

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

Hearing transcripts - 12 January 2011 - Morning session

1 Wednesday, 12 January 2011

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Keith?

4 MR KEITH: My Lady, we turn today to the evidence relating
5 to the explosion in Tavistock Square and, as is
6 customary, the evidence will commence with the personal
7 evidence and material relating to the deceased victims
8 of that explosion.

9 May I therefore commence with the background
10 evidence relating to Anthony Fatayi-Williams and call
11 his mother, Mrs Marie Fatayi-Williams, to read out the
12 background statement?

13 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mrs Fatayi-Williams, I understand how
14 incredibly difficult this must be for you. If at any
15 time you want Mr Keith to take over for you or you need
16 a break, please just say so.

17 THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.

18 MRS MARIE OMORUYI FATAYI-WILLIAMS (sworn)

19 Questions by MR KEITH

20 MR KEITH: Could you please read out, Mrs Fatayi-Williams,
21 the statement that you have before you?

22 A. Thank you.

23 I, Marie Fatayi-Williams, will, on behalf of the
24 family, say as follows, that I am the mother of
25 Anthony Adebayo Issa Omoregie Fatayi-Williams, who was

1 born to my husband, Dr Alan Fatayi-Williams, and I, on
2 29 January 1979, at the London Hospital and who,
3 unfortunately, while travelling on the number 30 bus, on
4 7 July 2005, was killed when the terrorist bomb was
5 detonated in the bus at Tavistock Square.

6 That Anthony was our first child and our only son,
7 as well as the first grandson of our both families. His
8 other siblings are Aisha Marie-Rose and Laretta Fatima.
9 Anthony returned to Nigeria with us, his parents, in the
10 early 1980s.

11 Anthony attended Corona School, Ikoyi, Lagos, and
12 International School Ibadan, both in Nigeria, until he
13 left for the British School of Paris in 1991, even
14 though he travelled often to the United Kingdom with me.
15 While in Paris, he was an outstanding student in his
16 class and he made many friends with whom he has left
17 fond memories. In addition to his fluent English, he
18 also learnt to speak the French language fluently, which
19 stood him in good stead as a world citizen.

20 He returned to the United Kingdom after his GCSE
21 exams and continued his education at the Sevenoaks
22 School in Kent and the Cambridge Centre for Sixth Form
23 Studies. Anthony graduated from the Bradford University
24 with a second class degree in politics and economics and
25 got recruited shortly afterwards by AMEC,

1 a multinational engineering firm located in the City
2 with offices in Old Street, London.
3 Anthony's zeal, ambitious spirit and dynamism
4 propelled him in 2005 to register for and pursue
5 a part-time Masters degree in oil and gas at the
6 University of Dundee, while carrying out his function as
7 a junior executive for Africa with AMEC.
8 On 6 July 2005, the day before his untimely death,
9 Anthony represented his company, AMEC, at a Nigeria Oil
10 and Gas seminar in London, at which he made
11 a presentation which participants all termed brilliant.
12 Indeed, prior to this day, he had called me and
13 consulted extensively about his input in the
14 forthcoming, all-important seminar. After such
15 a successful outing, and being the dedicated and
16 responsible young executive that he was, he could not
17 but ensure he got to the office the next day, 7 July, to
18 give his bosses a report on the seminar. In fact,
19 Anthony was being prepared for expatriation, most likely
20 to Nigeria or another subsidiary abroad, to further
21 develop new business.
22 Anthony's normal route of commuting was by the
23 Northern Line train from Hendon Central to Old Street.
24 He had to make alternative travel arrangements when his
25 travel was truncated at Euston station or thereabouts in

1 the morning of July 7, 2005.
2 Anthony communicated with his employers, just before
3 his death, that his journey was to continue by bus, as
4 his train journey could not progress beyond where he was
5 at the time of the call. His mobile phone service
6 providers confirmed that he made the call from the
7 Euston area to his employers some time soon before the
8 ill-fated bus number 30 was blown up.
9 When the search for Anthony was on, eye witnesses
10 spoke to confirm that they remembered seeing him, a
11 good-looking, well-turned-out young man, giving
12 a helping hand to some people and pointing others to the
13 right direction in the midst of the confusion of
14 commuters.
15 There was nothing to suggest that Anthony was aware
16 that the traffic commotion was due to terrorist bomb
17 attacks or blasts on the London Transport network. Had
18 he been aware of this information, Anthony, being a fit
19 man who played rugby, attended the gym daily and
20 maintained a healthy life-style, would not have boarded
21 that bus, or any bus for that matter, but would have
22 continued his journey on foot to his office, which was
23 less than a mile away, or, rather, to a place of safety.
24 I tried to reach Anthony on the phone from Nigeria
25 as soon as I heard the news of the Underground

1 explosions on the morning of 7 July 2005. When it went
2 into voicemail, I left a message for him. I then
3 contacted his office to see if he was already there.
4 They then informed me that they spoke with him just
5 before 9.47 am, when he confirmed to them he was making
6 alternative arrangements to get to the office, having
7 come out of the Underground. That was the last anyone
8 heard from him. When it was apparent by the evening of
9 the 7th that no news was forthcoming about Anthony's
10 whereabouts, I embarked on my trip to London to find
11 him.

12 I arrived in London on 9 July 2005 morning and made
13 contact with the law enforcement agencies, who were not
14 able to confirm the whereabouts of Anthony or that he
15 had been killed in the bomb blast. Strangely enough,
16 weeks after Anthony's funeral, the police returned his
17 black briefcase to me that contained his complimentary
18 cards, his Oyster bus pass, his pens and some other
19 personal documents. They also returned his green/white
20 plastic wristband, as well as the white gold chain and
21 the St Benedict's medal, which I gave him, which he
22 always wore round his neck. I never got back his mobile
23 phone, though.

24 By Monday, July 11, 2005, when the family had not
25 received any news concerning the whereabouts of Anthony,

1 the friends and family hosted a press conference in
2 Central London a few metres from where the bus had
3 exploded, though unknown to me at the time, appealing
4 for any news or information. The press conference was
5 addressed by myself and the contents were used globally.
6 The questions I asked then are still as relevant today
7 as they were five years ago.
8 It was not until the night of Tuesday, 12 July 2005,
9 that it was confirmed to us that Anthony had been killed
10 on the bus number 30 at Tavistock Square. Up until this
11 time, the relevant authorities had not confirmed to the
12 family that they had Anthony's body for over five days.
13 Since his death, the family set up the
14 Anthony Fatayi-Williams Foundation for Peace and
15 Conflict Resolution, registered both in London and
16 Nigeria. I am personally involved as chairperson of the
17 foundation, which champions peaceful resolutions to
18 differences and conflicts and eschews terrorism and
19 violence. The Foundation focuses on engaging with
20 youths from a cross-section of ethnic and religious
21 backgrounds. To this end, the Lagos State Government
22 and Governor Fashola are in the final stages of
23 discussion with the Foundation for the construction of
24 the Anthony Fatayi-Williams International Youth Centre
25 for Peace in Lagos.

1 The Foundation, on every anniversary of Anthony's
2 death, except the fourth anniversary, holds a Youth
3 Encounter series in Lagos, Nigeria. The format ranges
4 from topical lectures delivered by eminent scholars to
5 seminars and workshops and leadership development
6 programmes. We have worked in the past with the
7 New York-based initiative of the World Youth Alliance.
8 In the pipeline, also, is a lecture to be delivered in
9 Abuja, Nigeria, by the Director of Human Rights Watch
10 Geneva on the implication of terrorism on global peace
11 and the protection of the rights of the victims.
12 You may ask who was my Anthony, and I will say to
13 you my Anthony was a selfless and dedicated young man
14 who stood for everything that was for peace. He had
15 a big heart that broke the barriers of race, colour or
16 creed. He cared and loved much, was selfless and
17 respectful. He loved and was responsible for his two
18 young sisters, one of whom has special needs. He was
19 very diligent, forthright and dedicated to any cause he
20 believed in. He lived for humanity and radiated joy and
21 peace from childhood to adulthood. He has, indeed, been
22 recognised by his erstwhile employers in this regard
23 with a posthumous award of good citizenship.
24 Anthony's life was cut short in a needless, totally
25 unnecessary and preventable attack on London. His

1 family continues to miss him sorely, even after these
2 five years. We, his parents, continue to wonder if his
3 death could have been prevented or even the attacks
4 foreseen by the relevant authorities.

5 Finally, Anthony always said to me "Mummy, do not
6 worry about anything, just watch and see how well I will
7 take care of you". I, in turn, looked forward to caring
8 for Anthony's children, my grandchildren, but, alas, his
9 death has left a yawning vacuum in our lives and
10 a sustained pain too strong for words and too deep for
11 tears. Oh, how we miss you, Anthony. Oh, how I miss
12 you sorely, such that the rose is not red and the
13 violets are not blue anymore for me. May you find rest
14 and peace with Christ Jesus, our saviour.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much,
16 Mrs Fatayi-Williams.

17 Yes, Mr Keith?

18 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Jamie Gordon, I propose
19 to read out the statement from Jamie's mother,
20 Pairose Bond.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

22 Statement of MS PAIROSE BOND read

23 "I, Pairose Bond, say as follows: I make this
24 statement about my son, Jamie Hector Gregor Glenbucket
25 Gordon on behalf of Jamie's father, David Gordon, and

1 myself. Jamie was born on 19 December 1974 at
2 King's College Hospital in south London. He moved with
3 his mother and sister to Zimbabwe in 1978 where he
4 enjoyed an idyllic childhood. He attended
5 Lewisham Junior School and then St George's College,
6 Harare, proving to be adept at physics, music, drama and
7 gymnastics. He was an active Cub Scout, loved horse
8 riding, his BMX bike and was a keen participant in most
9 school activities.

10 "His father visited Zimbabwe on several occasions
11 and Jamie travelled back to the United Kingdom to join
12 his dad on a tour of the United States and, on another
13 trip, to ski in France. Jamie moved back to London in
14 1989 with his family and finished his education at
15 Eaglesfield Boys School in Eltham, leaving with nine
16 O levels. He was a member of the Severndroog Venture
17 Scout Unit, 10th Royal, Eltham, where, amongst other
18 pursuits, he continued his love of skiing, rock climbing
19 and mountaineering. He formed a band with a group of
20 friends from Eaglesfield, including his two closest
21 friends. They had a few very entertaining gigs, mostly
22 played for their own enjoyment in studios. On leaving
23 school, Jamie did a stint in Ibiza with family friends
24 in entertainment, working briefly on the boats on the
25 River Thames and then put on a suit and moved into the

1 City. He was employed by City Asset Management in
2 Old Street as an investment administrator starting there
3 on 16 October 1997.

4 "Jamie was out with friends from the company on the
5 evening of 6 July and stayed overnight with a colleague.
6 He did not take his usual journey to work on 7 July,
7 with tragic consequences.

8 "Jamie became very close to his older half-brother,
9 David John, after his return to the United Kingdom, but
10 in July 1997, David died of a brain haemorrhage.

11 Jamie's half-sister, Frances, lives in Glasgow, his
12 father's home town, with the rest of the Scottish
13 family. In his unforgettable way, he had forged a very
14 strong bond with the Glaswegian branch and was very
15 proud of his Scottish roots. His younger half-brothers,
16 Gregor and Ewan, now live in New Zealand with their
17 mother, Claire (Jamie's step-mother), who was also very
18 close to Jamie. They, along with his father, David,
19 spent many wonderful holidays skiing in Montana and
20 partying in Ibiza. Jamie and his father shared a love
21 of music, a sense of humour and great charm. They were
22 the best of friends.

23 "To his mother, Pairose, he was simply the best son
24 in the world. Again, they shared the love of music,
25 sense of humour and a passionate interest in so many

1 things: politics, religion, the law and travel. His
2 deep love and concern for his sister, Natalie Jane, who
3 has Down's Syndrome, never wavered, and he was
4 determined always to do right by her. He enjoyed
5 a close and fun relationship with his many aunts, uncles
6 and cousins from the Zimbabwean side and was equally
7 proud and comfortable with those roots.

8 "Jamie was a funny, tolerant and charming young man
9 who could be irritatingly late, but rarely ever
10 shortchanged any of us. His loyalty and humour saw him
11 through many tight spots and his continual growth made
12 it easier for us to accept the changing world we lived
13 in.

14 "Able to move with ease between the very young and
15 old, he was a much-loved member of a large family that
16 came from Scotland, on his father's side, and Zimbabwe,
17 on his mother's side. The changing face of Jamie, from
18 the exuberant child who seemed to fear nothing, to the
19 long-haired, rock star teenager, all hair, nail varnish,
20 black mascara and guitars, to the mature, but still
21 quirky, young man.

22 "The essence of Jamie left an indelible mark on all
23 who met him and, to this day, on the important dates,
24 both friends and family gather to remember him. He had
25 many friends, both male and female, and maintained these

1 throughout his life. Jamie loved going to rock
2 concerts, playing tennis - he and his partner won the
3 men's doubles at Bush Hill Tennis Club in 2005 - foreign
4 travel, skiing, snooker and guitar playing, sailing in
5 Turkey, deep-sea diving in Egypt, wine tasting in South
6 Africa, skiing in the big sky in Montana, abseiling in
7 Austria. Jamie did it all with zest. He abseiled in
8 the City to raise money for the Red Cross and collected
9 for Mencap outside football stadiums, showing yet
10 another aspect of his big personality. His life was
11 exciting, varied and joyful. He embraced all aspects of
12 the world he lived in with enthusiasm and tolerance.
13 His parents are, and always will be, extremely proud of
14 him, as are all members of his family and his friends.
15 "Jamie was improving his qualifications at work in
16 order to move up in his chosen career. In his short
17 life, he had done so much, yet had so much still to do.
18 Whatever the future held for him, he would have embraced
19 it fully."

20 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr Keith?

21 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Giles Hart, I propose to
22 read the statement of his daughter, Maryla.

23 Statement of MR GILES VERNON HART read

24 "I Maryla Hart, daughter of Giles Hart, write this
25 statement on behalf of my family, and I say as follows:

1 Giles Vernon Hart was born in Khartoum, the Sudan, on
2 20 November 1949, to English parents, the younger of two
3 children; he has a sister, Erica. His mother, Elsie,
4 had been brought up in Cairo, Egypt, and his father,
5 Eric, was Head of English at the Gordon Memorial College
6 in Khartoum. When Giles was five, the family moved to
7 England and Giles was subsequently educated at Woodhouse
8 Grammar School in Friern Barnet, north London and read
9 mathematics at the University of London's Royal Holloway
10 College. Giles was brought up in a loving, intellectual
11 and musical household without a television. Both his
12 parents were keen amateur musicians and, as children,
13 Giles and Erica learnt the violin. The family would
14 often play as a quartet. Giles wrote of himself that he
15 loved listening to classical music from Thomas Tallis
16 and Bach through to Prokofiev and Katchaturian. He also
17 enjoyed ragtime and some jazz and boogie-woogie. He
18 liked a broad range of art, though mostly 18th and
19 19th Century.

20 "From a young age, Giles read up on and developed
21 a broad knowledge of many subjects that fascinated him.
22 When he was a boy, these included archaeology (an
23 interest that he shared with his mother), science
24 fiction, astronomy, motor racing, football and
25 athletics. Giles also loved to play football and did so

1 for his school, university and, later, work team,
2 although he was not always picked to play at school.
3 "On leaving university, Giles hoped never to have to
4 take another exam in his life if he could possibly help
5 it. In 1971, he entered the Civil Service as an
6 executive officer at Trinity House Lighthouse Service
7 and, from 1989, he worked for British Telecom. Although
8 always thorough and consistent in all he undertook,
9 including work, for Giles, his paid employment was not
10 central to his life. Giles highly valued the time he
11 devoted to the pursuit of his own broad and varied
12 interests, to his campaigning and, later, as a married
13 man to his family.

14 "Giles read avidly, mainly history, biography,
15 archaeology, fiction and drama. His favourite writers,
16 although he could be critical of them, were
17 George Orwell, HG Wells, Arthur Koestler,
18 Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Gerald Hanley. Giles was
19 also passionate and expertly knowledgeable about film
20 history from films earliest days and a long-standing
21 member of the National Film Theatre. He was interested
22 in the great films of the past, the great film-makers
23 and the evolution of film style and grammar.

24 "Giles loved to spend days out and holidays walking
25 and rowing in the countryside. In his 20s, he walked

1 Hadrian's Wall and the Medway with his schoolfriend,
2 Ian, and they also rowed the Thames in an Edwardian
3 covered skiff. Later, he spent days and holidays
4 walking and rowing with his wife, children and dog
5 Charlie.

6 "Giles was an honest, principled person, he believed
7 in justice, liberty and freedom and hated oppression,
8 fundamentalism and totalitarianism. At work, Giles was
9 a Trade Union activist and was a long-standing member of
10 the Anti-Slavery Society and Medical Aid for Victims of
11 Torture. In 1980, he joined the Polish solidarity
12 campaign of Great Britain [to which I'll make reference
13 to you as the PSC], the most prominent group in Britain
14 supporting the solidarity movement in Poland, and
15 throughout the decade was a very active member.

16 "At first, he carried out important and yet mundane
17 and onerous tasks that others declined. He was
18 membership secretary, treasurer and fundraiser. As his
19 friend and fellow activist, John Taylor, writes:

20 "'While other people came and went or faded away
21 altogether, particularly in the late 1980s, Giles stuck
22 to the cause with a dogged persistence'."

23 Later on, he was secretary and chairman for
24 37 years. As fellow activist, Wiktor Moszczyński,
25 writes:

1 '"During his early stint as treasurer and membership
2 secretary, he built up the organisation's finances, in
3 the space of 18 months, from 250 to 22,000 ...'"
4 I'm afraid the reference to the currency to which
5 those sums relate is absent from the statement.
6 "'... by an energetic mass membership drive and the
7 sale of "Solidarnosc" T-shirts and sweatshirts by mail
8 order. At each PSC demonstration, his bearded face
9 could be seen behind the platform flogging solidarity
10 memorabilia and publications. Giles stood out as the
11 voice of the non-politicised rank and file British
12 sympathisers who had earned the respect and trust of the
13 often bemused Polish members. He was a crucial
14 ingredient in the glue that kept the organisation
15 together.
16 "'As PSC chairman in the late 1980s, he, more than
17 any other PSC member, kept the activity in the
18 organisations alive by holding regular conferences and
19 by picketing communist events.'
20 "Co-founder of PSC, Karen Blick, herself writes
21 that:
22 "'After 1989, Giles continued to document, preserve
23 and celebrate the history of Solidarnosc support in
24 Britain, establishing an historical archive at the
25 Polish Centre in Hammersmith and editing a book "For Our

1 Freedom and Yours: The History of the Polish Solidarity
2 Campaign of Great Britain", a combination of individual
3 members' accounts of the history of the PSC published in
4 1995.

5 "'It is a mark of Giles' tenacity that the book was
6 a sellout. He carried it everywhere with him: weddings,
7 visits, even funerals. He also organised very enjoyable
8 annual PSC picnics and commemorative conferences such as
9 the 20th anniversary of Solidarnosc inside the same
10 Polish Embassy, a building outside which he had before
11 demonstrated so often. He was also due, in August 2005,
12 to attend a celebration of the 25th anniversary of
13 Solidarnosc in Warsaw and Gdansk.'

14 "In 1983, Giles married Danuta Gorzynska, a Pole
15 whom he met through his PSC activities. Their daughter,
16 Maryla, was born in 1984 and their son, Martin, in 1987.
17 Giles was a devoted father and husband who greatly
18 valued time spent with his family.

19 "He also continued to pursue outside interests. He
20 was a member of the HG Wells Society and, for the last
21 two years of his life, served as their chairman. A few
22 months before his death, he gave a speech and introduced
23 two films at the National Film Theatre as part of their
24 HG Wells film season. He was also active in the
25 Havering Humanists, where he was vice-chairman and then

1 chairman, and also gave several talks on a variety of
2 subjects. Giles also supported his wife and daughter in
3 their own environmental campaigning.

4 "As Karen Blick wrote:

5 "'On the last night of his life, Giles arrived at my
6 house to meet and discuss the organisation of
7 a conference in October, entitled "The Impact of
8 Solidarity in Great Britain". He characteristically
9 brought with him copious details of the work he had
10 already undertaken for this project, but also a very
11 large bottle of wine.'

12 "On the evening of 7 July, Giles had been due to
13 give a speech to the Havering Humanists on the lesser
14 known works of Lewis Carroll. Alas, it was not to be.

15 "Over 200 people attended Giles' funeral on
16 26 July 2005. Following the funeral, during the
17 celebration of Giles' life in West Lodge, Upminster,
18 Giles' widow, Danuta Gorzynska-Hart, was presented with
19 a medal posthumously awarded to Giles by
20 President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland and presented
21 by Krzysztof Trepczynski, head of the Economic Section of
22 the Polish Embassy who was representing the Polish
23 Ambassador.

24 "In October 2005, at the 25th anniversary of the
25 solidarity gala concert in Brussels entitled 'Thank You

1 Europe', Lech Walesa presented Danuta with a 'Medal to
2 commemorate 25 years of the August Agreements' awarded
3 to Giles Hart. Presenting the medal at the funeral,
4 Mr Trepczynski told Danuta that he was deeply honoured
5 to announce that the President had awarded Giles the
6 Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of
7 Poland 'for outstanding achievements in the democratic
8 transformation of Poland. We will always remember what
9 Giles has done for Poland, for building democracy in
10 Poland, for the solidarity movement, by bringing hope to
11 ordinary people at that very difficult time in Poland.'
12 "In July 2006, Havering Green Groups dedicated
13 15 trees to Giles' memory. On the suggestion of
14 a former solidarity activist, Tytus Czartoryski, the
15 Giles Hart Memorial Committee was established and,
16 thanks above all else to the efforts of
17 Wiktor Moszczynski, raised almost 11,000 [and I think it
18 is pounds] for a memorial stone. The slab of granite
19 shipped from Strzegom in Silesia, Poland, was unveiled
20 on 5 July 2008 in Ravenscourt Park close to POSK and the
21 scene of the PSC annual picnics. The stone inscription
22 included a quote from Mahatma Gandhi:
23 "'Be the change you want to see in the world'."
24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr Keith?
25 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Marie Hartley, I propose

1 to read the statement of Mr Smith. It contains the
2 introduction that, as my Lady knows, has been applicable
3 to all his previous and will be applicable to his
4 subsequent statements. I will read it, therefore, on
5 this occasion.

6 Statement of MR MARTIN LLOYD SMITH read

7 "I, Martin Smith, will say as follows: I am
8 a partner of Field Fisher Waterhouse and was appointed
9 by the Right Honourable Lady Justice Hallett DBE to act
10 as a Solicitor to these Inquests. I make this statement
11 in relation to Marie Joanne Hartley, who died in the
12 bombing at Tavistock Square.

13 "I have, where possible, contacted the bereaved
14 families to explain that Dame Heather was planning to
15 call evidence dealing with the personal background of
16 each of the 52 deceased at the inquest hearings.
17 Dame Heather hoped that this would help set the context
18 and ensure that the proceedings gave an appropriate
19 focus to each of those who died as individuals.

20 "I have not received a background statement
21 providing background evidence about Marie. However, we
22 have some background information which was provided to
23 Mrs Sher Duff (the Coroner's officer at St Pancras
24 Coroner's Court) by Marie's mother, Barbara Targett,
25 which is dated 13 October 2005 ... I refer to this

1 letter in my statement as background information.

2 "I have read the short obituary for Marie Hartley on
3 the BBC News website, to which I shall refer as the 'BBC
4 obituary', and a brief tribute on the Guardian website
5 which I will refer to as the 'Guardian tribute'.

6 "I summarise pertinent aspects of these documents
7 below to ensure that some personal information about
8 Marie Hartley is adduced in evidence during the inquest
9 into her death.

10 "The background information records that
11 Marie Joanne was born in Lancashire, on 18 June 1971, to
12 John Norman and Barbara Targett. Her mother describes
13 her as a very happy, inquisitive little girl with an
14 outgoing personality and eager to learn. She had
15 a brother, Ian, who was married to Debbie, and together
16 they had a son, Marie's nephew, Phelix Harvey.

17 "In 1975, Marie went to St Nicholas Church of
18 England school and later went to Moorhead County High
19 School, both in Accrington. She enjoyed school and
20 achieved good marks in all her subjects. Her mother
21 describes how she was exceptionally talented in art and
22 was put forward by her teacher to apply for a junior
23 position in a design studio, which she won. She began
24 working at Hambledon Studios, Accrington, on
25 29 June 1987, as an artist. Marie enjoyed her job and

1 her career progressed within the company to graphics
2 manager and then studio manager. She was well-respected
3 amongst work colleagues and had been employed there for
4 19 years until her death. The BBC obituary quotes
5 David Dean, the managing director of the company, as
6 saying she was incredibly talented and inspired everyone
7 who works for her.

8 "In February 1996, Marie married David Hartley and
9 they had two sons, Liam John and Adan David. The
10 background information describes how she and her husband
11 were 'soulmates, living totally for their sons and were
12 an extremely loving, happy family unit'. It continues,
13 '... she had a great sense of fun, lived life to the
14 full and touched so many people with her happiness and
15 love. She had the ability to light up any room and was
16 not only a wife, daughter and sister, but a best friend
17 to all her close family members'.

18 "The Guardian tribute records how, on 7 July 2005,
19 Marie was in London with her colleague, Camille Scott,
20 to attend an exhibition in Islington. She had been
21 evacuated from a Tube station and had sent a text
22 message to her family and friends to tell them that she
23 was safe, only to board the ill-fated number 30 bus
24 which was bombed in Tavistock Square and where she lost
25 her life."

1 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr Keith?

2 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Miriam Hyman, may I call
3 her sister, Esther, to read out the statement that has
4 been prepared on her behalf.

5 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Of course.

6 Ms Hyman, you've probably heard what I said to
7 others. If, at any stage, you need a break or you'd
8 rather Mr Keith took over, please just say.

9 MS ESTHER HYMAN (sworn)

10 Questions by MR KEITH

11 MR KEITH: Madam, you are, of course, Esther Hyman. May
12 I invite you, please, to read out the statement that has
13 been prepared in relation to Miriam?

14 A. Thank you.

15 I am Esther Hyman, the sister of Miriam Hyman, and
16 I make this statement at the request of the coroner with
17 a view to providing some personal background information
18 about Miriam.

19 This statement is made on behalf of myself, my
20 mother, Mavis Hyman, and my father, John Hyman.

21 The message of Edward Rynearson's book 'Retelling
22 Violent Death' is that the stories of those who die in
23 violence can be reclaimed and told from the point of
24 view of their lives, not only their deaths, and by those
25 who love and value them. This is why we appreciate the

1 opportunity to say something about Miriam as an
2 individual.

3 She was born in University College Hospital,
4 graduated from University College London and lost her
5 life in Tavistock Square, all within one square mile.

6 She grew up in a north London suburb and enjoyed her
7 years at Brookland Primary School and Copthall School.

8 She read French and History of Art at UCL from 1990 to
9 1994 and had a career in picture research at
10 Quarto Publishing, BBC books, and finally as
11 a freelancer. Her interest in people with different
12 traditions, histories and culture remained insatiable
13 and she got great satisfaction from her own mixed
14 influences, her travels and the time she lived abroad.

15 As Miriam's immediate family, we miss her close
16 companionship, a trusted confidante, she brought great
17 joy and laughter into our lives by finding life funny in
18 innumerable small ways.

19 "Miriam attracted friends like a magnet and she kept
20 them too. Many of her friendships endured from infant
21 school. She constantly widened her circles of friends
22 while keeping her old ones. Her unfailing warmth,
23 hospitality, unquenchable interest in the lives of
24 family and friends, her sincerity and her generosity
25 made people seek her out. She was a great force for

1 good, whether through her voluntary work for charity or
2 in simple acts of kindness in daily life.
3 "Miriam's friends recall her being the constant in
4 their lives of many variables. They remember her
5 laughter and lust for life, her ability to listen
6 attentively and help others to see clearly. Miriam
7 brought out the best in people, caring greatly about how
8 she treated others and enabling others to feel good
9 about themselves. A woman of many talents, she was
10 socially caring, universalistic in outlook and
11 personally vibrant. An inspired artist, she worked with
12 equal ease in any medium she turned her hand to and was
13 stimulated by the work of other artists and by nature
14 itself. Her love of the countryside often took her out
15 of the City, walking, hiking and just gazing in wonder
16 and appreciation. She was happiest when bringing her
17 different abilities together and giving the wonderful
18 cards, pictures and jewellery that she created to the
19 people that she loved. Shortly before her life ended,
20 Miriam was planning to start a hand-made greeting card
21 company, "Memento", a play on her nickname, "Mim".
22 Our pain and loss is immeasurable, but our comfort
23 lies in the fact that the love and compassion that
24 Miriam generated in her life is now being treasured in
25 her memory. The Miriam Hyman Memorial Trust is

1 achieving that in two ways: the first is through her
2 living memorial, the Miriam Hyman Children's Eye Care
3 Centre, located at the LV Prasad Eye Institute in
4 Orissa, India, a place of hope, healing and
5 rehabilitation for successive generations of children
6 with eye care needs, irrespective of the ability to pay.
7 Secondly, through a partnership with her secondary
8 school, Copthall School, developing an electronic
9 educational resource using Miriam's story to promote
10 responsible citizenship. Reflective decision making, an
11 appreciation of cultural diversity and the recognition
12 of the commonality of mankind will hopefully minimise
13 some of the conditions that led to the events of 7/7.
14 In a letter to our parents whilst studying abroad in
15 1993, Miriam said that she did not have a problem with
16 the idea of her own death but, rather, with the deaths
17 of her loved ones. She never had to face the reality
18 she dreaded. On 7/7, 2005, Miriam's life amongst us was
19 brought to an end, yet her spirit and her name live on
20 indomitably to continue to be a blessing to others.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much.

22 Mr Keith?

23 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Shahara Islam, I propose
24 read a statement from Mr Smith.

25

1 Statement of MR MARTIN LLOYD SMITH read
2 "On 21 June 2010, I wrote a letter to Mr and
3 Mrs Islam, the parents of Shahara Akhter Islam, who died
4 on 7 July 2005 in the bombing at Tavistock Square.
5 I have not received a statement providing background
6 evidence about Shahara. However, her colleague,
7 Emma Louise Plunkett, gave an interview to the
8 Metropolitan Police. I refer to this below as the
9 'interview notes'. In addition, background information
10 was provided to Mrs Sher Duff (Coroner's officer at
11 St Pancras Coroner's Court) to which I will refer as
12 'background information'.
13 "I have also read the short obituary for Shahara on
14 the BBC News website, which I will refer to as the 'BBC
15 obituary', and a brief tribute on the Guardian website
16 to which I will refer as the 'Guardian tribute'.
17 I summarise pertinent aspects of the documents below to
18 ensure that some personal information about
19 Shahara Islam is adduced in evidence during the inquest
20 into her death.
21 "The interview notes record that Shahara Islam was
22 born in the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel on
23 11 January 1985. She lived in Plaistow and worked as
24 a cashier at the Cooperative Bank in Islington. She had
25 a mother, Romena, and father, Shamsul, and two younger

1 siblings, brother Mohammed Anharul and sister Tasneem
2 Siddiqui. In 2001, she completed her GCSEs and went on
3 to study her A levels at Barking Abbey Comprehensive
4 School. In 2003, she achieved two A levels and started
5 working at the Cooperative Bank. She had been working
6 there, her first job since leaving school, until she
7 died.

8 "The BBC obituary records how Shahara 'embodied
9 a meeting of western and Muslim values'. She was always
10 present at her mosque for Friday prayers, but would
11 enjoy shopping and clothes, whether western or
12 traditional fashions.

13 "She is described by her family in the BBC obituary
14 as an outgoing woman who made friends easily and as an
15 '... Eastender, a Londoner and British, but above all
16 a true Muslim and proud to be so. Her uncle,
17 Nazmul Hasan, said, 'Everyone who knows her loves her
18 dearly. There isn't a single person who could say a bad
19 thing about her', and that the family had been 'very
20 happy and proud of her'.

21 "Shahara's schoolfriend, Sarah Read, commented on
22 the Guardian tribute, describing her as popular with
23 teachers and fellow pupils. She said 'Shahara was
24 a pleasant, upbeat girl who enjoyed socialising and
25 loved her friends and family. She will be sadly missed

1 by everyone that was fortunate enough to know her'.

2 There are also a number of tributes from customers of
3 the Cooperative Bank, who make reference to Shahara's
4 beauty, helpfulness and the fact that she always had
5 a smile.

6 "The interview notes describe how, on 7 July,
7 Ms Plunkett saw Shahara and discussed the buses which
8 could get them both into work. Ms Plunkett suggested
9 going somewhere for a cup of tea until the queues died
10 down, but Shahara wanted to get into work, so they set
11 off together. The notes also state that Shahara had
12 tried to telephone her uncle, who worked at Euston
13 station, to enquire about the disruption, but was unable
14 to get through."

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr Keith.

16 MR KEITH: In relation to Neetu Jain, I will read the
17 statement from her sister, Reetu.

18 Statement of MS REETU JAIN read

19 "I am the older sister of Neetu Jain, who died on
20 7 July 2005 in the bombing on the bus at
21 Tavistock Square.

22 "I make this statement following a request from the
23 Solicitor to the Inquests to provide background about
24 her life.

25 "My sister was born on 23 May 1967 in New Delhi,

1 India. The family moved to England in 1968 when our
2 father was offered the opportunity to find work as an
3 engineer. Initially, we lived in Southall and later
4 moved to Kingsbury. Finally, in 1975, the family
5 settled in Hendon. Neetu attended primary school
6 locally in Hendon and, from 1978 to 1985, she went to
7 Hendon Senior School. She was quiet and studious as
8 a child. She loved school and was always happy.
9 I remember fondly all the games we played together.
10 "In 1983, Neetu obtained nine O levels and then
11 studied A levels in biology, chemistry and mathematics.
12 She enjoyed science subjects the most and, between 1985
13 and 1988, went on to study for a BSc degree in
14 biochemistry at King's College London. She was awarded
15 the 'Permagmon' and 'Sambrooke' exhibition awards for
16 the best academic results in 1987. Neetu loved college
17 and was always the perfect friend, loved by all who knew
18 her.
19 "In 1989, she attended University College London
20 where she obtained an MSc with distinction in
21 information technology. When she was studying, Neetu
22 had many varied part-time and summer jobs. She worked
23 as a sale assistant for C&A, the Body Shop and Harrods,
24 she also work as a research assistant at the Kennedy
25 Institute of Rheumatology. In 1990, she found a job

1 with a company called T-Cam. The job took her all round
2 the world. She travelled to India, Venezuela, Mexico,
3 Turkey and the USA. Eventually, she tired of the
4 travelling and, in 1994, joined a company called
5 Smart Logic, where she worked as a computer analyst.
6 "When I married in 1996, my sister was a witness at
7 the civil service and supported me throughout the Hindu
8 wedding ceremony. When I started a family, she always
9 brought my children such joy. I will never forget their
10 laughter when she was with them and the little games she
11 played on their backs.
12 "In May 2005, she started a new job with TXT4 in
13 Hoxton Square. Her post involved computer analysis,
14 programming and development. She held build computer
15 software that is used by millions of people every day.
16 Neetu was very happy with TXT4. She found a job where
17 she knew she would remain indefinitely and, at this
18 point, she was the happiest that she had ever been with
19 her career and personal life. She was just a few months
20 away from being engaged and married to her partner,
21 Gous Ali. Neetu moved into her own flat in April 2003,
22 but as it was so close to our parents, she still spent
23 a great deal of her time with them. Sadly, our mother
24 passed away in March 2007, heartbroken by the family's
25 loss. My sister was a beautiful, loving person. She

1 was extremely intelligent and had a successful career
2 and loved life, sport and people. She had so much to
3 look forward to in the future. Every day I think of all
4 the times we shared. I remember her smile and our daily
5 chats. Neetu is missed so dearly and we cherish her
6 memories which live on in us all."

7 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes.

8 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Sam Ly, I propose read
9 a statement from Mr Smith.

10 Statement of MR MARTIN LLOYD SMITH read

11 "On 21 June 2010 I wrote a letter to Mr Hi Ly, the
12 father of Sam Ly, who died on 14 July 2005 from injuries
13 sustained in the bombing at Tavistock Square.

14 "On 3 August 2010, I wrote a further letter to Mr Ly
15 to ensure that my initial request for a background
16 statement had been received and understood. I explained
17 that if I did not receive a response by 17 August,
18 I would assume that the family did not wish to provide
19 me with a background statement.

20 "To date, I have not received a response from Mr Ly.
21 Consequently, I have not received a fresh statement
22 providing background evidence about Sam. However, Mr Ly
23 had previously given a statement to the
24 Metropolitan Police dated 16 July 2005. In addition, he
25 had written a letter to Mrs Sher Duff, the coroner's

1 officer, dated 30 September 2006.

2 "Sam Ly's partner of nine years, Mandy Ha, gave
3 a statement to the police dated 16 July 2005. I have
4 read the short obituary of Sam Ly on the BBC News
5 website and a brief tribute on the Guardian website and
6 finally I have read the tributes to Sam Ly that were
7 compiled for the Book of Tributes, 7 July 2005.

8 "The police statement records that Sam Ly was born
9 in Vietnam in 1977. In March 1979, when Sam was two
10 years' old, he fled with his mother, father and older
11 sister by boat from Vietnam to Malaysia. On
12 14 May 1980, the family moved to Richmond in Melbourne,
13 Australia, as refugees.

14 "In 1982, Sam's mother, Huynh Chi, died from breast
15 cancer. Sam was five years' old and he was looked after
16 by his father and older sister.

17 "When he was 15 years' old, Sam began working
18 part-time jobs to help support the family. He worked at
19 McDonalds and at a local supermarket. Later on he
20 undertook surveying jobs, paper deliveries, sales jobs,
21 administrative roles and conveyancing, until finally
22 settling into a career in IT.

23 "Sam encouraged his father to remarry, which he did
24 in 1997. Sam had a step-sister from this marriage and
25 the Book of Tributes records that he also had two nieces

1 and two nephews to whom he was devoted. The Book of
2 Tributes describes how he would make a special effort to
3 provide fun and laughter and would go to great lengths
4 to find and send his nieces and nephews gifts. He also
5 spoke fondly of his two aunties and his grandparents.
6 "Sam is described in the Book of Tributes as 'solid'
7 and as 'stable as a rock', whilst his boundless loyalty
8 to friends was said to be one of his most admirable
9 attributes.
10 "Sam went to St John's primary school and later
11 turned down a place at Melbourne High School to study at
12 Collingwood College on account of his friends being
13 there. His teachers recognised him as talented and
14 enthusiastic with a lot of potential. He was described
15 as quick-witted, a fast learner, ambition and as
16 a 'people person' with many friends.
17 "The police statement records that Sam went to
18 La Trobe University and later Monash University in
19 Melbourne, where he read business and finance IT and had
20 many friends. He spoke Mandarin and also studied
21 Chinese whilst at university.
22 "Ms Ha describes in her statement her first memory
23 of Sam, which was at primary school when they were aged
24 around 5 and Sam proposed to her. On being turned down,
25 Sam immediately proposed to his teacher. She continues

1 that it was during his first year at university that
2 their relationship developed and they moved in together
3 in 2001 and bought a house together in Carnegie,
4 Australia, in 2003.

5 "In the Book of Tributes, Ms Ha is quoted as saying:
6 "'If it is possible to be taught how to love
7 wholeheartedly and unselfishly, Sam was my teacher. If
8 there was anyone who inspired me to be more than I was,
9 it was him'.

10 "Miss Ha also explains how Sam wanted a daughter of
11 his own to love and dote on.

12 "The BBC obituary records that Sam worked at
13 Monash University for four years and quotes
14 Margo Hellyer, his former boss, as saying he was really
15 widely acknowledged as a very friendly, extremely
16 helpful person, outgoing and just very much a real
17 pleasure to have in your team and to work with.

18 Ms Hellyer also commented on the Guardian tribute that
19 Sam had '... a wonderful sense of values and politeness.
20 He kind of had the world at his feet'. Ms Ha's
21 statement says that, in April 2003, she and Sam moved to
22 London to look for work. Sam found a job working in IT
23 for a company called Cor. He was happy in his work and
24 both he and Ms Ha quickly established themselves and
25 made good friends.

1 "The police statement describes how it was Sam's
2 intention to earn more money in the United Kingdom so
3 that he could help support his father in his old age.
4 The statement describes how Sam encouraged his father to
5 travel and would send him money to enable him to do so.
6 Sam kept in regular contact with his father and would
7 telephone him two or three times a month. He last
8 returned to Australia for the Christmas holidays in
9 2004. Sam is described as a thoughtful and considerate
10 son and, knowing that his father liked flowers and to
11 take pictures, he purchased a digital camera for him.
12 "Following the bombing, Mr Ly and his nephew, John,
13 flew to London where they joined Ms Ha by Sam's hospital
14 bedside. Sadly, Sam passed away on 14 July 2005 at the
15 National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. He
16 was flown back to Melbourne, Australia, where his
17 funeral was held. The BBC obituary records that
18 services were held for Sam in English, Vietnamese and
19 Cantonese. It also records that the night before the
20 funeral service, 100 members of Melbourne's Vietnamese
21 community held a prayer vigil for him."
22 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes?
23 MR KEITH: My Lady, is that a convenient point?
24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I was thinking that this is difficult
25 for everybody and I wonder if -- do you need a break,

1 Mr Keith?

2 MR KEITH: My Lady, no.

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I was thinking that, maybe, if we
4 could complete this part, and then I think everybody
5 will need a break.

6 MR KEITH: Of course.

7 My Lady, in relation to Shyanuja Parathasangary,
8 there is a joint statement from her parents.

9 Statement of MR SANGARY PARATHASANGARY and
10 MRS RUTH PARATHASANGARY read

11 "We, Ruth and Sangary Parathasangary, will say as
12 follows. We are the parents of Shyanuja (Shyanu)
13 Niroshini Parathasangary, who died on 7 July 2005 on the
14 bombing on the bus at Tavistock Square.

15 "We make this statement following a request from the
16 Solicitor to the Inquests to provide background about
17 Shyanu's life. Shyanu was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka,
18 on 30 August 1974. She came to London when she was 19
19 months' old with her mother, Ruth and her sister,
20 Sindhuja, on 20 March 1976 to join Sangary, their
21 father, who had arrived six months before them.

22 "Her early childhood was spent in Queens Park,
23 London, where she attended Wilberforce Junior School.
24 During these years, she had the pleasure of spending
25 time with her grandparents, who have now passed on,

1 Henry Spencer and Parames Spencer, who provided care
2 during the day, took her to primary school and back.
3 Her secondary education was from John Kelly Girls' High
4 School in Crest Road in London. Shyanu completed her
5 advanced level education from Harrow Weald College. She
6 completed a Higher National Diploma in business and
7 finance in July 1995, and she graduated from South Bank
8 University in London in July 1997, where she obtained
9 a Bachelor of Arts degree with 1st Division Second Class
10 Honours in business studies and administration.
11 "Shyanu moved with her family to Kensal Rise,
12 London, in 1992, where she resided until tragedy struck.
13 Even though she was born overseas, she felt a sense of
14 belonging as a British citizen and did not wish to
15 return to her country of birth even for a visit.
16 Shyanu's hobbies were reading, shopping and watching
17 movies. She would spend many hours reading on the
18 internet and would shop for that rare or unusual item on
19 the internet for a gift. She was very much into sport
20 as a teenager and participated in volleyball,
21 basketball, netball, rounders and swimming and received
22 merit awards and certificates from the Westminster
23 Schools Sports Association.
24 "Christmas time was very special to Shyanu and her
25 sister, Sindhu, with whom she was very close. She would

1 spend many evenings after school or work decorating the
2 Christmas tree, sing carols, and she had great
3 admiration for the well-decorated tree. She had
4 a God-given voice for singing and she was a member of
5 the junior choir at the Fernhead Road Methodist Church
6 in Paddington, where she worshipped until she started
7 working.

8 "Shyanu was also crowned the Junior Sunday School
9 Queen by the then Lord mayor of Westminster. As a young
10 member, she assisted with a creche at the church on
11 Sundays and helped raise money for the aged. Shyanu
12 took baptism in February 1980 and chose Mary as her
13 baptismal name. She was also made a member of the
14 Methodist church in 1987.

15 "Shyanu was a regular blood donor to the Red Cross
16 for a few years while she was working for the Royal Mail
17 in Islington.

18 "Shyanu helped her mum with household chores and
19 would do it with no qualms about it. In short, she was
20 an asset at home and at work and was liked by all who
21 knew her or whom she came into contact with. She loved
22 children and would become one amongst them. When her
23 cousins from Australia visited, she would happily spend
24 hours entertaining them with games and playing with
25 snowballs.

1 "One of Shyanu's remarkable characteristics is that
2 she never had a harsh word for anyone. Even if she did
3 not agree with someone, she would accept what they said
4 with a smile.

5 "It was not in her nature to hurt anyone. She was
6 a tower of strength to anyone who needed her and very
7 much so to her family. She would champion the causes of
8 those who were downtrodden and had no fear or favour.
9 She would stand up for the right, being an honest and
10 trustworthy person herself. She was kind and generous
11 and had an outgoing personality and won many
12 acquaintances due to her nature.

13 "Shyanu and her sister had only a year and four
14 months apart between them and they grew together and
15 knew each other so well from childhood. They had no
16 close relatives or friends near them and she found
17 herself accountable for and protective towards her
18 sister and felt she would always be there for her as
19 a friend and sister, but, alas, as fate would have it,
20 the setback of this separation is being immensely felt
21 by her sister and parents and those whom she left
22 behind.

23 "Her childhood friend, Nell Raut, remained a good
24 friend to her and now to her family. Nell has known
25 Shyanu since 4th grade and both shared many happy hours

1 in the company of each other, doing things they liked,
2 first as children, then as teenagers, and then, later
3 on, as adults: shopping, movies, jokes, swimming, meals
4 and coffee evenings. Shyanu was blessed with her
5 friendship and they both cherished each other's company
6 and now she is sadly missed by Nell.

7 "After graduation, Shyanu found employment with the
8 Royal Mail office in August 1997. At the time of her
9 calling, she was attached to the Old Street office as
10 assistant purchasing officer. This was a crucial time
11 in her life, as she and her sister, Sindhu, wanted some
12 independence and were in the process of refurbishing
13 a house to move into, only a couple of doors next to her
14 parents.

15 "To know that this desire did not reach fruition and
16 was cut short, just like her life, is tantamount to
17 depriving her of what she could have achieved, not
18 having asked much from life itself.

19 "Shyanu was born into a very closely-knit family.
20 She, along with her family, had gone through thick and
21 thin when she was a child and as a teenager. It is sad
22 to know that, when life was somewhat treating her
23 kindly, tragedy had to strike in the manner of the
24 London bus bombing claiming yet another victim. The
25 love and affection bestowed upon her by her parents and

1 sister is immeasurable. Her sudden, tragic and
2 unexpected death is a great loss to her mum, dad,
3 sister, relatives and friends. The grief experience
4 could not have been foretold and is insurmountable. The
5 youth, the innocence, the pride, the joy, all taken away
6 in a moment. We cherish our loving memories of our
7 beloved Shyanu who will always be a part of our lives."

8 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes.

9 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Anat Rosenberg, I propose
10 to read the statement of John Falding, her partner,
11 drafted with the approval of her mother, Naomi, and
12 sister Ofrit.

13 Statement of MR JOHN FALDING read

14 "Anat Rosenberg was an Israeli who lived in London
15 most of her adult life, arriving about 1990 to study
16 dance in the hope of making it her career. Her dream
17 was not to be realised, but she continued to be driven
18 by a love of dance in all its forms and, indeed, of all
19 the arts.

20 "Few can have taken as much advantage of London's
21 cultural opportunities. Almost every night, she would
22 experience ballet, contemporary dance, theatre, opera
23 and concerts. Her weekends were spent charging around
24 art fairs or exhibitions.

25 "At the Royal Opera House and at Sadlers Wells, Anat

1 would attend pre- and post-show talks, vociferously
2 contributing to the debate. Much effort went into
3 securing the standing room tickets or the cheaper seats,
4 which were all that she could afford. Whenever
5 possible, she would scurry round to the stage door to
6 meet other aficionados, to chat to the artists and
7 directors and to add to her impressive autograph
8 collection.

9 "Anat was born to cultured parents in the Israeli
10 coastal town of Hadera, but was brought up in Jerusalem.
11 Her late father, Arie, became chief assistant to the
12 Director General of the Israeli Finance Ministry and was
13 a renowned chess master and teacher. He was champion of
14 Jerusalem and represented Israel. Her mother, Naomi,
15 had a distinguished teaching career specialising in
16 general science. Anat's older sister, Ofrit, was to
17 become the photographer for The Israel Museum in
18 Jerusalem.

19 "With such influences, it was inevitable that she
20 should develop artistically. She became a proficient
21 pianist. After completing her formal education in 1983,
22 she fulfilled her military obligations and continued to
23 train in classical and modern dance. Arriving in
24 London, she worked with charitable organisations
25 including Norwood Child Care. She volunteered to

1 befriended the mentally ill. In the mid-1990s she went
2 back to Israel for a few years and worked as a secretary
3 to the legal department of the American Jewish Joint
4 Distribution Committee, as a translator at a national
5 arts academy, and as a public relations officer at the
6 Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem.

7 "Returning to London in 1999, she held several
8 short-term administrative posts and, in 2001, she joined
9 NCH, now Action For Children, as Secretary to Advisers,
10 her last job.

11 "Her responsibilities included maintaining contact
12 with the public, private and voluntary organisations, on
13 matters that were often sensitive and confidential. She
14 relished opportunities to help people affected by
15 adoption or child migration to access their records or
16 to trace relatives. Throughout her varied working life
17 Anat garnered glowing references testifying to her
18 interpersonal skills, her efficiency, enthusiasm,
19 honesty and conscientiousness.

20 "She had another passion aside from the arts:
21 shopping for shoes, costume jewellery and quirky
22 handbags. After her death, her vast collection raised
23 so much for Wizo, the international Jewish women's
24 organisation, that the Jewish charity placed a plaque to
25 Anat in an arts centre in Jerusalem catering for

1 disadvantaged teenagers. She would have approved.
2 "Her proud partner, John Falding says he runs out of
3 adjectives in attempting to describe the unique spirit
4 and overwhelming personality that was Anat. She was
5 outrageous and gorgeous. She was vivacious, volatile
6 and vulnerable. She was feisty and fiery. She was
7 intelligent with a wonderful sense of humour. But above
8 all, she was the most loyal, loving and caring person
9 imaginable."

10 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes.

11 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Philip Russell, may
12 I call his father, Grahame, to read out the witness
13 statement?

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Russell, I understand you haven't
15 been well, do you feel up to doing this?

16 THE WITNESS: Yes, yes, I'll survive. I think it was
17 Network Southeast that failed me this morning.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Don't worry about that. If, at any
19 stage, you feel that you can't go on, just let me know.

20 MR GRAHAME RUSSELL (sworn)

21 Questions by MR KEITH

22 MR KEITH: Sir, you are, of course, Grahame Russell?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. May I invite you to read out the statement that I know
25 that you and other members of your family have prepared?

1 A. I make this statement about my son, Philip Russell, on
2 behalf of my wife, Veronica Russell, and myself, this
3 being an overview of the true man.
4 It was at Philip's funeral that we knew that his
5 life, whilst being all too short, had been so special.
6 The love and care that emanated from the congregation of
7 family, friends, work colleagues, acquaintances and
8 villagers confirmed to his nearest and dearest that his
9 very existence on this earth had not been in vain.
10 The words that we received gave us a deeper insight
11 into his very fabric and proved that Philip really had
12 been kind, caring, considerate, thoughtful, loyal,
13 loving, a true friend devoted to his family and someone
14 whom others looked up to. It did seem that, in death,
15 he was proving that his grandmother had been right all
16 along when she used to say that only the good die young.
17 Philip was born on 11 July 1976 in Pembury Hospital,
18 Kent, and spent the first 18 years of his life living in
19 a small village on the Medway. He attended the local
20 village primary school where he started his long love of
21 music, learning the recorder, which he played to a good
22 standard. He then moved on to the local secondary
23 school three miles from home, which he attended until it
24 was time to go to university.
25 He was a quiet, studious lad who made every effort

1 at school. He was a clear, concise speaker who took
2 part in local poetry competitions and involved himself
3 in the school plays. At 8 years' old, he joined the
4 Scout group where he remained until he reached the age
5 of 15 years. His secondary education progressed
6 smoothly and, although he was a reasonably quiet boy, he
7 had many friends.

8 He learnt to play the saxophone and became a member
9 of the school orchestra. He went on exchange trips to
10 France with the school and his love of travel began.
11 When he joined the sixth form, his persona began to
12 change. He became more outgoing and it transpired that
13 he was at times the life and soul of the party. He was
14 very popular with his classmates, and his friends from
15 this era remained with him for the rest of his life.

16 He obtained A levels in French, business studies and
17 English which enabled him to go to Kingston University
18 at the age of 18 years. Philip was the youngest of his
19 year when he started at university and he lived in the
20 halls of residence for the first year, graduating to
21 shared houses during his remaining three years.

22 As with all students, funding was an issue, but
23 Philip was not afraid to work. He had worked every
24 Saturday whilst he was at secondary school and now he
25 worked every holiday whilst at university. His sister

1 would visit him at university and take him out for meals
2 and he would telephone home at least twice a week. He
3 did two spells of six months' business release whilst at
4 university and each company where he worked asked him to
5 return after graduation. He was conscientious and loyal
6 to whomever he worked for and this facet always made him
7 employable. He left university with a 2:1 degree in
8 business studies and decided that, before he settled
9 into a permanent job, he would take some time out to
10 travel.

11 He found a local job for six months to fund his
12 travel, and was again offered full-time employment but
13 he wanted to fulfil his travel need. In February 1999,
14 he went on his own out to South Africa and on to
15 Australia and New Zealand. He kept in touch with home
16 via email and telephone and, luckily, only told his
17 parents about jumping out of a plane from 13,000 feet
18 after the event.

19 After four months, he returned home and settled into
20 a job in the City. His forte was the financial world,
21 and he went via two companies to join JP Morgan Asset
22 Management where he felt that he could expand his
23 horizons. His job involved dealing with both the
24 Americas and the Far East. In 20 months he was promoted
25 twice and was a team leader in the new business proposal

1 group when he died.

2 His managers were convinced that Philip had been
3 destined for greater things and there was great sadness
4 in the company at his departure. They have since set up
5 a travel scholarship at Kingston University in his name.

6 Philip was a great gatherer of friends, both male and
7 female, and his friends from school, university and work
8 became friends with one another through him. They have
9 said many times that he was the hub around whom they all
10 spun. They were true friends in every sense because
11 they all knew that they could count on him and, in
12 consequence, he on them. He was always there in
13 a crisis and his wise counselling and reliability meant
14 that more often than not they would turn to him for
15 advice. As one of them said, "Whenever we went to Phil
16 stressed out, we always came away completely relaxed
17 with all our worries eliminated". He had a dry, subtle,
18 laconic wit but he was also a tease. He was laid-back,
19 nothing fazed him. He was calm in a crisis and totally
20 loyal. He never betrayed confidences and their sorrow
21 at his death has been genuine and is still ongoing.

22 His travelling was a great source of joy to him and
23 his childhood trips to European, north America and the
24 Far East were followed by travel worldwide as an adult.
25 He was hoping to move within work for a period in

1 Hong Kong. He had been scheduled to go to New York and
2 Toronto with the company in September 2005, but this was
3 cut short by the events of 7 July 2005. He was a keen
4 football supporter and went regularly to
5 Charlton Athletic. He was involved in a Fantasy
6 Football League at work and, in the 2005/2006 season,
7 they named their league after him.
8 He was a great family man and visited and telephoned
9 his parents and his sister and her family on a regular
10 basis. His eldest niece was an Uncle Philip devotee.
11 He was her godfather and was so proud of this role. He
12 once told a friend that, should he never have children
13 of his own, he would be the world's best uncle, and he
14 became living proof of that statement.
15 His sister has been devastated by his death, and it
16 was at the christening of her youngest daughter, on
17 3 July 2005, that was to be the last time Philip was
18 seen by his relatives. Philip's life was one of
19 contentment. He lived it doing the deeds of a true
20 gentleman. His parents' pride and love knows no bounds,
21 and the stories recounted by his friends since his death
22 have echoed their every thought, proving that their son
23 was indeed a good man. As the vicar said at his
24 funeral, Philip was a "Son of the Village" and his
25 memory will remain forever. Someone who was truly loved

1 can never die in the hearts of those who love them.
2 I believe these facts in this statement are true.
3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you, Mr Russell.
4 Mr Keith, on a horribly mundane note, I'm not quite
5 sure what is being relayed to the annex or to the family
6 annex because, if the screen that I can see is anything
7 to go by, it's a picture of a man -- he's gone now --
8 but a man in a short-sleeved shirt typing on some
9 machine.
10 MR KEITH: My Lady, may I make an enquiry of Mr Smith?
11 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: He's now left the room.
12 MR KEITH: My Lady, I'm sure the matter will be checked out
13 of an abundance of caution, but it may be, because the
14 videolink will be used in due course, it may just simply
15 be a test of the videolink which will cut across
16 my Lady's electronic screen, supplanting the link on
17 my Lady's screen from the annex, but we will send
18 somebody down to check that everyone in the annex and in
19 the family room has sight of these proceedings.
20 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Obviously I'm particularly concerned
21 about -- I don't know if there are any members of the
22 bereaved families who are in the family annex and I was
23 particularly concerned that they should -- I think the
24 gentleman may have arrived. As long as the proceedings
25 are being relayed properly to the two annexes, that's

1 fine.

2 MR KEITH: My Lady, yes.

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you. Shall we try and complete
4 this stage?

5 MR KEITH: Yes, my Lady. My Lady, it seems you're right.

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: It is being relayed properly to the
7 family and press? Thank you.

8 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to William Wise, I propose
9 to read the statement of Mr Smith.

10 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

11 Statement of MR MARTIN LLOYD SMITH read

12 "On 21 June 2010, I wrote a letter to
13 Christine Wise, the wife of William Wise, who died on
14 7 July 2005 in the bombing at Tavistock Square. I have
15 not obtained a background statement from Mrs Wise.
16 However, she did previously give a statement to the
17 Metropolitan Police on 1 August 2005. Furthermore,
18 a work colleague of William's, John Gerard Donohue,
19 provided the police with a statement dated
20 9 December 2005. I have also read William's obituary
21 published on the BBC News website and a short tribute to
22 him on the Guardian news website.

23 "The BBC obituary records that William grew up in
24 Berkhamstead in Hertfordshire and his father was a GP.
25 His mother died when he was young and he had two

1 brothers, Richard and Philip, and a sister.

2 "The police statement of Christine Wise records how
3 she and William married in 1976, separated in 1997,
4 reconciled in 2003. Mrs Wise said that her husband
5 suffered from epilepsy and had an operation on his left
6 leg in May 2005, but William otherwise was generally
7 healthy. She continues that she and her husband had
8 decided to get fitter and had joined a gym
9 in February 2005. William did not smoke and was only an
10 occasional drinker.

11 "The police statement records that he worked for
12 Equitas in the City and had a long commute from his home
13 address in west London to Liverpool Street. The
14 Guardian tribute records his job as a senior software
15 developer and a comment by Sandra Kay describes him as
16 'a genuine, kind, helpful and gentle person who would do
17 no harm to anyone'.

18 "The BBC obituary describes how William had a daily
19 ritual, visiting the Leonidas Belgian chocolate shop at
20 Liverpool Street station, where he would meet a small
21 group of acquaintances and sip a double espresso. The
22 former owner of the shop, Narisa Monopoli, is quoted as
23 saying:

24 "'He was such a gentle, gentle man, he would sit on
25 a high chair in the corner and chat to a group of

1 corporate lawyers who also came in every morning. He
2 never had a bad word to say about anyone. He was such
3 a lovely guy'.

4 "The police statement records how, on 7 July,
5 Mrs Wise made William breakfast and he left his house at
6 approximately 8.10. Five minutes later, he telephoned,
7 as he had forgotten his glasses, and returned home,
8 where she gave him them, kissed him and said goodbye.
9 At around 9.20, she received a further telephone call
10 from William, this time explaining how he had overheard
11 some people working for Transport for London saying that
12 there had been an explosion and telling his wife that he
13 would see her later.

14 "The witness statement of Mr Donohue records how he
15 had received two missed calls from William on 7 July, at
16 9.25 and 9.35, and called him back. William explained
17 that he was going to be late for work and complained
18 about the Tube system. He also informed Mr Donohue that
19 he would be taking a bus from Euston station instead of
20 the Tube."

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes.

22 MR KEITH: My Lady, in relation to Gladys Wundowa, I read
23 the statement of Mr Smith.

24 Statement of MR MARTIN LLOYD SMITH read

25 "I have not obtained a background statement from the

1 family of Gladys Wundowa. However, Emmanuel Wundowa,
2 the husband of Gladys, previously gave a statement to
3 the Metropolitan Police on 10 May 2006. In addition,
4 I've read Gladys' obituary published on the BBC News
5 website and a short tribute to her on the Guardian news
6 website. Finally, I have read the tributes to Gladys
7 that were compiled from the Book of Tributes
8 7 July 2005.

9 "The police statement of Mr Wundowa states that his
10 wife, Gladys, was born in Byka in the north of the Volta
11 region of Ghana in 1955. She was known as Ama and was
12 the third of five sisters and a brother. The Book of
13 Tributes records that she attended Biaka Primary and
14 Middle Schools from 1960 to 1971. She came from
15 a coca-farming family who could not afford to send her
16 to secondary school, so she took on a number of jobs to
17 help care for her two younger sisters, including
18 carrying cement blocks on construction sites and mining
19 salt from a salt lake, until travelling to Accra to find
20 work as a maid or nanny for a Lebanese family.

21 "Whilst working there, she attended a secretarial
22 college, later finding and working as an administrative
23 secretary within the Grains Development Board and the
24 Ministry of Agriculture in Ghana.

25 "In 1983, the Lebanese family moved to London and

1 Gladys agreed to move with them. After a year, the
2 family returned to Lebanon and Gladys remained in London
3 where she undertook several courses and jobs. She found
4 employment in domestic services at the
5 University College, London, and enrolled on an NVQ
6 course in hairdressing. In 1994, Gladys began
7 volunteering as a secretary administrator at the African
8 Development Agency and, in addition, in April 2005, she
9 began a certificate course in housing management.

10 "Gladys met her husband, Emmanuel, in 1986 and two
11 years later they had a daughter called Azuma. In 1991,
12 Gladys and Emmanuel married and, later that year, they
13 had a son, Zakari.

14 "Gladys is described by her husband in the police
15 statement as a committed and loving wife and mother and
16 as 'a kind, hard-working and benevolent, very helpful
17 Christian woman. Her wishes in life were those most
18 decent people aspire to have'. In the Book of Tributes,
19 her daughter describes Gladys as her best friend and as
20 'a prime example of love, love in human form'. She was
21 described by her son as 'a kind, loving and gentle woman
22 who wouldn't hurt anyone'.

23 "The head of the African Development Agency is
24 quoted in the Guardian tribute as saying 'Gladys was
25 universally loved and we will miss her greatly. She

1 volunteered here all day, every day, and she has never
2 been late or absent. I have never seen her angry and
3 when people come in with problems with housing or
4 immigration, she was always happy to help'.

5 "The BBC obituary records how she and her husband
6 had plans to move back to Ghana to live in a house that
7 they were building and the Book of Tributes records that
8 Gladys visited Ghana for the last time in 1998 with her
9 family.

10 "The police statement records that, on the morning
11 of 7 July 2005, she left her home at approximately 4.00
12 in the morning to go to work. At around 9.00 am, she
13 left UCL to go to Hackney where she had an appointment
14 regarding her college course. En route, she met
15 a colleague called Albert, and he gave her a microwave.
16 She was seen by Albert boarding a bus. The BBC obituary
17 records how she was buried in her home village in Ghana
18 and that her funeral was attended by 2,000 mourners."

19 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Very well, I think we'll take
20 a slightly longer break, Mr Keith. I shall return at
21 11.45.

22 (11.25 am)

23 (A short break)

24 (11.45 am)

25 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Keith?

1 MR KEITH: My Lady, the first witness in relation to
2 Tavistock Square and the facts of 7 July 2005 is
3 Mrs Aneta Dybek-Echtermeyer.
4 Mrs Dybek-Echtermeyer, can you hear me?
5 THE WITNESS: Not very loud.
6 MR KEITH: Can you hear me a bit better now?
7 THE WITNESS: Yes.
8 MR KEITH: I'm going to ask, Mrs Dybek-Echtermeyer, whether
9 or not you can be given the oath, which is the formal
10 commencement -- I'm going to ask you if you may be given
11 the oath -- I'm sorry, the fault was entirely my own; my
12 microphone was off -- I'm going to ask you whether you
13 can be given the oath, which is the formal commencement
14 of your evidence in these proceedings.
15 MRS ANETA DYBEK-ECHTERMEYER (sworn)
16 (Evidence given by videolink)
17 Questions by MR KEITH
18 MR KEITH: Is your name Mrs Dybek-Echtermeyer?
19 A. My name is Aneta Dybek-Echtermeyer.
20 Q. I want to ask you some questions, please, about
21 Thursday, 7 July 2005. That morning, did you leave home
22 about 8.15 in the morning to get a number 91 bus to the
23 Caledonian Road Underground station?
24 A. Yes, I did.
25 Q. Where were you trying to go that morning? Where was

1 your place of work?

2 A. Well, I was going to Mile End, where I was doing a PhD
3 at Queen Mary University of London. So my usual route
4 was to get to Caledonian Road, get the Piccadilly Line
5 to Holborn and then change to the Central Line and go
6 towards Mile End.

7 Q. When you reached Caledonian Road Underground station,
8 was there a problem with the Tube that morning?

9 A. Yes, there was already lots of delays, and I was waiting
10 then for, like, 15 minutes, and then nothing was going
11 on, and the only announcement we got, it was that there
12 was a power failure at the Underground, so if -- as the
13 announcer said, that we should try to get a different
14 transport to our destinations.

15 Q. Did you leave the station after you received that
16 announcement, or did you wait a bit longer to see
17 whether something changed?

18 A. Well, I waited maybe 5, 10 minutes, before I left, and
19 then I decided to take a bus towards Holborn.

20 Q. Was the bus towards Holborn the same number 91 route
21 that you'd used to get to Caledonian Road?

22 A. Yes, I had taken the bus 91.

23 Q. Was it very full?

24 A. It was very crowded already because everybody on the
25 Tube get out.

1 Q. When you boarded the bus, do you recall whether or not
2 you stayed on the lower deck, standing or seated or
3 whether you went to the upper deck?

4 A. No, I was definitely on the lower deck, just opposite
5 the door, the middle door on the bus, and I was just
6 praying that (inaudible) and there would be some places.

7 Q. Were you standing near that area?

8 A. I was standing near that area, yes. Near the staircase
9 more than the other part of the bus.

10 Q. Where does the number 91 route take you? Where did you
11 go from Caledonian Road?

12 A. From Caledonian Road, I was going to Holborn, where the
13 bus was going, but unfortunately, we were stopped at
14 Euston station since all the roads were closed already,
15 and then I walked towards Holborn. I wanted to take
16 another bus. Unfortunately, it was already so crowded
17 that I walked past and, yes. I was supposed to walk
18 towards Holborn by myself instead of taking a bus,
19 because it was probably much quicker, is what I thought
20 at that time.

21 Q. Do you recall the route of the bus as it leaves the
22 Caledonian Road in the Gray's Inn/King's Cross area?

23 A. Well, it's Euston Road, really.

24 Q. Now, I don't think you will have a copy of this plan,
25 but, my Lady, may I ask you to have sight of a plan of

1 the area that we looked at in the context of CCTV and
2 Hussain's movements on 7 July. It's [INQ10281-2] .
3 I'm afraid you won't be able to see this screen
4 because you don't have sight of it from where you're
5 seated, madam, but we, I think -- my Lady, this is
6 a document that we've seen before, but it shows an
7 aerial view of the King's Cross
8 Gray's Inn Road/Caledonian Road junction.
9 When the bus comes down from Caledonian Road to
10 Gray's Inn Road -- this is just before King's Cross --
11 do you recall the bus turning sharply right at the end
12 of a one-way system to bring it into Gray's Inn Road and
13 then the Euston Road, just before you get to
14 King's Cross?
15 A. Yes, it's a little street going left and right and then
16 the stop at Gray's Inn is, and then it turns back on the
17 Euston Road.
18 Q. Thank you, yes.
19 So, my Lady, the road that one can see in the top
20 right-hand corner of this map is, in fact, the
21 Caledonian Road coming south. It's about two or three
22 inches from the right-hand side coming from the north
23 and then it enters the one-way system at the bottom
24 there where the cursor is and then turns right into
25 Gray's Inn Road before joining Euston Road at the

1 junction of York Way and Euston Road.

2 As it turned right into Gray's Inn Road, turning
3 sharply right into Gray's Inn Road, before reaching
4 Euston Road, do you recall anybody in particular
5 boarding the bus?

6 A. Yes, in particular I remember this Asian-looking, tall
7 guy with the big backpack, which was then found as this
8 bomber.

9 Q. Can I ask you, please, what was it about him, if
10 anything, that made you notice him? Presumably the bus
11 was quite crowded.

12 A. Yes, exactly. We boarded the bus and he stands at the
13 entrance of the first pole with his big backpack, and he
14 didn't let people in, really, and then he started moving
15 sides, nervously, with his backpack and this bad manner
16 really made me look at him.

17 Q. Was it obvious to you that, because he was moving around
18 with his big rucksack, that other people around him were
19 being inconvenienced and were also aware of him?

20 A. Yes. Well, I don't think he was aware of that. People
21 were already passed on the bus and, you know, someone
22 punching them all the time with the backpack, that was
23 really bad manner. Everyone was in a hurry to work or
24 whatever, and we're already inconvenienced because we
25 couldn't take a Tube and so on. Everyone was nervous.

1 Q. Can you recall anything about the clothes that he was
2 wearing?

3 A. Well, he was wearing jeans and I think it was a blue,
4 light T-shirt, definitely light in colour, and then he
5 had a jumper with a zip and a hood, a dark colour, dark
6 blue.

7 Q. So he had a shirt, a T-shirt and, over the top of that,
8 there was a jacket of some kind with a zip and a hood?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you recall whether he was wearing glasses of any
11 kind?

12 A. Yes, he did have the glasses, like small -- like,
13 looking a bit like techno kind of style, reflecting
14 glasses as well, black reflecting glasses.

15 Q. You've referred to the rucksack as being quite big.

16 A. It was big and heavy -- sorry?

17 Q. Please continue, yes.

18 A. Yes, it looked very heavy and very properly packed, like
19 full. I think around 60 litres, and, like, he -- and it
20 had to be heavy, because he had a strap on, so that --
21 to carry the whole thing. Also, he, himself, looked
22 very exhausted and he had sweating going on his chin,
23 and that was also horrible to look at.

24 Q. In your statement that you gave to the police very
25 kindly after 7 July, you actually recorded how you could

1 see sweat dripping down his face.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Was there anything about him that made you think that he
4 was nervous or agitated or was it just, as it seemed to
5 you, the physical exertion of carrying this rucksack?

6 A. I think -- well, the first thing was that he was coming
7 out of the -- some afterparty or something, because of
8 the sweating and his dry lips and this -- it was white
9 flakes on the lips. Then, because of the rucksack,
10 I thought, "Well, he wouldn't go to the party with the
11 proper backpack", you know. He looked very exhausted to
12 me, like nervous and exhausted.

13 Q. The bus continued along Euston Road, and then, as you've
14 told us, did there come a time when it couldn't go any
15 further and so it turned right off the Euston Road into
16 Euston Square?

17 A. Yes, and then we got stopped. We didn't even approach
18 the bus station at the Euston station, the train
19 station, we just stopped at the (inaudible) street --
20 sorry, I don't remember the name of the (inaudible)
21 street -- and then the bus driver told us that we all
22 have to leave the bus, so we all left.

23 Q. Did you see the man whom you've described leaving the
24 bus?

25 A. Well, I haven't seen him leaving, but he had to leave at

1 least before me, because he was at the door.

2 Q. And the bus --

3 A. So consequently he had to leave as one of the first
4 people.

5 Q. The bus driver made clear, did he not, that everybody
6 had to leave the bus?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Having left the bus, what did you do?

9 A. Well, I crossed Euston Road to go towards Holborn
10 because I wanted to get to Holborn to get on the
11 Central Line, but I wasn't aware what was going on in
12 London at that time, so I was trying to get to my
13 destination.

14 Q. Did you cross the Euston Road to go south through
15 Central London?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Do you recall walking down a road or into a square of
18 any kind or where it was that you crossed the
19 Euston Road? If you can't remember, please say so.

20 A. No, just a little -- it's this little street and this
21 square next to Euston station, so I crossed that, and
22 then I crossed this big crossroads at Euston Road and
23 Tavis --

24 Q. Tavistock Square?

25 A. I don't remember at the moment. Yes, yes, that's one.

1 So I passed that and I was supposed to take a bus from
2 here towards Holborn, but then the bus was completely
3 crowded, there was plenty of people trying to get on, so
4 I decided to walk.

5 Q. What happened next?

6 A. Well, I walked a few steps, I don't know, maybe
7 10 metres, and then I felt this huge noise and this,
8 like, blast of air going through, so I turned over and
9 I saw the bus, basically the bus going into the air and
10 I just ran.

11 Q. Was that the bus that you had thought of taking but you
12 could not get on because it was so crowded?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Subsequently, after the events of 7 July, did you see
15 pictures of those persons suspected to have been
16 involved in the bombing of the bus, or the person
17 suspected of being involved in the bombing of the bus,
18 shown on television and on the internet?

19 A. Well, I didn't know anything for a while but then, when
20 I finally got on the train and I saw the man in the
21 magazine, when I saw the picture on the front page and
22 I remembered this person, this face, and when I got back
23 home, I went to the internet through all the magazines
24 again and I saw this picture, I was sure I was standing
25 next to this man on the bus and then I just immediately

1 called the number that was shown at the front page --
2 Q. You were sure --
3 A. -- the police.
4 Q. You were sure that, having checked the photograph on the
5 internet, it was the same man who had been on board that
6 number 91 bus with you --
7 A. Yes.
8 Q. -- along down from Caledonian Road to Euston Square?
9 A. Yes, I was 100 per cent sure it was him.
10 MR KEITH: Mrs Dybek-Echtermeyer, thank you very much.
11 I have no further questions for you, but there are
12 lawyers representing other persons engaged in these
13 proceedings, and they may have some more questions for
14 you.
15 MR SAUNDERS: Nothing, thank you, my Lady.
16 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Has anybody any questions?
17 Yes, Mr Patterson?
18 Questions by MR PATTERSON
19 MR PATTERSON: A few, my Lady, if I may.
20 Shortly after the events of 7 July, you made
21 a statement about what you had seen and giving
22 a detailed description of this man. That was on
23 18 July, wasn't it?
24 A. Yes, I think so, yes.
25 Q. I have a copy of it here. Just to assist you with some

1 further details, you said in the statement that this
2 person was only about half a metre away from where you
3 were standing on that bus.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You described him as somebody of broad build who was
6 unshaven; yes?

7 A. Yes. Well, certainly here on the chin, you know, here,
8 with this little beard, with this little beard here,
9 yes.

10 Q. Thank you. You've described also in the statement that
11 it was short, dark hair. Is that right?

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

13 Q. You've described the clothing today, but further details
14 in your statement included that it was a dark jacket
15 with a zip and a hood and that it was dark jeans that
16 the person was wearing. Is that right?

17 A. Yes, that's right.

18 Q. The backpack that he was carrying, you've described how
19 full and heavy it was. It was, again, a dark blue-grey
20 colour that you described in your statement?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. I think earlier, when answering questions, you
23 demonstrated with your hands that he had the belt
24 fastened around his waist?

25 A. Yes, he had his strap on and that's why I think it was

1 very heavy, because I used to use a backpack myself and,
2 every time it was really heavy, I put it on to help me
3 with carrying that.

4 Q. One final thing, please. You've described the short
5 journey along the Euston Road with this man about half
6 a metre away from you. Did you hear him speak at any
7 stage?

8 A. No, no. He just moved nervously with the backpack
9 pushing people around, you know, and I mostly, like,
10 exchanged eyes with other people on the bus that were
11 around and were also angry with his manners, you know,
12 so it's more like eye contact with other people.

13 Q. He appeared to be on his own?

14 A. He was on his own, definitely, yes. He got on the bus
15 and he just left the bus. At Euston Square.

16 MR PATTERSON: Thank you very much. I have no more
17 questions, thank you.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions?

19 Mrs Dybek-Echtermeyer, can you hear me?

20 A. Yes.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I am Lady Justice Hallett, I'm the
22 coroner conducting these inquests, and I'd like to thank
23 you for helping me this morning. Your evidence has been
24 extremely helpful. Thank you very much for taking the
25 trouble.

1 A. No problem, thank you.

2 MR KEITH: My Lady, the next witness, Mr Rekret, is not, in
3 fact, yet here, so may I, in a departure from the
4 scheduled order, invite you to call Lisa French next?

5 MS LISA JANE FRENCH (affirmed)

6 Questions by MR KEITH

7 MR KEITH: Good morning.

8 A. Hello.

9 Q. Could I ask you to give the court, please, your full
10 name?

11 A. My name is Lisa Jane French.

12 Q. I'm afraid, Ms French, that the microphone in front of
13 you is slightly deceiving. It won't actually amplify
14 your voice. It only relays it to an annex in which
15 my Lady's court is also deemed to be sitting.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. So you'll need to keep your voice up as loud as you can,
18 please --

19 A. I'll try.

20 Q. -- so that the ladies and gentlemen at the back of the
21 court can hear you.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. It's very important that they can hear you too.

24 We know from the witness statement that you provided
25 to the police, Ms French, that on Thursday, 7 July, you

1 were due to attend a business meeting in Islington at
2 10.00.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So did you get a very early train down from Newcastle
5 via GNER to King's Cross?

6 A. I got the 6.00 train into King's Cross -- from Newcastle
7 to King's Cross and I got to King's Cross station at
8 8.57.

9 Q. Could you tell us, please, how you were so sure that
10 that was the time at which, within a couple of seconds
11 or so, you had arrived at King's Cross?

12 A. I remember, as I stepped off the train, I could see the
13 station clock at the end of the platform, and so, as
14 I stepped off the train, I noticed it was 8.57, because
15 obviously I knew I only had an hour to get to my meeting
16 and, by the time I got to where -- the shop area in the
17 end of the platform, it was exactly 9.00.

18 Q. You were planning to take the Tube.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. So where did you go?

21 A. I was planning to get the Tube up to the Angel Centre
22 and so I walked into King's Cross sort of main
23 concourse, to the steps where you would normally go
24 underground to get to the Underground network, and the
25 amber orange lights were flashing at the top and I'd

1 been there a month before and that had happened, and so
2 I knew normally they let people up and then they
3 normally let more people go down when it's busy.

4 Q. It indicated there was a controlled access to the
5 Underground, did it not?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. These are lights above the steps leading down from the
8 concourse?

9 A. Above the steps, and there was a steward at the top of
10 the stairs and he was telling people that you could wait
11 ten minutes and that they thought there might have been
12 a small incident downstairs, but that we could wait ten
13 minutes and we could probably go down, or we could walk
14 to Euston and continue our journeys from Euston and that
15 that would also take about ten minutes.

16 Q. Can I ask you about what he told you? Did it seem to
17 you that the issue was that there were too many people
18 trying to get down and, therefore, there was congestion
19 and, hence, some sort of control being placed on the
20 numbers, or did it seem to you that the crowd was
21 a result of the closing of the steps, which was itself
22 the result of an incident of some specific kind?

23 A. No, at the time, everything above ground seemed very
24 normal and it just seemed congestion, a busy period, but
25 he did -- I do recall hearing the words "small incident"

1 being mentioned, but I didn't really get to the front of
2 the crowd of people who were approaching and turning
3 away. It was clear everybody was being turned away so
4 I didn't get to the front to have that entire
5 conversation with him. It was just what I picked up.

6 Q. Did you linger for a few minutes, hoping that it might
7 reopen before then leaving?

8 A. I did. I knew I didn't have very far to go, but
9 I didn't know quite which direction it was. So I was
10 looking for one of those free tourist maps in the
11 station they sometimes have, I was looking for it the
12 night before and I couldn't find my one I had at home,
13 so I spent sort of 5, 10 minutes sort of seeing if it
14 would reopen and I think I went to the toilet
15 downstairs, came back up and it was -- it was still
16 turning people away. So that's when I decided I would
17 walk to Euston instead.

18 Q. Do you have any idea as to what time, roughly, you
19 arrived at Euston?

20 A. I think I probably left King's Cross at about 10 past,
21 so it was probably around 20 past, 25 past by the time
22 I got to Euston.

23 Q. At Euston, did you discover that there was similarly
24 a problem with getting into the Underground?

25 A. When I arrived at Euston, as I walked along the

1 Euston Road, I saw a policeman put the ticker tape
2 across the road and close the road but I still didn't
3 realise how significant that was at the time because I'm
4 not so familiar -- or I wasn't as familiar with London
5 then. I don't think I realised how critical that road
6 was and that it wouldn't have been closed unless it was
7 something huge happening.

8 So when I got to Euston, again, there were stewards
9 outside and I seem to remember there were sort of chains
10 across stopping you getting actually into the station
11 itself. You could just get into the bus area, not the
12 train area, and again he was directing people to buses.
13 So I explained I was trying to get to the
14 Angel Centre and he said I could get the number 30 or
15 another number, which I didn't quite hear, but he
16 pointed to the bus stop and explained both buses left
17 from that bus stop. So I made my way to that bus stop.

18 Q. You could see that there were buses pulling in and
19 leaving from that area and that was where you should go?

20 A. Yes, and there was a big crowd of people around the bus
21 stop rather than just a queue, it was a big crowd,
22 really.

23 Q. We know from your police statement that you then made
24 a couple of mobile calls.

25 A. I did.

1 Q. You were careful enough and kind enough to give the
2 police the times of those calls subsequently?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So we know that they were made at 9.29 and 9.34.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Shortly after that, did a number 30 bus appear?

7 A. It did. I remember leaving -- because I couldn't
8 actually get hold of my colleagues so I was leaving them
9 voicemails, and I remember as I was finishing leaving
10 the voicemail the bus appearing in the middle of the
11 road of the station, rather -- it didn't pull right into
12 the bus stop, but he pulled into the main road area of
13 the station. And I kind of joined the end of the queue
14 or crowd because I was very aware most people had been
15 there before me and it was really busy so I didn't want
16 to appear to be pushing on first kind of thing.

17 Q. When you boarded the bus, you spoke to the driver?

18 A. I did.

19 Q. You asked him no doubt whether or not this was the right
20 bus to get to near the Angel in Islington?

21 A. I did, because the bus had "King's Cross" written on the
22 front of it, I knew he couldn't get to King's Cross
23 because I'd seen the policeman put the tape across the
24 road, so I asked him if he was still going to the Angel
25 and he said, "Yes, get on and I'll get you there

1 eventually".

2 Q. Whilst you were speaking to the driver, do you recall
3 somebody pushing past you behind you to get on to the
4 bus?

5 A. As I was boarding the bus and just about to get on the
6 doors, I was aware that not only were there people
7 boarding the bus sort of from the bus stop but there
8 were also a few people walking up the road of the
9 station sort of from where we would exit the station
10 towards the bus, and I think they were the people who
11 then boarded the bus after me but entered the bus before
12 me because I was stood talking to the driver. And the
13 first couple of people sort of -- I had my laptop case
14 in my right hand sort of towards the space where people
15 would pass, and a couple of them knocked my bag or
16 knocked my shoulder. But then the person with the
17 big -- the man with the big backpack, he actually took
18 his backpack off his shoulder and held it like I was
19 holding my laptop to squeeze past, and that's the reason
20 I really noticed him because I can remember thinking,
21 "Oh, there's one polite person left boarding this bus
22 today".

23 Q. We take it, then, that you must have turned round behind
24 you to see the person taking his rucksack off and
25 putting it down or holding it whilst he went past you?

1 A. I was sort of aware of the sort of hand motion of a bag
2 coming from somebody's shoulder, sort of almost at my
3 shoulder, sort of thing. I didn't get a huge look at
4 his face, it was more the back of him as he passed.

5 Q. Was there something about his size, then, or his
6 appearance that made you sure that it was a man, for
7 example?

8 A. Oh, yes, I'd certainly noticed it was a man and that
9 he'd taken the trouble to take his bag off so that he
10 didn't put -- you know, hit me with it when he pushed
11 past.

12 Q. Did you see anything else of him at that stage?

13 A. He then sort of walked behind me, and this was just as
14 I finished speaking to the driver. So, as I finished
15 speaking to the driver and turned to look into the bus
16 to see where I would sit down or go, he was stood at the
17 bottom of the stairs so less than a metre away from me,
18 really.

19 Q. Could we perhaps look for the first time in the course
20 of this evidence at a map of the bus or a plan of the
21 bus, and could we have, please, [INQ10285-6]?

22 On the screen to your right, Mrs French, should be
23 a diagram showing the position of the seats on the
24 number 30 bus. On the top part of the page, you will
25 see the lower deck.

1 A. Mm-hmm.

2 Q. The driver is of course to the left of the page because
3 it says "front of bus" and the driver's cabin is the
4 person marked in green with number 1.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. So that's where you were standing just slightly away
7 from that person --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- Mr Psaradakis, and the stairs up to the upper deck,
10 we can see a little while arrow?

11 A. That's -- when I finished speaking to the driver I would
12 say I was between numbers 1 and 2, and the gentleman
13 with the big bag was more where it says "stairs up to
14 top deck" so he was exactly there as I turned round.

15 Q. And you saw him go up the stairs?

16 A. Yes, as sort of I looked into the bus, the bus was very
17 full, I couldn't see any seats, and we heard a lady's
18 voice shout from upstairs, "There are a few seats left
19 upstairs", so I presume that was one of the people who
20 had pushed past in the three or four of us boarding the
21 bus sort of more or less last.

22 Q. Your statement to the police records how as the man went
23 upstairs, you caught a glimpse of his bag. Was that
24 because he had put it back on his back by the time he
25 went up the stairs?

1 A. Because I was following him up the stairs, he had hold
2 of his bag still in his hands but it would be at eye
3 level because I was three or four steps behind him, so
4 as I walked up the stairs of the bus, all I could see
5 was really the backpack that he had in his hand at that
6 point.

7 Q. I ask -- and the fault may not be yours at all; it may
8 just be the way in which your statement was taken -- but
9 your statement said you caught a glimpse of the bag on
10 his back?

11 A. At the top of the stairs he put it back on his shoulder
12 again.

13 Q. Did you see him do that?

14 A. I think sort of as I turned the top corner of the stairs
15 and climbed the last two or three stairs, he was at the
16 top -- then on the middle of the bus, up the stairs,
17 just putting it back on one shoulder of his back.

18 Q. Can you help us with your impression -- and I appreciate
19 it's a very long time ago -- of the rucksack and whether
20 or not it appeared to you to be very bulky, very heavy,
21 very large, did it stick out a lot? Was it long in
22 terms of the distance from the neck to the bottom of the
23 bag?

24 A. It was quite large, but at the time I thought it was
25 probably a laptop rucksack, and I do have a little bit

1 of a habit of checking out people's laptop bags carrying
2 one myself. So at the time I thought it was just a big
3 laptop rucksack that you could get plenty of other bits
4 and pieces in, really. But it was quite large, sort of
5 square, so I think that's why I thought it was a laptop
6 bag rather than a camping rucksack because it was still
7 quite square for being a rucksack.

8 Q. But it stuck out a bit because you described it as being
9 bulky in your witness statement.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. So it couldn't have just been the shape of a laptop; it
12 must have been sticking out?

13 A. Not a slim line one, no, quite a big bulky one.

14 Q. Right. Was it dark?

15 A. It was, yes.

16 Q. When you reached the top deck of the bus -- the upper
17 deck -- do you recall where he went, and you can have
18 a look at the plan, if that helps you?

19 A. As I got to the top of the stairs, I can remember
20 looking down the bus and there only being a handful of
21 seats left that could be taken, and so I could see there
22 were a few seats at the back, and I think he probably
23 sat around 57 but I'm not sure, but that's where I've
24 always felt he took his place. And we sat down at the
25 same time, so because he'd gone a little bit further

1 down the bus, I remember thinking -- because when a bus
2 is normally full you normally take the first seat that's
3 vacant. So the seat I ended up sitting in was the seat
4 I presumed he would sit in because I remember thinking,
5 "Oh, he'll sit there and I'll go to the back", but then
6 he walked straight past that empty seat, and he went
7 towards the very back row. And I remember -- although
8 I don't really -- I wasn't paying a lot of attention to
9 what he was doing, I think we both sat down at more or
10 less the same moment in time as we took our seats.

11 Q. This plan was a plan kindly prepared by the Metropolitan
12 Police Service based on the witness statements taken
13 from those persons who survived the explosion on the
14 upper deck of the number 30 bus. It may or may not be
15 right in light of the evidence that my Lady will hear
16 from yourself and other witnesses who were on the bus.
17 They have supposed -- perhaps correctly -- that
18 number 53 was the seat that Hussain, the man with the
19 rucksack, the bomber, sat down in.

20 From your recollection, however, do you recall
21 whether or not he sat in an aisle seat or a window seat?

22 A. I think he sat in an aisle seat as well.

23 Q. From what you've told us, it does seem that you are sure
24 that although you don't know whether or not it was 53 or
25 57, it was certainly on what we would call the near side

1 of the bus?

2 A. Yes, the side with the doors and the other -- near the
3 pavement.

4 Q. The entrance onto the bus?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Which is the entrance nearest the pavement?

7 A. Yes, he definitely sat that side.

8 Q. Right. Lastly, do you recall whether or not when he sat
9 down there was any change in the position of the
10 rucksack? Did he still have it over a shoulder?

11 A. I think he probably took it off his shoulder as he sat
12 down and that's -- although I wasn't paying a lot of
13 attention, that seemed to be what he was doing, and
14 I also had a laptop bag which is why I made the decision
15 not to go and sit there next to him because I was aware
16 we both had very big bags and that we would, you know,
17 be taking up a lot of room.

18 Q. So may we presume, then, if that's right that he was
19 taking it off his shoulder as he sat down, he must have
20 put it down on the floor?

21 A. That's what I think.

22 Q. When you were spoken to by the police, you marked on
23 a plan for them where you thought you might have been
24 seated.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Could you look at the screen please at another document
2 [INQ8925-2]?

3 If we could have that rotated, please, you will see
4 on the top half of that page, your writing "area I sat
5 at".

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You weren't entirely sure which of those seats you had
8 sat in, but you were sure that it was a nearside seat?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Were you sure that it was an aisle as opposed to
11 a window?

12 A. I was sat in an aisle seat, and it's easier for me to
13 tell you exactly which seat it is on the picture of the
14 bus afterwards because there were no seats left behind
15 mine attached to the bus, so the picture that you see in
16 the newspapers with the poles sticking out of the
17 twisted seat, that's where I woke up.

18 Q. I'm going to do it another way, if I may. I was going
19 to come on to that --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- because I know that you kindly produced a photograph
22 this morning of where you thought you were sat in
23 a comparable place on a bus which is about three seats
24 from the rear of the bus.

25 Could we perhaps look again, then, at the plan,

1 [INQ10285-6]? The Metropolitan Police thought that you
2 might have been sitting around about number 38.
3 A. No, I was much further back than that.
4 Q. I know that is where you've marked on your plan for the
5 police originally.
6 A. Yes, And I sent an amendment in in the summer because
7 when I got sent my statement back I realised the circle
8 was a little bit too far forward.
9 Q. We know, Ms French, looking at the plan, that all the
10 seats from 50 backwards were destroyed.
11 A. Okay.
12 Q. At seats 43 and 47 may have been seated two witnesses,
13 a Mr O'Monaghan and a Ms Majewska. So it may be that
14 there were people behind you, but the photographs --
15 it's rather hard to tell from them whether or not their
16 seats were completely destroyed.
17 A. I was sat in front of Tony and Tania who I think -- the
18 Australian couple.
19 Q. There was a gentleman called Antonio Cancellara --
20 A. And ...
21 Q. Tania Calabrese?
22 A. Yes, I was sat in front of them because I was speaking
23 to them on the bus as well.
24 Q. Right. Certainly behind them were two other witnesses,
25 the two witnesses I've mentioned. So is it possible,

1 then, that if we work forward from where the bomber was
2 and where the seats were destroyed, that seats 50 and 51
3 backwards were completely destroyed, That if the two
4 witnesses I've mentioned were then seated forward of the
5 destroyed seats because they survived, and in addition,
6 the two witnesses you've mentioned, Tania Calabrese and
7 Antonio Cancellara, if you were in front of them, you
8 must have been around about 36 --

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. -- which is what's marked on this plan for somebody
11 else, but that may have been where you were.

12 A. I think so.

13 Q. Does that seem to you to be about right?

14 A. Yes.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: 36 -- we seem to have various numbers
16 repeated.

17 MR KEITH: That's because of doubt, my Lady, as to where
18 exactly everybody was seated.

19 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Exactly. Which 36 are you referring
20 to, Ms French?

21 A. I think it would be the further back 36 but I know my
22 seat had a pole hanging out of the back of it. It was
23 the seat -- you know, the pole with the bell.

24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I can see a 36 which has a seat 43
25 behind it and an empty seat next to the 36. Is that the

1 36?

2 A. I think it would be that one where I would be --

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Can you remember if there was anybody
4 next to you?

5 A. Louise Shepherd, Louise Shepherd was the lady who was
6 sat next to me, and then Tony and Tania were sat behind
7 me.

8 MR KEITH: It may be, my Lady, that the 38 and 39 and 36 and
9 40 on the current plan should be moved backwards
10 somewhat perhaps one set of seats, and that would put
11 you next to Louise Shepherd and in front of
12 Tania Calabrese and Antonio Cancellara, Tony.

13 It may not matter too much. The important point as
14 far as you were concerned, Ms French, is that once you
15 sat down you heard I think a couple of people, the two
16 people you've mentioned, speaking behind you and you
17 could hear their voices, a man and a woman, and you made
18 a phone call to a colleague --

19 A. I made a phone call, yes.

20 Q. -- at 9.42, we know from your witness statement. That
21 is all you recall of the moment of the explosion?

22 A. We were talking to Tony and Tania behind us and the
23 conversation was around sort of, "What do you think's
24 happened?" And Louise and I, I think we both felt
25 nothing had happened and we were sort of thinking, "What

1 is all this fuss about? What could they possibly think
2 is about to happen?" I remember that being part of our
3 conversation, and then Tony and Tania said that they'd
4 been at Edgware Road and they'd heard a bang and that
5 somebody else had said it could be a bomb, and I think
6 that was probably less than two minutes before it
7 happened, and that's certainly the last conversation
8 that me or Louise remember having, and sort of -- I can
9 remember feeling uneasy and realising that actually it
10 wasn't normal circumstances today, and that there may be
11 something happening. And so that's the last
12 conversation any of us remember having, really.

13 Q. Were you conscious of the bus stop-starting and
14 proceeding fairly slowly up towards Tavistock Square?

15 A. It was crawling along really slowly but I couldn't say
16 whether it was moving or not when it happened, and I was
17 knocked unconscious so I have actually no memory of the
18 sound or what happened when it actually happened.

19 Q. Did you have any recollection of passing or being
20 adjacent to the BMA building before you blacked out?

21 A. Yes, when they'd said that they'd heard a bang at
22 Edgware Road and somebody said it could be a bomb I can
23 remember kind of thinking you don't really want to be
24 near an Embassy if there are really bombs in London
25 today, and because of the flag poles and because I'd

1 been to Grosvenor Square before, it looked very similar
2 to where we were, and I was a little bit concerned that
3 we might be outside the American Embassy. But
4 I couldn't really remember what it looked like, but
5 I could remember all the flag poles.

6 So the last thing I remember is looking at the flag
7 poles outside the BMA and trying to work out what the
8 building was from the flag poles.

9 Q. What do you consciously recall next?

10 A. The next thing I really remember was waking up and I was
11 sort of crumpled in my seat all forward sort of like in
12 a brace position, and there was something in my mouth
13 and I felt like I'd fainted, and I sort of spat what was
14 in my mouth and it was part of my tooth. And I didn't
15 really know what had happened, but obviously that's not
16 really normal, and Louise's head was also sort of
17 slightly on my knee. We sort of both woke up with our
18 heads together, and I remember seeing her sit up and
19 although I didn't know what had happened or how bad
20 things were for some reason I knew that was one of the
21 most amazing things I would ever see in my life, was to
22 see this woman wake up and I didn't know why.

23 There was sort of lots of dust and I remember things
24 coming over -- it felt like there was still dust and
25 smoke and something coming from over our shoulders.

1 Q. Flying past?

2 A. Yes, you could feel warmth and heat and something
3 rush -- sort of rushing past. And people in front of us
4 were already stood up so I hadn't noticed -- it sounds
5 really stupid, but I hadn't noticed there were no
6 windows or roof any more, I could just see people
7 standing up, but because of the sensation coming over
8 our shoulder, I turned round and looked behind me and
9 there was literally no bus left, it just dropped down
10 behind our seats, and that's where everybody was.

11 Q. Could we perhaps have a look at a particular photograph
12 which is INQ10344 [INQ10344-12]. You will see there a side photograph
13 of the rear of the bus in particular, taken from the
14 offside, from the other side of Tavistock Square, and we
15 can see there, Ms French -- is this what you've
16 described -- that the rear seat that we can see
17 remaining on the upper deck has behind it nothing but
18 a void because not only has the roof gone, the sides of
19 the bus have been blown out, and of course that was all
20 lying in front of the bus, but the floor of the bus had
21 been blasted downwards into the lower deck?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So there was nothing left behind you essentially.
24 When you were conscious, do you recall -- it does
25 seem from what you've said that when you first became

1 aware of where you were there were people already
2 standing up in front of you, so it may be a few moments
3 had passed. Do you recall actually seeing anybody, any
4 of the other passengers, behind you, for example Tony
5 and Tania whom you've described, leaving their seats and
6 walking out?

7 A. No, we were looking for them and we couldn't find them
8 and for a week we thought they hadn't survived.

9 Q. It may be, therefore -- I'm sure, in fact, it probably
10 is -- that, of course, they had left their seats whilst
11 you were still unconscious and you hadn't seen them
12 leave, but they must have got off the bus from behind
13 you?

14 A. I think Tony was blown off the bus and landed in the
15 street, and I think Tania apparently -- I've been told
16 by Tony that Tania woke up in the bodies and she had to
17 climb out that way.

18 Q. So she may have gone down on to the lower deck?

19 A. No, I think she woke up on the lower deck, sort of fell
20 backwards into it all.

21 Q. Do you recall helping Louise with trying to find glasses
22 or trying to look around you to see where your
23 possessions were?

24 A. I remember someone on the other side of the bus just
25 jumping off, just jumping off the side and, for that

1 reason, I thought you couldn't get down the stairs at
2 the front. I don't know why, but just seeing someone
3 jump off, I can remember thinking, "Maybe you're going
4 to have to jump off" and Louise said she needed her
5 glasses, she'd lost them, and I think she's quite
6 short-sighted, so she was struggling, and I remember
7 looking at all the broken glass and just thinking,
8 "You're never going to find them", and so I said, "Okay,
9 you look for your glasses and I'll find a way down that
10 we can get out", and I remember looking down the back
11 and there was no way out without climbing over somebody.

12 Q. Do you recall anybody lying in the aisle next to you,
13 who subsequently you met and you then in fact discovered
14 her name was Frances?

15 A. I can remember seeing a leg and it was black and so
16 I believe that was Frances who I was sat with in the BMA
17 for a short time, and then we ended up in the same
18 hospital together later on as well.

19 Q. That, my Lady, would have been Frances Bastien.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Ms French, do you recall how you came to get off the
22 upper deck and down the stairs?

23 A. Everybody else seemed to just disappear and, because
24 Louise was looking for her glasses, I think we were the
25 last three or four people left on top of the bus, and

1 a man stuck his head through the banister of the bus
2 where the stairwell was and he said -- he asked if there
3 was anybody left upstairs and, you know, we said "Yes"
4 and he lifted up a bit of metal that was covering the
5 top of the stairwell, and he said, "If you lift this up,
6 you can get down, the stairs are okay", and so we made
7 our way downstairs through the bus, and then, when we
8 got to the bottom of the stairs, the driver's cab door
9 was sort of open, so you couldn't get out the front
10 doors because the driver's cab was blocking it, and so
11 we went out through the middle back doors of the bus.

12 Q. If you could look, please, at INQ10343 [INQ10343-1], which is
13 a picture of the front of the bus, can you see there the
14 door blocking inside the bus the route through to the
15 exit at the front?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So you had to go through the middle one. From what
18 you've described, it seems that you were, therefore,
19 amongst the last three people to leave the bus.

20 I'm afraid I must ask you whether or not you have
21 any recollection of the rear of the bus and, of course,
22 the devastation that had taken place there on your way
23 out of the bus through that middle door.

24 You were good enough to indicate to Mr Smith, to
25 whom I know you spoke a day or two ago, that, as you

1 walked out of the bus, you did see some bodies or some
2 people towards the rear. I think you indicated that you
3 started to try to move towards them to see whether or
4 not there was anything you could do.

5 Before I ask you about what you saw, were you told
6 to desist from that and to keep moving?

7 A. As we came down the stairs, there was a policeman in
8 a fluorescent jacket stood inside the bus, and I don't
9 think I actually said anything and I'm not even sure if
10 I went to reach towards the people, but I must have done
11 something that he knew what I wanted to try to do, and
12 he just shook his head at me, and the look in his eyes,
13 and he just guided me off the bus, and I just knew then
14 there was no hope for any of them.

15 Q. There's some water next to you, Ms French, if that would
16 help and some tissues right in front.

17 I appreciate it's extremely difficult, but do you
18 recall seeing identifiable persons in the wreckage to
19 your left as you walked off the bus, or was the
20 condition, the devastation and the mangled metal, such
21 that it was impossible to make out individual people?

22 A. I've never really been able to exactly match any of the
23 names and faces, you know, the pictures I've seen of
24 people.

25 Q. Can I just pause you there?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Is that because subsequently you took time to try to
3 research through the internet and through other
4 available material to see whether or not any of the
5 people you saw had been identified or could be
6 recognised?

7 A. As you've already heard, Giles Hart died on the bus and
8 he also worked for the same company as me, although we'd
9 never met, we didn't know of each other, and so, in the
10 coming days, I tried very hard to try and see if I could
11 remember seeing him at all. So I do remember seeing the
12 pictures of the missing -- who at the time were seen as
13 missing people.

14 I can't say from what I saw that I could really say
15 for certain who any of them are, but two people who were
16 sort of at the front of the pile, sort of, who I wanted
17 to try and help or do something, I've often thought that
18 maybe one of them was Anat Rosenberg, but I couldn't be
19 100 per cent sure, and because they were all together
20 you couldn't really tell if they were whole people or
21 they were just tangled up together.

22 Q. Are you able to say whether any of the people whom you
23 saw on the way past were moving in any way or showing
24 signs of life as far as you could tell?

25 A. None of them were moving, no. Apart from those two,

1 I've always just presumed that everybody was dead
2 instantly, and it's only when the inquest started that
3 I realised that they weren't all killed instantly, and
4 that made me wonder why I reacted differently to those
5 two people at the front. It might have been just that
6 time had passed, I don't know, but I didn't have that
7 same urge for any of the other people I saw. I just
8 presumed that they were -- I couldn't help any of them.

9 Q. Can I, for what it is worth, assist you in this way,
10 Mrs French: that there is no evidence that
11 Anat Rosenberg survived at all for any appreciable
12 moment or length of time? Indeed, the same can be said
13 of Anthony Fatayi-Williams and three other persons who
14 died instantly in the bus. So I think I can say with
15 a certain degree of assurance there was nothing that you
16 could have done.

17 May I ask you why you thought that the lady whom you
18 had seen might have been Anat Rosenberg? Was it because
19 of the clothing that the lady was wearing, that you
20 subsequently were able to identify that as clothing
21 belonging to her, or was it just that you knew that she
22 was one of the ladies tragically killed in the bomb?

23 A. I can't say for sure. There must have been some vague
24 resemblance, maybe, but I don't know, I don't know.

25 Q. All right.

1 A. I think she might have been wearing a patterned sort of
2 florally dress, I seem to remember somebody was, but
3 again, I can't -- now it's all jumbled up and I'm not
4 entirely sure.

5 Q. I understand.

6 Quite understandably, you tried to get away from the
7 bus as fast as you could and you were accompanied in
8 doing so by Louise, who had been with you, and
9 presumably Frances, whom you had come upon when you came
10 along the upper deck?

11 A. Yes, I think, because we had been quite close to the
12 back, we'd seen what was behind us and we weren't going
13 to go that direction, so I think, whereas everybody else
14 ran back that way and into the courtyard, we actually
15 ran forward in the direction the bus had been
16 travelling, and we ran into the building, actually into
17 the building, rather than the courtyard area of the
18 building.

19 Q. Of the BMA?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. I think you sat down, you met a gentleman who had
22 suffered an injury to his head?

23 A. I remember, as we went in, there was a man sort of stood
24 in the doorway and he seemed to be holding his head and
25 there was a lot of blood around him and coming down his

1 face.

2 Q. You were able to ascertain, from going to a mirror, that
3 you had lost part of your front teeth and that is, of
4 course, what you'd found in your mouth after the
5 explosion?

6 A. Yes, I'd snapped both of my front teeth in half.

7 Q. Do you recall being able to make any phone calls?
8 Because, of course, you described how your mobile phone
9 was recovered by Louise. Were you able to call anybody
10 and say that you were alive?

11 A. I remember, while we were still in the BMA, we tried
12 really hard to make calls, but we were just getting --
13 we think we were getting an engaged tone, but because we
14 couldn't really hear a lot, and also, visually,
15 everything appeared to be bouncing up and down, we
16 couldn't see straight, all of our eyes were out of
17 focus, we were really struggling, and so we were
18 dialling numbers and trying to listen and trying to see
19 if it was ringing, and we couldn't work -- you know, we
20 didn't know if it was working, but we seemed to be
21 getting a lot of engaged and leaving messages, and
22 I think it was actually after we were evacuated from the
23 BMA by the armed police, I think when they were
24 needed -- when they thought there was going to be
25 a second explosion or something, and so, by the time

1 I actually spoke to somebody and actually managed to
2 speak to my then husband and also my colleagues at work,
3 it was probably at least 20 minutes, half an hour later,
4 I would say, by the time I actually managed to get
5 through, but it did seem that the mobile networks were
6 working, they were just very busy.

7 Q. I think you were given some assistance by a kind
8 gentleman from a local business called CV Hairdressing
9 who took you in and looked after you?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And I think you were walked by police up to Tavistock
12 police station?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You were then taken to the Royal National Throat, Nose
15 and Ear Hospital back in Gray's Inn Road?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You were treated there for your perforated ear drums
18 and, as you've described, you had chipped teeth or
19 broken teeth, as well as cuts and bruising and the like?

20 A. Very lucky, though.

21 MR KEITH: Yes, indeed. Ms French, thank you very much.

22 I have no further questions for you, but there may be
23 some further questions for you from my colleagues who
24 represent the interested persons in these proceedings.

25 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Gallagher?

1 Questions by MS GALLAGHER

2 MS GALLAGHER: Mrs French, I represent the family of
3 Anthony Fatayi-Williams, one of the deceased who
4 Mr Keith has just mentioned. Could I just echo what
5 Mr Keith has said? The evidence is that he was
6 tragically killed instantly, there's nothing to suggest
7 otherwise.

8 If I could just ask you one very brief question
9 about him. Last week, when you spoke to Mr Smith about
10 what you saw on the left when you were coming out of the
11 bus, I think you indicated that one of the people you
12 saw at the rear of the bus may have been Anthony. Is
13 that right?

14 A. I think so, yes.

15 Q. Is that simply because you saw a black male, a young
16 black male?

17 A. It is based mainly on that, yes.

18 Q. He's not one of those two people you described further
19 towards the front as being drawn to, he was a bit
20 further back?

21 A. No, I think I actually saw Anthony, if it was him, while
22 I was still on the top of the bus, because the view we
23 had when we were on top of the bus, you could see the
24 floor sloped down and it looked like people coming out
25 of that, where it met the bottom, and then, obviously,

1 as we came down, you could see the other people that had
2 been more at the front downstairs.

3 Q. Thank you very much. That's very helpful. There's just
4 one other matter, nothing to do with the rear of the
5 bus. You've described in some detail today the man with
6 the backpack and you've described your entry to the bus
7 at Euston and going to the top deck.

8 Do you recall, Mrs French, between the time you
9 arrived on the bus and went to the top deck yourself and
10 the detonation of the bomb, whether you saw anyone else
11 coming upstairs?

12 A. I don't remember anybody else boarding the bus after the
13 bus had sort of set off. When the bus had pulled out of
14 Euston, we were stuck in the middle of the road for
15 a little time where the traffic lights are, and
16 I remember that particularly because a number of people
17 tried to board the bus while we were stuck there and the
18 bus driver wouldn't let them on and, because Louise had
19 the window seat, she saw this, and I remember her
20 remarking, "Oh my goodness, there's more people trying
21 to get on this packed bus", and also there were police
22 bikes trying to get past and the bus was blocking their
23 route.

24 Q. Certainly. The reason I'm asking is we know you gave
25 a statement on 19 July 2005 to the police, but you then

1 gave a second statement months later. Do you remember
2 that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. 19 November 2005. My Lady, for your reference it's
5 INQ1860, the very bottom of that single-page statement.
6 In that statement, Mrs French, which is obviously much
7 closer to the time, you said:

8 "I am certain that no other person got on the bus
9 and came upstairs between Euston bus terminus and the
10 time the bomb detonated. I do recall that a number of
11 people, I think three, got off the bus that were sat on
12 the top deck because the because was moving so slowly,
13 but again I am certain no one got on and came upstairs."

14 A. I stand by that.

15 MS GALLAGHER: Thank you very much, Mrs French. I've
16 nothing further.

17 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Coltart, Ms Saunders Mr Patterson?
18 Yes, Ms Sheff?

19 Questions by MS SHEFF

20 MS SHEFF: I have some questions. Ms French, I represent
21 both the families of Giles Hart and also Anat Rosenberg.
22 I would like to ask you a couple of questions about
23 each of them but, first of all, may I ask you about this
24 conversation that you heard behind you?

25 A. Yes, it was a conversation I was part of.

1 Q. I see. It was Tony and Tania --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- who I think you must have subsequently identified,
4 because in your earlier statements you mention just two
5 people who were having this conversation.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Again, was that from your research on the internet in
8 relation to who was involved in the Tavistock Square
9 bombing?

10 A. What happened was, I think around the September/October
11 time, a TV researcher contacted me, and it was in
12 sharing a few details with her, she actually said to me
13 "Oh, do you mean Tony and Tania, the couple from
14 Sydney?", at which point I said, "I don't know, they
15 were people I was talking to for five minutes on a bus",
16 but Louise had also seen something in the press only
17 a couple of weeks after the bombings and said "I think
18 that couple, they're really alive", because we were
19 obviously really concerned for them, and so the
20 researcher I spoke to then passed on some details of an
21 agent who had been helping them in Australia and so Tony
22 and I actually did have a telephone conversation because
23 I emailed him to say "I'm really pleased, you know, you
24 did survive. We were looking for you and we had feared
25 the worst".

1 Q. So as a result of your involvement with the media, you
2 were, in fact, reunited with Tony, the person you'd had
3 this conversation with?

4 A. Yes, occasionally they can be helpful.

5 Q. Yes. It was Tony and Tania who were passing on
6 information to you and Louise --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- that there had been another explosion?

9 A. That's what they believed and that's what other people
10 at the scene had been relaying to them at the time.

11 Q. I say "another explosion". Of course, this conversation
12 took place before the explosion on the bus.

13 A. Before, yes.

14 Q. Did they just mention one explosion or any others?

15 A. Only one at that point, and they said they had been at
16 Edgware and there were -- I don't even think they'd got
17 down underground, but they couldn't get in and I believe
18 they had heard the bang and it was, you know, other
19 people saying, "Oh, that sounded like a bomb, I think
20 a bomb's happened".

21 Q. You said Edgware, is that Edgware Road station?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So they'd actually been in or around the station at the
24 time that the bomb had gone off?

25 A. I believe so, yes. So I believe that's why -- how they

1 were on the bus before us. So before it got to Euston,
2 I believe they were already on the bus.

3 MR KEITH: My Lady, they will be witnesses on Friday.

4 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

5 MS SHEFF: Thank you. That was news to you at that time?

6 A. That was the first time that I actually considered
7 something might have already happened. I think because
8 it was G8 in Edinburgh on that day and because of the
9 Olympics the day before and because I don't come to
10 London very often, I think at first I had more presumed
11 it was more normal than it was when it first started
12 happening.

13 Q. It was a very eventful period, those couple of days.
14 When you say "more normal", you say there was a lot of
15 police presence around?

16 A. There was. By the time we got on the bus, there were
17 lots of sirens and lots of emergency personnel, but
18 until we spoke to Tony and Tania, we thought it was
19 still more of a precautionary matter over something,
20 that there was some kind of security alert rather than
21 something had actually already happened.

22 Q. Rather than an actual event?

23 A. And it was only when Tony said "We heard a bang and
24 somebody said it could be a bomb", that was the first
25 moment I considered that actually something has already

1 happened.

2 Q. Moving on to after the explosion itself, you had some
3 difficulty getting off the bus because there were
4 various people who had obviously been hurt and killed on
5 the bus, and your way was blocked by them and by debris.
6 But you were helped down to the lower deck. You
7 couldn't turn right because that was blocked off by the
8 driver's cab and all the debris that prevented your
9 exiting there, so you had to go towards the middle doors
10 and, as you were exiting there, you say you saw
11 a tragic, tangled mess of bodies and you specifically
12 mentioned two who you think may be Anat Rosenberg and
13 Anthony Fatayi-Williams?

14 A. No, I don't think the two -- I don't think it was
15 Anthony at the front.

16 Q. Right.

17 A. I saw many -- I saw lots of them. I think I saw Anthony
18 from when I was on top of the bus still, and I could see
19 him -- someone at the very back of the blast site, think
20 of it as an aerial view, I'm trying not to be really
21 graphic.

22 Q. No, I understand your difficulty. But in specifying
23 those two, you said "Apart from those two, I presumed
24 everyone was dead instantly". So were you suggesting
25 that you thought at the time that --

1 A. No, I thought they were all dead, but then the two at
2 the front, Anat and somebody else, I don't know who --

3 Q. I see, right.

4 A. -- I reacted to differently and, since the inquest
5 started, I've wondered why.

6 Q. Yes. Well, again, if I can assist you to this extent
7 and to confirm what Mr Keith said earlier, the family of
8 Anat Rosenberg are quite satisfied that there is no
9 evidence to suggest that she did survive, and that there
10 would have been anything at all that you could do. But
11 I'm sure they appreciate your wish that you would have
12 liked to have helped her if you could.

13 You describe her as possibly wearing a patterned
14 skirt. When you say "patterned", do you mean coloured
15 patterned?

16 A. Yes, I have a memory of someone wearing some kind of
17 patterned dress, or quite a sort of florally print,
18 someone wearing -- it's really hard five years later.
19 I wish I had written it all down.

20 Q. Of course. Did you ever see a photograph of
21 Anat Rosenberg?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Would it help to jog your memory to see a picture of her
24 now or are you satisfied that you've seen her and are
25 aware of what she looked like?

1 A. I don't think it -- I can't say for definite whether it
2 was her or not, but --

3 Q. It's just that what we know of --

4 A. To me, it would be the most likely person, if that makes
5 sense, but none of them looked like they did in their
6 pictures of them when they were alive.

7 Q. No, absolutely not. Her boyfriend at that time noted
8 that, when she left home that day, she was wearing
9 a black, whistles, silky dress which was embossed with
10 black flowers, which seems to suggest that she was all
11 in black, but as you say --

12 A. People were all in a pile so you couldn't really --

13 Q. A tangle?

14 A. You couldn't even see if the two arms you could see were
15 the same person's arms or different people, if that
16 makes sense, they were all on top of each other.

17 Q. Yes, indeed, yes. An horrendous scene. But she
18 appeared to be at the front of that morass --

19 A. There were two more towards the front, and the roof sort
20 of came down, but you could see there were more people
21 behind as well.

22 Q. Can I just ask you about Giles Hart, please? Can we
23 have, please, the bus plan, [INQ10285-6]?

24 I think you said that you worked with Giles Hart?

25 A. I worked for the same company, but sadly, I never had

1 the opportunity to meet him.

2 Q. You never met him. But you do recall, when you came up
3 the stairs at the same time as the bomber with the
4 rucksack, you watched him go and sit down and saw what
5 he did with his rucksack. If the Met Police plan is
6 correct and he was sitting at 53, then we believe that
7 Giles Hart was sitting at 52, directly across the aisle
8 from the bomber.

9 Did you see anybody in that seat whom you may later
10 have identified from your research as being the person
11 who worked in the same company as you?

12 A. I know there were people sat there, but, no, I didn't
13 recognise Giles. I tried really hard to think of
14 whether I remembered Giles in the days after the
15 bombing. I wish I could.

16 Q. So you weren't aware of who sat there?

17 A. No.

18 Q. That's absolutely fine.

19 A. I know the bus was very full when I boarded and I think
20 the majority of people had taken their seats when
21 I boarded. There may be only one or two other people
22 who got on after me, at the very most.

23 Q. Yes, because we can see, for example, on the lower deck
24 that there appear to be spare seats, but when you got
25 on --

1 A. It was all full downstairs, there were no seats when
2 I actually boarded.

3 Q. Yes, which is why you made your way upstairs and found
4 some seats there.

5 A. I know a couple of people got off from upstairs and
6 walked down, so the same may have happened with people
7 sat downstairs, but I didn't know which way to walk, so
8 that was why I stayed on the bus, but I did think about
9 getting off.

10 MS SHEFF: That's all I have to ask. Thank you very much
11 indeed, Ms French.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions for Ms French?
13 Those are all the questions anybody has for you.

14 I do understand how difficult it must have been for you,
15 knowing that, not only would you have to relive the fact
16 that you were involved in an explosion, but how close
17 you came to the bomb itself. So I do really appreciate
18 your giving evidence before me. I hope we didn't add to
19 your anxiety by having the break over Christmas, and
20 I do hope you understand just how important it is, not
21 just to my inquiry, but to all the bereaved families,
22 that we hear from people who have survived, as you did,
23 thank goodness.

24 A. Thank you.

25 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: As somebody who was involved, if at

1 any stage there are questions that you think I should be
2 asking or lines of enquiry, I'm not going to repeat it
3 to everybody who survived, but if there are, please make
4 sure that you let Mr Smith know. Thank you very much.

5 A. Thank you.

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Very well, 2.05.

7 MR KEITH: Thank you, my Lady.

8 (1.02 pm)

9 (The short adjournment)

10

11