

TRANSCRIPTION

Date: 17 May 2004

Legend: Dale (Paul DALE)
Bezzina (D/S/SGT Charlie BEZZINA)
Davey (D/S/C Cameron DAVEY)

Transcription:

(Track 1 Min 00 Sec 10)

Bezzina: "This is a videotape recorded interview between Detective Senior Sergeant Charlie BEZZINA and Paul Noel DALE of [REDACTED] Coburg conducted at the Homicide Squad offices on Monday the 17th of May, 2004. Persons present is my corroborator, Detective Senior Constable Cameron DAVEY. Ah, Paul do you agree with me by my watch that the time is 7.34 a.m.?"

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "Okay. What is your full name and address?"

(Track 1 Min 01 Sec 00)

Dale: "Paul Noel DALE, [REDACTED] Coburg."

Bezzina: "I intend to interview you in relation to the death of Terrence HODSON and a Christine HODSON. Before continuing I must inform you that you're not obliged to say or do anything but anything you say or do maybe given in evidence. Do you understand that?"

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "I must also inform you of the following rights. You may communicate with or attempt to communicate with a friend or relative to inform that person of the whereabouts. You may communicate with or attempt to communicate with a legal practitioner. If you're not a citizen or permanent resident of Australia you may communicate with or attempt to communicate with the consular office of the country of which you are a citizen. Do you understand these rights?"

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "Do you wish to exercise any of these rights before the interview proceeds?"

Dale: "I already have spoken to my solicitor and my wife and family knows."

Bezzina: "Okay. And that solicitor is?"

Dale: "Ah, Tony HARGREAVES."

Bezzina: "And that's the same gentleman I spoke to you this morning on your phone?"

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "Okay. What is your age and date of birth?"

(Track 1 Min 02 Sec 00)

Dale: "Ah, 35 born [REDACTED]"

Bezzina: "Okay. Are you a permanent resident in Australia?"

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "Are you of Aboriginal or Torrens Strait Island decent?"

Dale: "No."

Bezzina: "Okay. Paul, this as I've earlier explained to you at your home address this morning, relates to the, ah, death of Terrence HODSON and a Christine HODSON that occurred, ah, sometime we believe on Saturday evening, ah, the 15th of May at Unit 2/87 Harp Road, East Kew. And it's my understanding is that you've had some involvement, um, with Terrence HODSON. Ah, can you just explain to me your current position in relation to occupation wise?"

Dale: "I'm working for a construction company."

Bezzina: "Ah okay and then prior to that?"

Dale: "I was a police member."

Bezzina: "And your situation as being a police member is?"

(Track 1 Min 03 Sec 00)

Dale: "I'm currently suspended, currently charged with offences."

Bezzina: "Okay. Ah, and, ah, they are yet to go to court?"

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "Okay. Paul what we want to do is just cover the knowledge you have and how you or start off I suppose. Do you in fact know Terrence HODSON?"

Dale: "Well unfortunately I had the, I had the misfortune of, ah, being his co-handler in a police member/informer relationship. He was a, um, I transferred to the Drug Squad, or the Major Drug Investigation Division as it is now known, as about two years ago and I was, ah, immediately introduced to Terry HODSON and Christine HODSON who were registered informers, um, giving information to the MDID. And I took over the control, I guess you would say, of them too and worked closely with them for a period of, ah, up until the time that I was suspended pretty much."

Bezzina: "And, um, was there any other member involved particularly with these two whilst you were at that, at that unit?"

Dale: "Ah, initially it was Graham SAYCE was the controller, he was another a fellow sergeant. He was controlling the HODSONs along with David MIECHEL, one of the detectives. Ah, when I arrived I took over a crew that, um, consisted of David MIECHEL and others and we became the predominant people or members dealing with the HODSONs."

(Track 1 Min 05 Sec 00)

Bezzina: "Now that particular night, I don't particularly need to go into the whole ambit of, of the involvement in each job and that type of thing."

Dale: "Mm."

Bezzina: "But as a result of, um, your contact, yours and MIECHEL's, contact with Terrence and Christine, ah, what culminated from that relationship which led to your position as being a suspended member of the Police Force?"

Dale: "Ah, Terrence HODSON was arrested in September of last year, 2003, in the vicinity of a target address of ours. I was in charge of an operation called Operation Gallop which was investigating, um, high level drug traffickers who were,

um, manufacturing ecstasy tablets from an address in Dublin Street, East Oakleigh. Um, on grand final night, ah, HODSON was arrested in the vicinity of that address as a result of a burglary that had been committed on that address, ah, over the oh what was it? October, November, December, some months later I was arrested in December, December 5, 2003, and I was arrested at my home address by members of the Ethical Standards Department who, acting on a statement that had been supplied by Terrence HODSON, um, arrested me and charged me with offences relating to that address and those activities at that address by Terrence HODSON."

Bezzina: "And how did you become of aware of that? What's HODSON's allegedly done against you, to you?"

Dale: "He's made a statement."

Bezzina: "Okay."

Dale: "Yeah and that, that's part of the brief that was also given to my solicitor during my initial bail application."

Bezzina: "Okay. As a result of that same incident you've just covered, was there anyone else charged?"

Dale: "David MIECHEL was also charged."

(Track 1 Min 07 Sec 00)

Bezzina: "Is it true that he was in fact arrested on the same night that Terry was at that location or close by?"

Dale: "Ah, that's yes, yes he was."

Bezzina: "Ah, okay. Um, now as a result you said earlier that you were, ah, placed into custody and you've since, you're currently on bail?"

Dale: "Yes I am."

Bezzina: "As a result of that. And that seems to be the terms at law, at a court of law."

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "In relation to the premises had you been to [REDACTED] East Kew?"

Dale: "Ah, yes I have."

Bezzina: "How many occasions would you say?"

Dale: "Ah, oh look not sure off the top of my head but I've been there a few."

Bezzina: "Okay and is that at the invite of Terrence or the fact that you were there in an official capacity?"

Dale: "Official capacity."

Bezzina: "Every time you went there?"

Dale: "Yeah."

Bezzina: "Ah, can you recall the last time you would have been there?"

Dale: "Um, oh not really no some time before this. But what I'd like to say now is obviously I have had legal advice, and as much as I obviously want to cooperate and I have no problems with, um, giving you my whereabouts at any given time and point and all of that, um, no problems, my legal advice has been to make no comment. I don't particularly, um, how do you say it? I want to make comment up until that, A, I knew Terrence HODSON obviously, A, Terrence HODSON has made a statement against me and Christine HODSON's also made a statement and his family members. I'm, I've had no contact with him since that time in September. I've had absolutely nothing to do with their deaths, it comes as a total surprise to me. When I had a knock on the door this morning from you guys it's the first I'd become aware of it, although I've been told now that the media have been aware of it for some time. Um, but I certainly, A, I had nothing to do with his death."

Bezzina: "Yep."

(Track 1 Min 09 Sec 00)

Dale: "Alls this now causes for me is huge heartache and grief. Since December when I was arrested my life has been fuckin' turned into shit. I was charged with offences that just fuckin' don't exit and I was locked up by people that had an agenda. I believe it was a malicious prosecution what was done to me and charged with offences that they knew would put me inside, a police member for nearly 16 years, put in with, you know, in the gaol cells with criminals that I'd worked on. Treated like a dog. And when I got the

Brief of Evidence and I read it knowing full well that there was no God damned evidence because I had nothing to do with what they charged with me either, it just reeks of politism. People in this ESD for an agenda, for promotion, whatever it happened to be it was just a disgrace. I've been treated completely and utterly, um, in a whole different sense to than any other person would be treated in the street. Any civilian would not be in the position I'm in because the charges would have never been approved. It's just ridiculous. I've had to live with that and I've been able to live with that with the, as I've said to you earlier Charlie, putting, trying to put it behind me. Okay, I've got the court case coming up in October – a committal. I was very confidence initially that I wouldn't even be committed but magistrates are very loathe to, um, throw them out of a committal. So I've sort of come to grips with the fact that, yes, I'll be going to trial on this absolute trumped up crap. Um, but knowing full well no jury in the land, no person that understands the law, could even contemplate that I had anything to do with this or had any involvement in it. So having that in mind I've started to build my life back up again, not that you can ever build your reputation back they've destroyed that. The media and the Police Department did a very good job of that. Um, build my life up to a point where I've been, my only fuckin' focus has been on clearing my name, vindicating myself, and then the next step was getting back into the employment that I love which is the policing. You know, as much as the Chief Commissioner comes on the news or in the papers and says she's losing confidence in members and wants the power to sack. You know, I can't wait to sit in front of the Chief Commissioner one day and say, well how do you reckon my confidence is in, in this department when they've treated me like this? But I'm, you know, letting my heart, this is all I've ever done, this is policing. I've been policing all my life and it's, that's what I wanted to be doing. And now this is just gunna completely and utterly fuck really turn my life upside down again this. I had nothing to do with his death. You know, I really liked Terry HODSON, he was a, we became, we formed relationship. They are a very dangerous relationship to be involved in – informers."

(Track 2 Min 02 Sec 03)

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "They're very dangerous to handle. I mean I don't need to sit here and preach that the Police Department knows it all very well. He was a good fella Terry, ya know, he was a good bloke and his wife Chrissy she was, you know, just a

lovely lady, and this, this. It was a complete shock to me when you guys come through the door. Know nothing about it. Certainly, you know, I've, he, Terry was a very high level drug dealer. He'd been informing on some very major criminals around Melbourne and also interstate, it doesn't just stop here in Melbourne. Um, after this incident in September where Terrence, um, was arrested and then turned informer and making statements against myself and MIECHEL and, he's also made statements against other major drug dealers now through the Ethical Standards Department. Um, look I've been in this game, I've worked at Homicide, you know, he's got a lot of enemies out there. Because once, once it became apparent that he has been informer, and I went to great lengths in the time that I was handling him to protect his identity, and his identity became known. Like solicitors sitting in court would be whispering in your ear, we know who your informer is, and to the point where they say, ya know, I know it's Terrence HODSON, ya know, and you'd be just, you know, not even answering and trying to, ya know, keep that wall up and keep him protected. You know, I had to change the way that we worked, we operated with Terry because he was being overly used, ya know, and it was just becoming too apparent. I mean every body that he dealt with was ending up locked up."

(Track 2 Min 03 Sec 48)

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "And he was the only one not. But we went to great lengths to try and protect Terry and, um, I didn't even know he was living at Harp Road, Kew, it was all, it was always told to me during, during court cases and everything that he was being protected by Ethical Standards Department. I was of the opinion he was somewhere in protection."

(Track 2 Min 04 Sec 07)

Bezzina: "After the?"

Dale: "After our incident."

Bezzina: "Right."

Dale: "After he was arrested and everyone else was arrested and, as in me and MIECHEL."

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "I was, I was always led to believe he was in protection and this is what happens, so."

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "Ya know, again they, I don't, again their job hasn't been done properly. I don't know what, what was going on there."

Bezzina: "Yeah well there were other issues there. But as I explained to you this morning, Paul, and came to the house that, ah, basically the reason for us being there that the fact that this chap had, ah, Terrence had made a statement against you."

Dale: "He's made a statement against a number of people and he's given information about. I can give you the yellow pages almost of the who's who of the criminal world."

Bezzina: "Mm, mm."

Dale: "And he has had involvement with them and, you know, to the point where I'm putting a report together at the moment which I discussed with you."

(Track 2 Min 05 Sec 02)

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "Which I got a hard copy of here just as I've gone through certain information reports. It's the who's who of the criminal world that he has been involved with to the point where they could be facing serious charges. And that was something that I was going to pursue. Um, I mean I feel I'm being treated in a way again completely separate to the way a normal citizen would be treated."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "I know, I understand why I'm a suspect but I don't understand why I'm being treated this way. I know during Homicide investigations, and especially at the Lorimer Taskforce, you know I don't know how many thousands of IR's we had and some of the suspects were very good suspects, you know, like everything was pointing that way."

Bezzina: "Mm, mm."

Dale: "But we didn't go and arrest them at their home address and drag them into the Homicide Squad and they become,

you know, a media puppet, 'cause that's what I'm going to be as a result of this. I'm going to be all over the papers again for the next however many months to try and keep my life back on track. They're going to be just writing whatever shit they want to write. I mean I'm now being treated again I feel like, you know, because I'm a policeman, and okay I'm a suspect, but geez I've got about 50 suspects here."

(Track 2 Min 06 Sec 23)

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "More motive than me, well okay I mean these are criminals, these are killers, criminals and killers."

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "Fuck I'm just a family man trying to get back into the job that I love best and clear my name."

Bezzina: "Mm. Well let me assure you of this, Paul, as I did from the very outset that I'm certainly not treating you any differently and it gives me no, ah, pleasure in doing what I'm doing."

Dale: "Yeah I know."

Bezzina: "But it's a matter of it, ah, if you were Joe BLOW citizen in the street I can assure you that you'd, he'd be sitting here also - not the fact that you're a policeman. And I'm just acting on information I've got which I'll then I'll put to you as we go on. Now rather than go through every name and, ah, detail and everything like that."

(Track 2 Min 07 Sec 00)

Dale: "I'm not going to do that on tape anyway."

Bezzina: "That's right."

Dale: "Yeah."

Bezzina: "Are you happy to give us a copy of ..."

Dale: "Of course I am."

Bezzina: "... the hard copy you mentioned?"

Dale: "Mm."

Bezzina: "Okay. Um, alright well you mentioned the other ones with motives and you've obviously said yourself that clearly that you can be seen as having a person with a motive. Um, given the fact that you find yourself in a position that you do in relation to the charges laid by ESD, is it fair to say, and I've not seen the brief nor have I been briefed to any great extent in relation to the evidence that's against you by alleged by Terrence, ah, is it fair to say that the statement that Terrence has made, which I've not seen or have any knowledge of, to ESD against you is basically. The charges basically against you really hinge on what Terrence has told ESD?"

Dale: "Look what Terrence has told ESD is an induced statement made at a time when. He's a man of very weak character who would turn on his own family, and he has. A number of these people to be charged if this was to be followed up would be his own son, his own daughter, his own family members."

(Track 2 Min 08 Sec 14)

Bezzina: "Yep."

Dale: "He's the type of man who will turn on anyone when and, when it suits him. If there's something in it for him he'll turn. And he's gone and made an induced statement to, ah, ESD because he found himself in a bind. And so the statement he's made to them is just an absolute load of rubbish when it, in relation to what he says about me, and I have no. And he's made more than one, he's made, he's given three different accounts for a start as to the whole, you know, crap. And, ah, as far as that statement goes look it's not worth the, it wouldn't even hold water, it's not worth a pinch of shit as far as I'm concerned. And this is why this is now going to be fuckin' pain in the arse because, not a pain in the arse, it's going to be complete and utter bloody turn upside down my life again. I'm in a position where I want to go to court as soon as possible."

(Track 2 Min 09 Sec 13)

Bezzina: "Yep."

Dale: "I want the court case to be tomorrow. I want HODSON, I wanted HODSON to be, and Christine, oh Christine's really statement goes nowhere. But I wanted HODSON to be able to get up and give that evidence so that I, it can be seen that this guy is a liar. But that's not going to happen now and now."

Bezzina: "Well is it fair to say that."

Dale: "I wasn't having any, I had no concerns over Terrence HODSON's statement or his evidence that he was prepared to give against me."

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "That was never a concern. I had no fears in relation to that."

Bezzina: "Well if we took Terrence HODSON out of the equation, ah, and he didn't exist you wouldn't be in the predicament you are, have been ESD charged without him or is there, is there other things there that implicate you allegedly with the other September issue?"

(Track 3 Min 00 Sec 03)

Dale: "Look Charlie the way that I've been treated by ESD and what they've relied upon as being evidence, mate, I wouldn't, I don't know if I'd be in a different predicament."

Bezzina: "Okay alright."

Dale: "Because it doesn't appear to me that they really needed any evidence whatsoever to charge me."

Bezzina: "Alright. Um, now as a result of the search we conducted, we executed a search warrant on your house and, ah, as you saw, and conducted a search, is it fair to say that as a result of that search, ah, we seized a locked wooden box and that we've conveyed that back to the office here?"

Dale: "Yeah that wooden box belongs to a friend of mine and I wouldn't even know, I don't know what's in it."

Bezzina: "Okay."

Dale: "And I never ...(inaudible)..."

Bezzina: "Okay well we'll look at that in due course. Now the main, ah, the information that comes to me, ah, since last evening that there's an allegation that I want to put to you that prior to the incident that you referred to that, um, led to your, um, suspension from the Police Force, is that it's alleged that you, ah, were speaking to, um, the deceased Terrence HODSON, ah, sometime prior to the Oakleigh incident and you've allegedly said to, words to the effect,

'that if anything went wrong that HODSON would have to look after himself because MIECHEL and you will look after yourselves'. You allegedly made a gesture with your fingers like a pistol at the time of, um, allegedly saying this. What do you say about that?"

(Track 3 Min 01 Sec 44)

Dale: "Firstly, where has that information come from?"

Bezzina: "As far as I know the information comes from Terrence telling ESD about it and that we've got a statement from his son, Andrew, which was taken last night and gives the same information."

(Track 3 Min 02 Sec 00)

Dale: "Oh. I don't have any faith in anything that HODSON has told ESD because it's, A, it would have been induced and would have been floured up to make it all sound so much bigger, so much better, so Terry can get as much back from them. He, he was a very, how do you say it, I said he was a good bloke. You'd, he was a friendly, likeable fella who just wanted to please and you start having a chat with him and talking about something, he'll, he'll see what interests you and he'll pick up on that. He's very clever, he's very smart, he's been a very smart crook all his life. And if he's sees that some angle all of a sudden he's got your interest, and he's very good, and all of a sudden it's something that you might want to hear and he's like, so he'll, he'll expand on that. I mean that's, that was Terry HODSON. And they would have been lapping that sort of shit up."

(Track 3 Min 03 Sec 00)

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "Cause that's all it is it's bullshit."

Bezzina: "Okay."

Dale: "I know nothing about that, that."

Bezzina: "This."

Dale: "But I can understand ESD wanting to say something like that."

Bezzina: "Now the other thing that comes to our knowledge is that, ah, it's alleged that Terrence was pretty much afraid of, more afraid of you than he was afraid of MIECHEL."

Dale: "That comes as a surprised to me because I couldn't understand why Terry would have any fear of me other than obviously he's made up this story to include me in it in relation to this Oakleigh thing. He's, he's framed me into the whole picture of that and I believe it's purely because again he's wanting the inducement, he's wanting."

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "He's wanting more out of it, what can I give them more, ya know, and he. So he throws me into the whole bloody scenario of it. Why Terry would say that, and I don't believe he did say that and I don't believe for a second that's ever been said because, um, my relationship with Terry and Christine HODSON, I've never met any of the other family members, never met them. But as far as Chrissy goes and Terry goes it was a professional relationship, it was also a very friendly one."

(Track 3 Min 04 Sec 18)

Bezzina: "Mm."

Dale: "And I wouldn't have thought they ever would have thought there was a, um, a bad bone in my body to say something like that honestly."

Bezzina: "So you don't know Andrew his son?"

Dale: "No don't know him."

Bezzina: "Cause the, ah, as I say the statement that we got off Andrew last night also suggest that, that Terry told Andrew ..."

Dale: "Yes."

Bezzina: "... that it was not related with ESD but."

Dale: "No I don't know, don't know him."

Bezzina: "You don't know how, what relationship, ah, Terry had with his son Andrew?"

Dale: "I don't know what their relationship was like."

Bezzina: "Okay."
Dale: "But I know that Terry was giving him, trying to set him up."
Bezzina: "Terry tried to set up?"
Dale: "Andrew."
Bezzina: "Andrew."
Dale: "With a drug, with a big drug case and we can discuss that further. But, and Andrew would know that now."
Bezzina: "Mm, mm."

(Track 3 Min 05 Sec 00)

Dale: "Um, Mandy was set up by, his daughter, was set up by Terry. She would know that now. They're both on a list of, ah, people to be charged should my report be, had been followed through."
Bezzina: "Mm, mm."
Dale: "Um, who else? Um, you know, there's a lot of people. He's got another daughter who's married to, um, one of the Russell Street bombers and he set them up, which resulted in his daughter and his son-in-law being arrested with a, with major offences. Um, and they now know, they would now know that he set them up."
Bezzina: "Oh right."
Dale: "His own family members."
Bezzina: "Right. Now just to, ah, go towards finishing up. When would it have been apparent to other criminal element that, ah, Terry, ah, Terrence was in fact an informer?"

(Track 3 Min 06 Sec 00)

Dale: "Oh look as I said it's, um, it's been strongly rumoured for a long time."
Bezzina: "Oh right."
Dale: "Um, again there's members, there's other names on there of people who were arrested directly as a result of doing a transaction with him and only arrest down the road and they've gone back and put it on him that he was the

informer. I've had, I've had people say to me in court in, you know, solicitors in fact say to me we know who your informer is it's Terry HODSON and, and on it goes, and that goes right back. So no look he's, the suspicion about him has been there a long time, um, confirmation would have been, I believe, at the time he was arrested in September."

Bezzina: "Oh right."

Dale: "Cause."

Bezzina: "Obviously."

Dale: "Because the media said that he was arrested in company of a police member being David MIECHEL and all that. Now that's not the case. MIECHEL was arrested some distance away."

Bezzina: "Oh right."

Dale: "So I mean the facts that are written are completely unreal, untrue. But, anyway, the fact that they all of a sudden they put MIECHEL, a Drug Squad member, and HODSON together, um, through the media all of a sudden every crook in Melbourne suddenly had it confirmed."

(Track 3 Min 07 Sec 07)

Bezzina: "Makes sense."

Dale: "Mm."

Bezzina: "Alright, ah, just to I suppose cover the, your movements for the weekend."

Dale: "Yeah."

Bezzina: "Just, if we can start from Saturday morning."

Dale: "Um, I work Saturdays, I work every Saturday, um, with this, I work six days a week with this construction company. I start at 7 a.m. on Saturday."

Bezzina: "0700. And the name of the company?"

Dale: "Ah, Winslow Constructors."

Bezzina: "Winslow Constructors. And they are at?"

Dale: "Ah, the head office is [REDACTED] it's in Campbellfield I'd have to, um."

Bezzina: "Oh yeah that's okay. But which ...(inaudible)... do you work?"

Dale: "I don't, I don't go there at all. I go out on a construction site out in the western suburbs out near Caroline Springs."

Bezzina: "Okay, so on that last Saturday, ah."

Dale: "Just ...(inaudible)..."

Bezzina: "The 15th, which site were you on?"

(Track 3 Min 08 Sec 00)

Dale: "I was on, um, what we call Watervale, Watervale, um, Stage 52."

Bezzina: "Stage 52. Is there a particular address for that or?"

Dale: "Ah, not really it's all being built we're doing like, it's like huge open land and we come in and start building the joint up."

Bezzina: "Okay alright, and."

Dale: "But I mean the company will have ...(inaudible)..."

Bezzina: "Okay. And do you predominantly work with anyone?"

Dale: "Yeah, yeah work every day with a bloke by the name of, um, Cliff. I'm not sure of his surname but he's, ah, he's an excavator driver."

Bezzina: "Excavator driver, yep."

Dale: "Um, so I work, I work every day with him pretty much."

Bezzina: "Have you got a contact number for him?"

Dale: "Yeah I've got his mobile actually, yeah."

Bezzina: "Yeah, could we get that while we're here if we can?"

Dale: "Yeah ...(inaudible)..."

Bezzina: "Okay so."

Dale: "I can send that to your ...(inaudible)..."

Bezzina: "Okay so we then, um, work there until what time?"

Dale: "But I work with him but also you've got supervisors coming and going and there's probably about half a dozen other workers around you all the time."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

(Track 3 Min 09 Sec 00)

Dale: "So I'll give you all them."

Bezzina: "Okay so."

Dale: "So I worked 'til one."

Bezzina: "Work to 1 p.m."

Dale: "Ah, went home."

Bezzina: "Went home."

Dale: "Ah, ...(inaudible)..."

Bezzina: "But at this stage you were driving your motor car I take it?"

Dale: "Yeah the, um, the little blue one, the four-wheeled drive."

Bezzina: "And that's a 4x4 blue."

Dale: "Yep."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "Ah."

Bezzina: "Okay so you get home, you leave at one."

Dale: "Yeah."

Bezzina: "Went home."

Dale: "Went home. Um, pack up the family, wife and child."

Bezzina: "Family up yep."

Dale: "Drive to Bendigo."

Bezzina: "Drive to Bendigo."

Dale: "Ah, get dropped off by the wife at the local footy, Essendon was playing Port Melbourne. That's Essendon Bendigo."

Bezzina: "...(inaudible)..."

Dale: "Yeah it's the VFL, yeah Bendigo Bombers."

Bezzina: "So it's Bendigo Bombers and Port."

Dale: "Yep."

Bezzina: "Okay."

(Track 4 Min 00 Sec 00)

Dale: "Get dropped off at the footy because I meet, met with, um, Dennis LINEHAN a friend."

Bezzina: "Dennis LINEHAN yeah."

Dale: "And his brother Paul."

Bezzina: "Brother Paul."

Dale: "And, um, their I think it's brother-in-law or cousin Dave but I don't know his surname."

Bezzina: "...(inaudible)..."

Dale: "And from there I pretty much, um, leave the footy and it was basically a boys trip away but the wife came because her, um, a girlfriend of hers just moved back from Fiji."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "And they're living in Bendigo. So she decided to come along and stay with the wife and her, sorry, with the girlfriend and her family."

Bezzina: "Okay, so you leave the footy and go where?"

Dale: "So I leave the footy with the boys and we go basically to a number of pubs."

Bezzina: "To number of pubs in Bendigo."

Dale: "Run into a heap of ex-coppers or coppers that I know and."

(Track 4 Min 01 Sec 00)

Bezzina: "Yeah and other police, yep."

Dale: "And other police. Um, and we just all remained together drinking to the early hours at which time we, um, make our way back to a motel."

Bezzina: "Okay. Do you know which one?"

Dale: "Lakeview Motor Inn."

Bezzina: "Lakeview Motor Inn."

Dale: "Motor Inn, um."

Bezzina: "Was the room booked in anyone's name?"

Dale: "Dennis paid for it I think, yeah, I think it's under LINEHAN but the local CI guys arranged it for us. But it's, I'm pretty sure it was under, it's either under Dennis LENAHAN or it was, um, Tommy HARPER who's a detective in Bendigo."

Bezzina: "Tom HARPER, okay so you're there all night I take it?"

Dale: "Well we're at the pubs 'til the early hours."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "And then to motel."

Bezzina: "To motel, yep."

Dale: "Sleep, up, um."

Bezzina: "Sleep. So wake up on Sunday morning."

Dale: "Sunday morning, yeah."

Bezzina: "Sunday a.m."

Dale: "About, yeah about 9 a.m."

Bezzina: "Yep."

(Track 4 Min 02 Sec 00)

Dale: "Make our way across to a, um."

Bezzina: "Still in the company of LINEHAN and the other males?"

Dale: "Yeah."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "Yeah. Make our, well Paul lives there that's why we went up there to see, visit Paul."

Bezzina: "Okay."

Dale: "Paul lives up there so he was at home with his family. Um, wake up, make our way across the road basically to this, um, the lake, there's a, um, like a restaurant on the lake."

Bezzina: "Yep."

Dale: "And I meet with the wife and her girlfriend and her husband and their kids."

Bezzina: "Okay. We'll get the details ..."

Dale: "Yeah."

Bezzina: "... later."

Dale: "Yep. And we all had breakfast."

Bezzina: "Breakfast yep."

Dale: "Um, go over to a play area where the kids played 'til about 12."

Bezzina: "To 12 yep."

Dale: "And then we leave because the wife's got to get back to work an afternoon shift."

Bezzina: "So leave and head back to Melbourne?"

Dale: "Head back to Melbourne."

Bezzina: "Head back to Melbourne."

Dale: "Arrive in Melbourne about 2 p.m."

Bezzina: "And Melbourne being your home address?"

Dale: "Yeah."

(Track 4 Min 03 Sec 00)

Bezzina: "Home yep."

Dale: "Um, wife goes to work."

Bezzina: "Wife to work."

Dale: "I go across to, oh an hour or so later, I went across to a place called Ex-Mart I think it is. It's a store in Ballarat Road, Braybrook, and I've bought myself a new TV. We'd seen it on special and the wife had rung up and ordered one."

Bezzina: "How did you buy that?"

Dale: "Ah, had to pay cash it was a deal \$299 for cash only."

Bezzina: "Okay. You still got the paperwork at home?"

Dale: "Yeah, yeah I only just put it in yesterday afternoon so."

Davey: "It's called Ex-Mart?"

Dale: "Ex-Mart, yeah, yeah got all the details here. It's, so go I drive over in me 4x4 'cause the wife drives a Magna."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "Got the young bloke with me."

Bezzina: "With son, yep."

Dale: "Um, we buy the tellie, come home. I ring, um, Tim ARGALL on me way home to get him to give me a hand to carry this, 'cause it's a 68cm it's a big one. To carry it from my car into the house."

(Track 4 Min 04 Sec 02)

Bezzina: "Yep."

Dale: "So he meets me at home. We put the tellie in and we spend the next hour or so mucking around and setting it all up and getting the channels sorted."

Bezzina: "Yep."

Dale: "Um."

Bezzina: "So Tim's with you 'til for how long 'til?"

Dale: "Oh he's probably with me a good hour and a half or so I guess."

Bezzina: "So what time roughly is that is that up to?"

Dale: "I reckon we're getting."

Bezzina: "It's 2 o'clock you were home."

Dale: "I reckon getting, almost getting to. 'Cause I didn't straight away go across."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "I did a bit of cleaning up around the house, a bit of stuffing around so."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "Um, I mean the receipt which is home will probably tell you the time I bought the thing."

Bezzina: "Yep, we can have that when we go back."

Dale: "Um, yeah look I don't know it's got to be getting close to 5 o'clock I guess, 4 or 5."

Bezzina: "Close to 4 or 5 p.m. yep."

Dale: "Um, and what did I do from there? Feed [REDACTED] my son."

Bezzina: "Your wife gets home at what time?"

Dale: "Oh she didn't get home 'til about, I was asleep anyway, but I was pretty tired from the weekend. Ah, she got home about a bit after 10 o'clock at night. Just wanted to have a look at the tellie and all that so."

(Track 4 Min 05 Sec 10)

Bezzina: "Okay so you're installing the TV you go out again?"

Dale: "No."

Bezzina: "After that?"

Dale: "No."

Bezzina: "Okay, Tim, Tim obviously goes and you stay at home with your son, um, obviously watching TV until what, until you go to bed or?"

Dale: "Yeah, yeah. I had the video, had the video, um, show for the missus that came on at 7.30 to 8.30."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "And I didn't do the time I think I sat down and just did the remote control thing. Made meself dinner and got meself organised for work the next morning."

Bezzina: "Alright."

Dale: "And went to bed. 'Cause the young bloke goes to bed, went to bed about 7.30 he goes to bed around the 7/7.30 every night, so."

Bezzina: "Alright. And I suppose then, ah, you wake up to us this morning."

Dale: "Yeah."

(Track 4 Min 05 Sec 54)

Bezzina: "Okay, Alright well those ones we've covered we're certainly aware of, ah, Tim ARGALL and LINEHAN and the likes and we'll get these other details off you, ah, like the receipt and that type of thing. Obviously, without telling you anything to, ah, see where you were and alibi. Um, have you got anything Cameron?"

Davey: "Just a couple of questions Paul. Have you been to Terry HODSON's place since he was arrested for that burglary?"

Dale: "No my bail conditions are not to go near him."

Davey: "Okay, so it would be, the last time you've been to his place would be prior to that date?"

Dale: "Yes."

Davey: "Are you aware of, um, any security that he had at that premises?"

Dale: "I was aware that he had, ah, surveillance cameras set up."

Davey: "Mm, mm."

Dale: "Um, I didn't know, I don't know whether he records from it or not but he certainly had like a close circuit TV security setup. He always had that from day dot."

Davey: "Mm, mm."

Dale: "And that's about all I know."

Davey: "And can you describe the system that you knew that he had?"

Dale: "No, never actually saw it."

Davey: "Right."

(Track 4 Min 07 Sec 00)

Dale: "Just knew that he had it and he's, 'cause he. Like I said to youse earlier, he did all his dealing, wheeling and dealing and deceiving people and all that from his house."

Davey: "Right."

Dale: "Everyone would come to his house."

Davey: "Right."

Dale: "And the, ah, basically the, the way it worked with Terry was if his roller door was up, which you could see from Harp Road."

Davey: "Yep."

Dale: "Cause he lives right down the back."

Davey: "Yep."

Dale: "You could see if his roller door was up he's open for business. And people went there to do their business. He felt, he felt safer in his own home, he did everything from his own home. So he's setting up major dealers that he knows are going to go away for a long time, um, he'd be doing it from the lounge room of his house."

Davey: "Right. Now the close circuit system that you say he had you never saw, do you know, ah, where that was?"

Dale: "No I don't know but I know it did, I know it showed his driveway."

Davey: "Right."

Dale: "And he had, he said it was infrared so he could even see people coming down in the dark."

Davey: "Right."

Dale: "So I believe it was in the kitchen."

Davey: "Right."

(Track 4 Min 08 Sec 00)

Dale: "Just say that I think it was in the kitchen somewhere where he had like whatever, you know, the mechanisms for it all."

Davey: "Yeah okay. But you say you've never seen a security system there?"

Dale: "No, no only than what he's told me. I mean I think I can't remember if I've ever seen a camera."

Davey: "Okay. The last time you were there were you with any other police?"

Dale: "Yeah I would have been with either David MIECHEL or I would have been with, um, ah. Oh look there's been some other police that have attended at his house on official business all the way ...(inaudible)..."

Davey: "Yeah."

Dale: "Youse will be able to see who else has been."

Davey: "Did you ever attend there on your own?"

Dale: "No."

Davey: "Okay. I don't have any other questions."

Bezzina: "Just one that brings me onto that point security, um, what do you know about what pets he had and?"

Dale: "Sorry what?"

Bezzina: "Pets."

Dale: "Oh um he had a German Shepherd dog and he had a little Poodle, little white Poodle."

Bezzina: "Do you know the name of that German Shepherd?"

Dale: "No."

Bezzina: "Okay. And the times you went there was the German Shepherd there?"

(Track 4 Min 09 Sec 00)

Dale: "Mm."

Bezzina: "And how did it react?"

Dale: "Initially it'd bark its bloody head off and, you know, confront ya, bail you up."

Bezzina: "Mm, mm."

Dale: "Um, but once they settled it down and that it was okay."

Bezzina: "It needed to be settled down by, ah, Terrence or Christine or?"

Dale: "Yeah either one I think."

Bezzina: "Aha. Do you think you could have gone there without it barking or every time you went there it barked?"

Dale: "Oh yeah."

Bezzina: "Okay."

Dale: "Annoyed the shit out of the neighbours and all 'cause he had possums in the trees or something and it was forever barking at them as well."

Bezzina: "Just to finish up. It wouldn't be the case that the security system was put in after the incident that you were suspended for?"

Dale: "Ah, how do I answer it? Look I'll just answer what I know and what I don't know."

Bezzina: "Yeah."

Dale: "I know he had a security system before my charges."

Bezzina: "Okay."

Dale: "What he's done since I have no idea."

Bezzina: "Alright. Alright Paul look as a result of what we've discussed, um, we're going to investigate the matter further and obviously speak to a lot more people and hence the list we'll get off you in due course. All I say is if anything comes to your mind certainly feel free to contact us. Ah, it's going to be an ongoing enquiry. Um, this doesn't mean that you're completely eliminated ..."

(Track 5 Min 00 Sec 08)

Dale: "I understand."

Bezzina: "... from the enquiry as you well know and your history indicates that."

Dale: "Well I think the media are going to convict me anyway mate so."

Bezzina: "Yeah, unfortunately it's out of our control ..."

Dale: "I know that. I know that."

Bezzina: "... as you well know Paul but, ah, we'll certainly. Look I'll suspend the interview. Do you agree that the time now with my watch is 8.14 a.m.?"

Dale: "I do yes."

Bezzina: "Okay, I'll suspend the interview."

End.