am
2 estimating that. I don't know.

3 Q. That's helpful, thank you, Mr Hume.

4 Did you inspect the bus before you started this
5 process of taking the casualties from the road behind
6 the bus into the BMA?

7 A. From the first time I walked up the pavement, I looked
8 at the bus as I passed it, yes.

9 Q. That was, as you've described it, very much a sort of
10 reconnaissance?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Did you actually stop or did you look as you were
13 walking?

14 A. I think the scene stopped me in my tracks, to be honest,
15 yes.

16 Q. Were you aware, then, while you were moving the
17 casualties from behind the bus, that there was still one
18 or more living casualties on the bus itself?

19 A. I was aware that people were still on the bus. I wasn't
20 aware if they were living or dead at that point.

21 Q. Did you turn your mind to that, once the casualties from
22 the road had been cleared?

23 A. Yes. On removing the last casualty from the road, we
24 came back through the arch and a police officer --
25 I believe on his own, I could be mistaken -- was on the

1 bus.

2 Q. Did you get on the bus yourself at that point?

3 A. He -- I did. Me and Fireman Ford got on the bus. He
4 called out to me along the lines of, "This lady's
5 slipping away", he called me over as we came through the
6 arch.

7 Q. May I ask this. How did you get on to the bus?

8 A. Well, we got on from the nearside, I believe we used the
9 wheel as a step.

10 Q. I see, so not through the door, but up, as it were, the
11 wreckage, the outside of the bus?

12 A. Yes, up and over the side where the wheel arch was.

13 Q. The police officer, as you say, was already on the bus,
14 was he?

15 A. Yes, he was.

16 Q. At that stage, had you formed a plan about evacuating
17 anyone or were you simply going to look and assess the
18 situation?

19 A. I wasn't aware, until he said, that there was someone
20 living on the bus, so he already was starting to deal
21 with that casualty. And, once on the bus, I could see
22 that there were more casualties to be removed.

23 Q. You describe in both the statements that I've referred
24 to what took place then, which was moving, I think,
25 three living casualties off the bus.

1 A. That's right.

2 Q. You've already said that you're hazy on times, but
3 can I ask you, that whole process from when you first
4 climbed up on to the bus to when the last of those three
5 casualties -- who I think was Sam Ly, the man who has
6 been described by many witnesses as an Oriental man --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- roughly speaking, can you help us with how long that
9 whole process took?

10 A. Again, this is an estimate, maybe four to five minutes.

11 Q. As quick as that? The first casualty -- you have
12 referred to the policeman calling out to you referring
13 to a female casualty whom he was attending to. That was
14 the first person that you got off the bus, was it?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How did you do it? From what you've said, all three of
17 you, by that stage, were on the bus, the fireman and you
18 and Mr Ford. So how was it that you got her off?

19 A. We lifted her. I believe what I now know to be a table
20 top was slid over the side of the bus and we lifted her
21 onto that.

22 Q. So there were other people helping from down on the
23 pavement, were there?

24 A. From outside of the bus, yes.

25 Q. Policemen in the main?

1 A. I recall the policeman on the bus. It may have been,
2 I can't be specific as to who was by the side of it.

3 Q. I know that at some point in this process, I don't think
4 as early as that, reading the statements, other fire
5 appliances arrived.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Mr Ellis.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. He hadn't arrived this early, I don't think.

10 A. I don't recall seeing any firemen at that point.

11 Q. In any event, then, so someone -- perhaps,
12 unsurprisingly, you weren't paying too much attention to
13 who it was who was holding the table top, but someone
14 was holding a table top and you were able to lift that
15 female casualty on to the table top and she was taken
16 away, was she?

17 A. She was taken away, yes.

18 Q. Were you already aware, at this stage, that there was at
19 least -- that there was another live casualty on the
20 bus?

21 A. I think I noticed the gentleman at the rear of the bus,
22 at that point, as I was facing that way as I was
23 lifting.

24 Q. Now, this is the man who is described in your statement
25 as being, as it were, in the middle of the wreckage of

1 the bus?

2 A. Yes, that's right.

3 Q. One thing that you and others say in their statements is
4 that you actually had to ask him to move to make it
5 easier to extract him from where he was?

6 A. Yes, as I recall, something was in front of him
7 preventing him from coming straight out.

8 Q. When he did move, you and others sort of scooped him up?

9 A. I said to him I needed him to double up, crouch down, at
10 which point I'd -- I had hold of his belt buckle. My
11 partner was sort of standing above the protrusion, so
12 when he did understand me and go down, I yanked him
13 forwards and Fireman Ford got him from underneath the
14 arms, and then we had control of him properly.

15 Q. It's probably obvious from what I said about him moving,
16 but he was fully conscious at this time, was he?

17 A. He drifted in and out, because I seem to recall I had to
18 ask him several times to do this motion, as I recall it.

19 Q. This gentleman had a very serious injury to one of his
20 legs?

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. Do you recall whether he had any injuries to his hands
23 or arms?

24 A. I don't recall.

25 Q. You describe this gentleman, I think, as being

1 a coloured gentleman or an Asian gentleman, I think you
2 say in your --

3 A. I recall he was -- I thought he was an Asian, but
4 a pale-skinned Asian.

5 Q. Everything else that you say about this man coincides
6 with a witness whom we've heard give evidence,
7 a gentleman called Mr Beck, who is a white man.

8 Is it possible that the dirt and the grime of the
9 explosion was covering his skin and that that may have
10 misled you as to --

11 A. Yes, that's very likely, yes.

12 Q. This man also, then, is it right that he was picked up
13 in the way you've described and another table top or
14 door or something of that nature was held by the side of
15 the bus and he was taken away in the same way?

16 A. Exactly the same way, yes.

17 Q. You then turn to a third casualty. Had you been -- this
18 casualty is Sam Ly, the Oriental man whose head and the
19 upper part of his body was sticking outside the bus.

20 Had you become aware of him before you turned your
21 attention to him to try to get him out?

22 A. I cannot recall that accurately.

23 Q. Can you describe how he was extricated from the bus?

24 A. He had some of the bodywork and some sort of metal pipe
25 blocking him from coming out easy. Obviously, the bus

1 had weakened -- sorry, the bomb had weakened the
2 structure of the bus, so I was able to tear some of the
3 bodywork and bend the pieces of metal enough so that he
4 could be lifted free.

5 Q. You, yourself, actually were, as you say, tearing the
6 metalwork and bending it --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- to free him?

9 A. Bending the metal, yes, and tearing the bodywork.

10 Q. I think, by this stage, the other fire appliances had
11 arrived and did Mr Ellis make himself known to you?

12 A. Yes, I recall -- I remember the other machines being
13 there when we moved who I now know as Mr Beck, I passed
14 him to some firemen.

15 Q. I see. Was there some cutting equipment that was made
16 available because it was thought that it might be needed
17 to help the third casualty, Sam Ly, from the bus?

18 A. Yes, I believe there was.

19 Q. Was it, in fact, used?

20 A. It wasn't used, no.

21 Q. Why not?

22 A. I think I may have said that I thought I could do it,
23 I think I'd probably started trying to extricate Mr Ly,
24 and found that I was actually able to move the structure
25 myself.

1 Q. Yes. He, Sam Ly that is, was taken away on a table top
2 or something similar in the same way as the first two
3 casualties?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Mr Hume, while you were helping to evacuate these three
6 living casualties, did you become aware that there were
7 some casualties on the bus who had not survived the
8 explosion?

9 A. Yes, I was.

10 Q. What's your memory of that?

11 A. I noticed, when I was moving the casualties from the
12 road behind the bus, that there was an apparently dead
13 someone that was caught by their legs at the rear of the
14 bus and they were hanging out backwards. At some
15 point -- I can't remember when -- I covered them with
16 a blanket or something of --

17 Q. Was that the rear offside of the bus?

18 A. Yes, the rear offside.

19 Q. I think that's Mr Russell, Philip Russell, you're
20 referring to. Is that a name you know now?

21 A. I don't, I don't know that name, no.

22 Q. Are there any other casualties on the bus, who haven't
23 survived, whom you have a particular memory of?

24 A. Yes, immediately behind Mr Ly -- at the time, I thought
25 he said to me his name was Sam Jay, but I now understand

1 it to be Sam Ly -- there was an apparently dead lady
2 immediately behind him.

3 Q. Yes.

4 A. Next to her, I seem to recall there was a black
5 gentleman.

6 Q. Can I ask you about those two in turn? The lady behind
7 Mr Ly, that is almost certainly a reference to
8 Shyanuja Parathasangary, who we've heard some evidence
9 about already this morning. She was from a Sri Lankan
10 family. Does that coincide with your memory?

11 A. That would fit in with my memory, yes.

12 Q. You say she was apparently dead. What do you mean by
13 that?

14 A. On initially walking -- when I first arrived on the
15 scene, I walked up the nearside of the bus and I saw
16 Mr Ly and this lady, I noticed that her head was back,
17 her head hadn't moved by the time I got on the bus, so
18 I was assuming that she had already passed away.

19 Q. She hadn't moved between those two times. Did you, in
20 fact, ever see any sign of life from her at any point
21 while you were at the scene?

22 A. Not personally, no.

23 Q. Did you, in fact, check her for signs of life; for
24 example, taking a pulse or doing anything of that
25 nature?

1 A. I didn't, no.

2 Q. You mentioned another casualty, a black gentleman, who
3 was, I think you said, next to Shyanuja Parathasangary.
4 When you say "next to", do you mean next to her as in
5 further in towards the centre of what remained of the
6 bus?

7 A. Yes, on the aisle seat of the bus.

8 Q. Can you describe your memory of him, please?

9 A. I only saw him from the back. I believe he had a jacket
10 on. I had to, unfortunately, lift him from where he was
11 and place him in the aisle to get to Mr Sam Ly.

12 Q. Again, did you ever see any signs of life from him?

13 A. I hadn't seen any signs of life before I moved him, no.

14 Q. When you moved him, did you check for a pulse or
15 anything of that nature?

16 A. I didn't then, no, I was focusing on Mr Ly.

17 Q. You were focusing on Mr Ly who was alive --

18 A. Who I could see was alive --

19 Q. -- and moaning in pain at the time?

20 A. -- and making noise, yes.

21 Q. This black gentleman whom you're describing was almost
22 certainly a man called Anthony Fatayi-Williams. When
23 you moved him, Mr Hume, did you have any reason to
24 believe that he was anything other than dead?

25 A. No, I didn't, no.

1 Q. Did you see him again or pay any particular attention to
2 him again after that?

3 A. No, I didn't.

4 Q. Are there any other casualties whom you have particular
5 memories of on the bus, Mr Hume?

6 A. No, I don't recall any others.

7 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Hume, as far as the black
8 gentleman is concerned, presumably if you had to move
9 him, had there been the slightest hint that he was
10 alive, you would have moved him out rather than just
11 moved him and left him?

12 A. Absolutely, I believed that I had to pick him up and
13 placed him -- I actually apologised to him -- where
14 I was putting him. I believed there was no sign of
15 life. I was focusing on Mr Ly, who I absolutely knew
16 was alive at that point.

17 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: You describe in your statement,
18 Mr Hume, before you got off the bus, inspecting the
19 upper deck?

20 A. Yes, Fireman Ford gave me a leg up, for want of a better
21 word, and I shinned along the top deck to see if there
22 was anyone up there, but it was completely clear.

23 Q. So is this right, that you were in that wreckage towards
24 the back of the bus, that's where you'd been moving the
25 casualties from. We know, of course, the front of the

1 bus was far less damaged than the rear.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So in order to inspect, as you put it, the upper deck,
4 you didn't go up the steps inside the bus, you sort of
5 climbed up the wreckage at the rear until you were in
6 a position to see what remained of the upper deck?

7 A. Yes, that's right.

8 Q. What did you see at the top?

9 A. I didn't see anybody up there.

10 Q. Did you do anything else on the bus itself?

11 A. After that point, no, I think we got off the bus and
12 went through the arch of the BMA and I don't believe we
13 returned to it or I returned to it, sorry.

14 Q. You went into the courtyard and you describe in your
15 statement then spending some time helping the doctors
16 and other medical staff with the casualties who, by that
17 stage, were in the courtyard being treated. You were
18 there for a time and then I think it's right to say you
19 went to Russell Square station.

20 A. Yes, we did, yes.

21 Q. Did you go in your fire engine or did you walk?

22 A. We left the fire engine where you initially saw it on
23 that photograph and walked there.

24 Q. You describe in your statement just finally, once you
25 had reached Russell Square station, helping to construct

1 a trolley that was used on the tracks. We heard
2 a little bit of evidence about that when we were having
3 the evidence about Russell Square. Just tell us,
4 obviously that wasn't a trolley that you had taken to
5 Russell Square?

6 A. No, it was off of one of our -- what we call fire rescue
7 units, specialist appliances. It's a trolley that is --
8 I'm not aware of how it's made, it's not a piece of
9 equipment I'm familiar with, but I helped carry it down
10 and I understand from the people that were on that
11 machine that it's used to go along the Tube Lines to go
12 up the track and back again.

13 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Yes. Thank you very much, Mr Hume,
14 those are all the questions I have for you.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Gallagher?

16 Questions by MS GALLAGHER

17 MS GALLAGHER: Mr Hume, I represent the family of
18 Anthony Fatayi-Williams, the black gentleman you've just
19 been referring to. Thank you very much for the
20 additional information you've been able to provide
21 today, particularly there being no signs of life from
22 what you saw, and thank you for treating him in
23 a dignified way. We entirely understand why he had to
24 be moved. Could we have [INQ10285-6] on screen, please?
25 There's been some confusion, Mr Hume, in the earlier

1 evidence about where Mr Fatayi-Williams was prior to the
2 explosion.

3 This graph was the Metropolitan Police's best
4 guesstimate from the statements they had as to where
5 people were before the explosion and at the time and, if
6 you look at the top grid, they had thought that
7 Anthony Fatayi-Williams was around the number 19,
8 standing in the aisle. That conflicted with some
9 evidence we had which suggested that, in fact, there
10 wasn't anyone standing in the aisle.

11 Just to clarify from what you've said, number 20 is
12 Shyanu Parathasangary. You think he was, in fact,
13 sitting beside number 20 opposite number 23, before you
14 moved him?

15 A. Are we looking at the top?

16 Q. It's the top grid.

17 A. No, I believe he was sitting in the top one next to
18 number -- next to number 17 or 14, I believe.

19 Q. Thank you very much. Then, just in relation to timing,
20 Mr Hume, you've obviously given very clear evidence
21 today that you're certain you were mobilised quickly,
22 you arrived within a very short period of time, probably
23 three to four minutes of being mobilised, so you're on
24 scene 9.54 or thereabouts. Could we just look at
25 [LFB51-13]?

1 This, Mr Hume, was a report to the London Assembly
2 from the Commissioner for Fire and Emergency Planning
3 in September 2006. If we could just go in on
4 paragraphs 93 and 94, it suggests that the first fire
5 engine arrives at 10.00. You'll see there's a reference
6 to Holloway, no reference to Soho. But clearly, from
7 your evidence, you arrived before that, so in fact, on
8 your evidence, paragraph 94 must be wrong?

9 A. Yes, that's not correct.

10 MS GALLAGHER: I've nothing further, Mr Hume, thank you.

11 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Coltart?

12 Questions by MR COLTART

13 MR COLTART: Just a few short matters, please, Mr Hume, if
14 I may.

15 You told us in your evidence -- and, indeed, it's in
16 your statement -- that when you arrived at
17 Tavistock Square, you remember a policeman stopping you
18 just short of the square and asking you which incident
19 you were attending, and you say:

20 "We thought this was a strange question. We told
21 him it was a bus explosion and he pointed us straight
22 on."

23 Can we take it from that and from what you've told
24 us today that, at the time that you arrived at
25 Tavistock Square, at around about 10.00 or so, you

1 weren't aware of the evacuation that was taking place at
2 Russell Square?

3 A. No, I wasn't.

4 Q. You did later attend at Russell Square, as we know, and
5 you deal with this at the end of your statement. You
6 talk about being in the courtyard and assisting with the
7 casualties in rendering first aid, and a short while
8 later you say:

9 "We were told by the police to stay inside. I then
10 heard what I was later told was a controlled explosion."

11 We know from other records that that controlled
12 explosion took place at about 10.45 or so. You say:

13 "About 45 minutes after that [so about 11.30]

14 Firefighter Ford and I went to Russell Square and we
15 assisted there."

16 Can you now recall, were you aware at any time
17 between your arrival at Tavistock Square and being
18 dispatched to Russell Square at about 11.30, of the
19 incidents at Russell Square, and what was happening
20 there?

21 A. I could not recall that accurately. We weren't actually
22 dispatched by the Brigade. We just -- we could see that
23 something had happened, so we walked down there when
24 we'd done what we could at Tavistock Square.

25 Q. You're just dropping your voice a little.

1 A. Sorry.

2 Q. That's quite all right. I think you said you weren't
3 dispatched by the Brigade, as it were, but you became
4 aware -- you could see something was happening down
5 there. Is that right?

6 A. That's correct, yes.

7 Q. So yourself and Firefighter Ford, things having been
8 wrapped up, at least to an extent, at Tavistock Square,
9 you were free to go and investigate what it was that was
10 happening at Russell Square. Is that right?

11 A. Yes, that's correct.

12 Q. By the time you got there, the Fire Rescue Unit, had
13 that already arrived at Russell Square?

14 A. Yes, that was already there.

15 Q. The trolley is assembled to assist with bringing items
16 to and fro the stranded train in the tunnel between
17 King's Cross and Russell Square, is that right?

18 A. We assisted in carrying the different parts of that to
19 the platform.

20 Q. Yes, but by the time you reached the platform with that
21 constructed piece of equipment, in fact, the evacuation
22 process had been completed and the police had declared
23 it a crime scene?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Then only this, I think: your appliance is a slightly

1 different appliance from what members of the public
2 would ordinarily understand to be a fire engine?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What first aid equipment did you carry on your
5 appliance?

6 A. We have a basic, small first aid box with bandages in,
7 eyewash, a very basic first aid kit.

8 Q. Did you carry on your appliance, for example, a laerdal
9 resuscitator or any other form of oxygen cylinder or
10 anything like that?

11 A. No.

12 MR COLTART: Thank you very much.

13 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions?

14 Right, Mr Hume, it looks as if those are all the
15 questions that we have for you. I know that yours is
16 a dangerous and often very distressing job. 7 July 2005
17 must have been the worst. You behaved with great
18 courage, great strength of character and great physical
19 strength as well. A number of people have been
20 commended for what they did that day. To my mind, you
21 are definitely amongst that number. Thank you for
22 everything that you did.

23 A. Thank you.

24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr O'Connor?

25 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: My Lady, we are making good progress

1 through today's list of evidence. We do have
2 a videolink piece of evidence starting at 2.00 and, with
3 your leave, perhaps we can use some time now to read out
4 the two statements that we have to read today, but then
5 break for the short adjournment at that point, rather
6 than call someone into whose evidence we would then have
7 to interpose the 2.00 evidence.

8 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Very well.

9 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: My Lady, I will read then the statement
10 of Toby Keep, dated 24 October 2005.

11 Statement of MR TOBY HUGH KEEP read

12 "I am the above named person and I reside at the
13 address shown overleaf. I am a firefighter in the
14 London Fire Brigade currently stationed at Holloway fire
15 station, Hornsey Road, London. In 2002, I was appointed
16 a firefighter in the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
17 transferring to London in January 2005.

18 "At 9.47 am on Thursday, 7 July 2005, I was on duty
19 with the rest of my blue watch. I was assigned the call
20 sign A312, which means I was to travel on the station
21 pump appliance. The crew for this appliance was made up
22 as follows: Leading Firefighter James Drew, the driver
23 was Firefighter Roy Washington and Firefighter
24 Stavros Marangos.

25 "We were sent to attend an explosion at

1 Tavistock Place, London. We would have arrived at the
2 scene around 10.00 am and I noticed that our pump ladder
3 appliance A311 was already in attendance.
4 "We had to move the appliance around in order that
5 it was facing away from the scene of the explosion.
6 When we first pulled into Tavistock Place from
7 Euston Road, I could see a large red object in the
8 street about 200 yards away from our appliance. When we
9 parked up awaiting further instructions, I alighted from
10 the engine and looked up the street towards this object,
11 which was stationary.
12 "It was only after staring at this object I realised
13 that it was the remains of a London double decker bus.
14 Our appliance was around 250 yards from the bus station.
15 Officer Ellis then contacted the crew and asked us to
16 bring down the Holmatro cutting equipment. We all
17 assisted with the carrying of this equipment but we were
18 cancelled prior to reaching the bus. There was no
19 requirement for the Holmatro but small tools were still
20 required and general first aid equipment.
21 "Together with Firefighter Stavros Marangos, we
22 brought from our appliance a salvage sheet and first aid
23 kit. As we approached the bus, I noticed that there was
24 an injured person being treated by a member of the
25 public."

1 I think that reads, in fact, "a number of members of
2 the public":
3 "I thought that the injured person was male, white,
4 middle-aged and had a severe injury to one of his legs.
5 The casualty was having the required treatment.
6 Therefore, we continued to the bus. As we walked down
7 the pavement, the rear of the bus was nearest to us.
8 There was debris of the bus laid on the pavement area
9 and I could see various body parts mixed with debris.
10 "The bus was stationary just past the archway
11 entrance to the British Medical Association. As I got
12 alongside the nearside of the bus, I noticed that there
13 were firefighters on the bus. I looked on the bus and
14 noticed that there was a lady sat on the row of seats
15 facing the opposite way to the rest of the seats. She
16 would have been facing backwards if the bus was being
17 driven forward. Her head was laid back on the seat and
18 it was obvious she was deceased. I would describe this
19 female as dark-skinned, possibly South American.
20 "On the seat directly in front of this lady was
21 a live passenger. He was being assisted out of his seat
22 by the firefighters on the bus. I remember these
23 officers as Leading Firefighter Drew, an officer from
24 the Soho table ladder crew A243, and Firefighter Hart.
25 "I assisted from the outside of the bus along with

1 others and we managed to free this man. We placed him
2 on a table top and carried him across the road and into
3 the courtyard of the BMA building. We were met there by
4 a number of doctors. This male was of Chinese or
5 East Asian origin and was in a semi-conscious state. As
6 I was moving this casualty, I was aware there were other
7 fatalities under covers on the street. There were about
8 six or seven other casualties inside the courtyard, all
9 of whom were being treated.

10 "I was about to revisit the bus when I was informed
11 that the bus was now clear of live casualties.
12 I therefore remained in the courtyard and assisted
13 whatever casualty I could. I had an oxygen cylinder and
14 administered oxygen to any casualty on the direction of
15 the doctors. I was then informed by the police that
16 there may be a secondary device and that there would be
17 a controlled explosion. We were asked if we could move
18 the casualties from where they had been placed near to
19 the road to the far end of the courtyard behind the
20 fountain. I then assisted in the movement of either two
21 or three people.

22 "I remember an Australian woman who had a large
23 build. She complained of neck pain and had a neck
24 collar fitted, but the doctor didn't want to fit it very
25 tightly.

1 "I also remember a black woman who was being treated
2 near to the first archway. She received CPR from
3 medical staff but I later saw that she had died. We
4 were joined by more paramedics and HEMS doctors.
5 I assisted some casualties who had complained of being
6 cold by handing them blankets. I was asked by a uniform
7 police constable that he required assistance to move
8 a fatality from nearby. I was shown down to a lower
9 level area, which had black railings to one side
10 approximately 15 feet above. There I saw a body under
11 a sheet. She was placed on a stretcher or spine board
12 and moved to the courtyard. We laid this person near to
13 the black woman next to the front archway."
14 My Lady, just interjecting there, we'll hear more
15 evidence about that matter this afternoon, but it may
16 well be that this witness misunderstood and that the
17 body he's describing was, in fact, that of Marie Hartley
18 that he moved back up to the courtyard:
19 "As the casualties began to disappear in the
20 arriving ambulance, I was directed by SO Ellis to
21 collect our equipment together. We then left the
22 courtyard and returned to the appliance."
23 My Lady, there is one other statement that Mr Hay
24 will read.
25 MR HAY: My Lady, may I read the statement of Glen Hesketh,

1 dated 9 July 2005, which has the usual declaration of
2 truth.
3 Statement of PC GLEN HESKETH read
4 "I am a Metropolitan Police Service police officer.
5 I have 16 years' police service. I am employed as an
6 explosion detection dog handler. My police dog is an
7 English Springer Spaniel named Chester 8. On
8 7 July 2005, I started my day at Nine Elms police
9 station and myself and PC Crawford were instructed to
10 a job in south-east London. At about 9.30, we were
11 deployed to the King's Cross area regarding an incident.
12 "On arrival at King's Cross, we spoke to a police
13 duty officer and we were directed to the incident at
14 Tavistock Square. On arrival at Tavistock Square, I saw
15 a red-coloured London Transport bus. We had driven in
16 from the Euston Road and had stopped about 40 to
17 50 metres from the rear of the bus. In between our
18 vehicle and the bus were a number of abandoned emergency
19 and civilian vehicles. I recall seeing jagged metal
20 sides of the roof. The roof had been blown off and
21 smoke was coming from the bus's window.
22 "Once we left our vehicle, we began to search the
23 area with our dogs to provide a clearance for the
24 rendezvous point. Myself and PC Crawford approached the
25 bus. I can recall seeing a body on the road to the left

1 of the bus. I saw two other bodies on the road to the
2 right-hand side. I saw one body hanging out of the
3 right-hand side of the bus.

4 "As I was about to board the bus, I saw the body of
5 a black female hanging out of the bus window. With my
6 dog, I began to search the bus. We found a microwave
7 oven box on the parcel package area close to the
8 driver's cab. My dog showed no indication of another
9 device. I opened the box and I could see a microwave
10 inside. I did not open the microwave itself.

11 "During my inspection of the bus, I was aware of
12 many screams for help. After the search, I tied my dog
13 to a nearby lamp post and went back to the bus to help
14 the casualties. I enlisted the help of two London Fire
15 Brigade officers, I believe they were from the Soho fire
16 station. With the two firemen, we began to help the
17 injured people on the bus. I pointed out to the two
18 firemen that I could not guarantee their safety. I was
19 unaware if there was another device on board.

20 "Between the three of us, we dealt with a number of
21 casualties. Number 1, male, wearing a dark-coloured
22 suit, a light-coloured shirt. He had swarthy skin, dark
23 hair and a goatee beard. He kept repeating 'Help me'.
24 He was located in the middle of the lower deck. He kept
25 trying to sit up, but he kept on collapsing and became

1 unconscious.

2 "I saw that this male had serious injury to his
3 right leg. His right leg was missing below the knee.
4 Between the three of us, we managed to get the male off
5 the bus. I kept moving the male to ensure that he
6 stayed awake. The male was handed to the medical staff,
7 who began working on him on the roadside.

8 "Number 2, male, of Asian Oriental appearance. He
9 was located in front of the black female on the nearside
10 of the bus. The male was dressed in a lighter grey
11 jacket and had greying, dark hair. The male was trapped
12 by debris that had fallen around him. I can recall his
13 body was hanging outside of the bus and that his head
14 was being supported by members of the public.

15 "With the help of the firemen, we moved the male
16 over to a makeshift stretcher. At the same time,
17 I placed a wound triangular bandage over the face of the
18 black female. I felt the black female's body for
19 a pulse and vital signs. This person appeared to be
20 dead. The female was the person I referred to earlier,
21 the female hanging out of the nearside of the bus.

22 "There was an apparent dead male who was hanging
23 down from the top of the bus. The male was dark-skinned
24 and had black-coloured clothing. There were no visible
25 signs of life. At this point I, and one of the firemen,

1 went up to the top deck of the bus. We were unable to
2 use the stairs. We had to climb up using parts of the
3 bus structure. On the top deck, the fireman checked for
4 casualties and I checked for secondary devices.

5 "I returned to the lower deck. I saw another
6 lifeless body of a white male hanging outside of the
7 offside of the bus. The male had no apparent sign of
8 life. Another apparent dead female was sitting in the
9 near offside corner. I then briefed the explosion
10 officer of my actions re the area. I pointed out the
11 microwave oven. The explosions officer carried out
12 a controlled explosion of the box. At this time,
13 I continued maintaining the cordon. My tour of duty
14 ended at 7.30 pm."

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much. 2.00.

16 (12.50 pm)

17 (The short adjournment)

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