

Wit F 10082012.001

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: It is 3.15 on Monday the 12th say of August 2012. Detective Inspector O'Connor replaying a recording from Friday the 10th of August, a conversation with Witness F for the purposes of putting it onto an encrypted file.

The time is now 11.15, Friday the 10th of - 10th of August 2012. Detective Inspector John O'Connor about to ring Nicola Gobbo on her mobile phone.

MS GOBBO: Hello.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Nic, John O'Connor.

MS GOBBO: Hi, how are you?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Good. Yourself?

MS GOBBO: Oh, had better days.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR:

MS GOBBO: actually.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: How's your health?

MS GOBBO: I've got a new drug which is helping me to stay calm.

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DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, that's good. How's your leg?

MS GOBBO: Yeah.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: How's your leg going?

MS GOBBO: Yeah, the leg's good. No - there's no new holes that I can see just yet.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: And the surgeon did a good job, did he?

MS GOBBO: Yeah, yeah, he did. No, it looks - looks - look, it's just another scar to add to my other 17.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: But I - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR:

MS GOBBO: I don't think it matters that much what your legs look like. It's not like I'm some kind of model, for God's sake. Who care?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, I - I can join you there, I'm not one myself so - - -

MS GOBBO: No, I don't - I'm not fussed about those types of things. John, reason - the reason I wanted to speak to

you was two things.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: One was - I don't know - I presume you're aware of my significant involvement in Operation Briars.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Which operation?

MS GOBBO: Briars.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Briars, yeah. You'll have to give me a quick overview, I'm probably aware of - - -

MS GOBBO: When - you know most of what I did was giving information rather than actually being tasked to do anything.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, this is when you had to move yeah.

MS GOBBO: Over - over the years, I'm saying in - just as a general proposition most of what I did was information rather than actually being tasked to do something.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: But Operation Briars was the exception to that and there are a number of occasions when **Fox-O** asked me to convey certain things to Dave Waters and I - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Sorry, who - who asked you?

MS GOBBO: Fox-O.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Fox-O . yeah - oh, yeah.

MS GOBBO: Your - your Fox-O not

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, sorry, Fox-O to take stuff
to who?

MS GOBBO: To - to convey certain information to Dave - to Doc
Waters.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, Doc Waters, yeah.

MS GOBBO: Yeah. And then as far as I understand from Fox-O
whatever - there's - there's certain things on occasions
he was asking me to raise or to tell Dave Waters - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm.

MS GOBBO: - - - then resulted in Waters saying or doing things
that then led to some kind of evidence against him in
relation to the Vampire murder.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, the - yeah, whatever - they
hyphenated - - -

MS GOBBO: Chartres-Abbott.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Chartres-Abbott, yeah.

MS GOBBO: Yeah.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: And they - look - and look, John, I don't know - you know, if you tell me to go and tell Joe Blow A, B and C I don't know the significance of why I'm telling them A, B and C - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm.

MS GOBBO: - - - what it means in terms of the investigation, I don't know. I just get asked to say something and I go and do it.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

MS GOBBO: And that's what happened over time with Operation Briars.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yes.

MS GOBBO: What I'm concerned about now is I - at least on the basis of the draft statement, nothing ever happened in relation to finalising it - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: So you - so you've made - you've made a draft statement, did you?

MS GOBBO: Yeah, to Ron Iddles and it was left on the basis that a number of dates needed to be checked by the investigators and they were gunna get back to me but nothing ever - you know, nothing ever happened in relation to that and that wasn't part of any settlement or anything else so I just wonder where things are at with that and - and secondly - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: - - - now that people have been charged with it and there will be a prosecution and there will be subpoenas, am I in some danger of - or can someone make sure please that I don't get exposed into any kind of extra danger.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, all right, well, I'll - I don't - I don't know much about except what I've read in the paper. So they've obviously charged some bloke.

MS GOBBO: Yeah, they charged - they charged Mark Perry. Mark Perry is the guy that's hiding in Thailand.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: And he is the guy that ordered the murder but - and [REDACTED] who's the guy who did the murder, physically did the murder - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Right.

MS GOBBO: - - - and the guy that's fronting court this morning is also involved in the planning of it.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, right.

MS GOBBO: So - and, look, I - I'm not asking you and nor - frankly nor do I care if these people are just to assist police or whatever, all I want to know is, you know, when I last spoke to Ron Iddles it was kind of up in the air as to whether - it was Ron Iddles and Steve Waddell from ESD.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, yeah, when - - -

MS GOBBO: And when - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: - - - was that?

MS GOBBO: This was July not - oh, sorry, May 2010.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: O.K.

MS GOBBO: Or May 2009. May 2000 - no, May 2009.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: May 2009, all right, yeah.

MS GOBBO: Yeah. And it was - it's quite a lengthy draft statement but I just - you know they said at the time, "Look, we're a long way off being able to actually charge anyone but - - -"

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: And - and now all of a sudden it's happened, I just want to know what my position is.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah. Oh, yeah, all right. Well, I'll - I don't have - well, I haven't got the answers because - - -

MS GOBBO: No, no, no, I - I didn't think you would but this is something that only you can find out from - you know, from the relevant people. The other thing I wanted to alert you to - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yes, O.K., yes.

MS GOBBO: - - - in relation to Paul Dale.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: I found out as of yesterday that he has retained a team of lawyers at a - at a cost of \$12,600 per day for his trial starting on the 16th of September.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: What's his trial for?

MS GOBBO: This is the ACC charges.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, O.K., yeah.

MS GOBBO: And when he had his committal in November last year

he was crying poor and he had a really cheap junior barrister, like, a 500 bucks a day job.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yes.

MS GOBBO: Now, as of - as of last week he's retained a QC, a junior and a solicitor at a total cost of 12 and a half grand a day.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm. When's he - - -

MS GOBBO: So maybe he's the drug money that he stole, I dunno.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: When's his trial?

MS GOBBO: Anyway the - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: When's his trial?

MS GOBBO: - - - fact was - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Beg your pardon?

MS GOBBO: Pardon?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: When's the trial, in September?

MS GOBBO: September the 16th.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: 15th, yeah.

MS GOBBO: And don't worry, John, I intend to be there.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Do you?

MS GOBBO: I am not gunna - I tell you this: this is what I needed to tell you - two things - hang on, sorry. Can hear - the lawnmower's pretty loud. The QC that he has retained to act for him is Paul Holdenson QC.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Paul Holdenson?

MS GOBBO: Yep.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Dunno him. Yeah.

MS GOBBO: Yeah, so do I. You know why I know him, John?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, I don't know him, so - - -

MS GOBBO: No, I said, do you know why I know him?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Why?

MS GOBBO: Because he acted for me in relation to Paul Dale.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh - - -

MS GOBBO: He gave me advice, he was retained to act for me through a solicitor. I paid him a lot of money and he acted for me last year in relation to this very issue.

It is a fucking outrage that he's now acting for Dale. I have rung the Commonwealth DPP this morning and told them.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: He - he ought not be involved in acting for Dale and I'm gunna put a formal complaint in to the Victoria Bar about him. It's just wrong. And the other thing is that at the committal last year they - the prosecution called Detective Senior Sergeant Tim Argall to give evidence for the prosecution. Part of his evidence - and I only know this from a mate of mine who's a journalist because no-one else tells me anything.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yes.

MS GOBBO: But part of Senior Sergeant Tim Argall's evidence is that he came to see me on a couple of occasions with Paul Dale - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Who - yeah, Argall, yeah.

MS GOBBO: Yeah, and that those - and that those meetings were legally professionally privileged as they related to legal matters. That is utter garbage. It is a complete and utter lie, total perjury.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: And I'm not gunna - I - I can tell you this, John, I

am not gunna sit back in three weeks' time when this trial starts and that kind of evidence is given in the Supreme Court and then reported in a newspaper - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm, 'cause there'll be some press, yeah.

MS GOBBO: It's gunna get a massive amount of press and I'm not gunna have it reported in the media after a senior sergeant like him giving evidence and saying, "Yeah, well, you know, she did the wrong thing 'cause it was all legally privileged and we - we went and saw her to get legal advice." Because the Victorian Bar's considering taking action against me because of the fact that they say they're concerned about the - at least the media reporting of the fact that I haven't acted properly because if they - if - if there's any suggestion that, you know, that I was acting for Dale and I gave him advice and I've then, you know, spoken to the police about what he told me - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm.

MS GOBBO: - - - they say I've acted inappropriately and breached privilege. Now, nothing's - nothing's further from the truth. But, of course, all they have got to go on is what's in the media and what's reported which is Dale saying, "She was acting for me, it's all privileged and Tim Argall, who's a current senior sergeant serving member who says the same thing." And I will not let that be said and not have my say about it.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, well, that's a matter -
that's - yeah, that's a matter for you and thanks for
ringing me and - - -

MS GOBBO: No, I'm just letting you know

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, no, I appreciate you -
appreciate you - - -

MS GOBBO: No, I'm just letting you know, I've told the
Commonwealth DPP that - that if they proceed down a path
of calling a witness that I am - I said to them, "Not
only am I saying to you that he's perjured himself," I
said, "I have written to the Chief Commissioner of Police
and told him that in writing."

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm.

MS GOBBO: And they said, "What response did you get?" I said,
"Nothing, no response, of course, He doesn't bother to
respond to me about things like that.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: They said, "When was the letter?" I said, "Way -
six months ago."

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: But I said, "If - if you call that man and he gives

that evidence, I will be standing on the steps of the Supreme Court having my say because I'm not gunna let this happen to me again."

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, well, that - that's - that's something for you. I'll come back to you - - -

MS GOBBO: I did - and I did also say to them, "You - you people reassess the position in terms of danger to me because the bottom line is my view hasn't changed. Call me to give evidence." I'm - I'm not gunna - John, as scared as I am, I'm not gunna sit back and let this bloke get away with murder.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm. Yeah. Well, what - I'll make some inquiries in relation to the Operation Briars stuff but in relation to the Dale matter, that's - thank for telling me that but that's a matter for you to - to - if you so choose to do that. But I'll - are you - - -

MS GOBBO: I'm only - listen, I'm only letting you know because - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, no, I appreciate the inappropriate

MS GOBBO: - - - my - because my safety is your responsibility - not yours personally but your organisation's and, you know, these - these people make a decision - the DPP makes a decisions based on what Victoria Police are

telling them. That's what they told me this morning. So they need to know and I'm just letting you know as a courtesy, that's my position. I am not gunna have this happen to me all over the media and let a serving member tell lies in the Supreme Court and get away with it. He's done it once. I've complained to Victoria Police about it and nothing's happened. I'm not going to let it happen again.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah. Can I come back to you next week, Nicola?

MS GOBBO: Yeah, of course.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: Yeah, of course.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

MS GOBBO: Of course.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: All right. Have a good weekend.

MS GOBBO: I'm painting, John.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Well, it can't be - well, I suppose - what, inside or outside?

MS GOBBO: Both.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: All right.

MS GOBBO: I tell you what, its not a - it's not a bad thing
to do for that - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, it's quite therapeutical.

MS GOBBO: Yeah, it is really therapeutic.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Therapeutic, sorry, not
therapeutical - therapeutic, yeah. So - yeah, well - - -

MS GOBBO: I won't be able to wash my hair tomorrow 'cause I
can't lift my arms up above my shoulders
that's right.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah. Well, enjoy the pain and
I'll - I'll give you a call next week.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, that'd be great. Thanks
very much.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Take care. See ya, bye-bye.

MS GOBBO: O.K., see ya.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: The time is now 11.28 pm, end
recording.

END OF REPLAYED RECORDING

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: O.K. The time is now 3.32 pm,
stop recording.

END OF RECORDING