

Gardner: The following statement is being taken from Jens Soering on June the 5th, 1986. The Miranda was, Miranda Warning was read to Mr. Soering at 8:05 p.m. Statement is being taken at the Richmond England Police Station. Present during the statement is Sgt. Det. Ken Beever and also Det. Constable Terry Wright. Okay, uh, Jens before we started talking, uh, here uh, I did advise you of your Miranda Warning?

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: And you did sign the Warning.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Saying that you understead - understood everything that I said here?

Soering: Uh-huh, right.

Gardner: Okay, now if you would, you can just proceed as you see fit.

Soering: Um...okay, sort of have a hard time talking to a tape recorder.

Gardner: Well, you just talk to us and I will ask you to speak up if you would, please.

Soering: Right.

Gardner: And just speak to us in general and go ahead?

Soering: Okay, what would you like for me to discuss on the tape? Are you talking about the feelings of remorse that we were discussing earlier or would you like to discuss specific pointed questions as to what

happened or...

Gardner: What I would like for you to do is let's start with Friday, which was March the 29th.

Soering: Right.

Gardner: 1985, when you and Elizabeth rented a car.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: In Charlottesville?

Soering: Right.

Gardner: Go ahead.

Soering: Well, I mean, there's not much more I can add to that, it was rented in the afternoon. We drove to Washington, D.C. and checked into a motel and...as far as I can remember on Friday night we went out to a movie, perhaps or something...perhaps we did walk...I don't remember what we did that Friday evening...ah...and we spent the night at the motel and the next day, we spent in D. C. during the day and during the evening Elizabeth stayed in D.C...ah..going to cinemas. While I drove in the rented car back down to ah...Lynchburg.

Gardner: Okay. Now this was on a Saturday evening you said? What time?

Soering: Thats, thats what I remember, yeah I think it was Saturday.

Gardner: Do you remember exactly about approximately what time you left Charlottesville on Saturday?

Soering: Oh, I left Charlottesville on Friday.

Gardner: On Friday.

Soering: D.C., because we arrived in the evening, D.C., I left, I'm not certain but when I left, I do seem to, I think, I think I can remember when I came back, I believe that was sometime after the Rocky Horror picture show, that was one of the movies had ended so that would be um fairly late, perhaps one?

Gardner: One?

Soering: A.M. Sunday morning.

Gardner: Sunday morning? That's when you arrived back in D.C.?

Soering: Something like that.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: All right. It was...It was....

Gardner: So when, when did you leave D.C., to go to...?

Soering: Like I said, I, I couldn't be specific on that, I don't remember. I did well, to tell you the truth, I don't even remember whether it was still daylight, I don't remember that.

Gardner: Okay. All right, so you left Washington D.C. and where, where was your destination?

Soering: Ah, Lynchburg.

Gardner: Lynchburg?

Soering: Right.

Gardner: And to be...can you be more specific....Lynchburg?

Soering: Right, um, the residence of Derek and Nancy Haysom.

Gardner: Okay, now was anyone with you?

Soering: No. Absolutely not.

Gardner: Okay, so can you can you tell me approximately what time you arrived at Loose, Loose Chippings...and that is what it's referred...?

Soering: Right. Ah, it was dark, it was night, full night, um...

Gardner: Were they expecting you?

Soering: Were they expecting me? Ah, I'm trying to remember and I'm not completely certain whether there was...um ...I'm aware of the fact that you seem to have information that they were expecting me...um...which suggests to me that possibly that was arranged by myself, all right. However, I have absolutely no memory of mentioning my visit to them and I believe I treated it as a surprise when I came...um, and I certainly do not remember speaking to them about me coming. That was one of the reasons I was rather surprised when I heard from you and Officer Reid that, in fact, ah, Elizabeth's parents mentioned that they were expecting me.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: I was, I mean, as I said, I remember my surprise about hearing that, so you know, perhaps they were expecting me, perhaps that was a mistake somebody made, I don't know. My feeling is no...

Gardner: They weren't expecting you?

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: Okay, now let me let's, let's just stop right there for the present. Now you left Elizabeth in, in Washington...

Soering: Yes.

Garnder: Okay. Did Elizabeth know where you were going?

Soering: Oh, yes, she knew where I was going, right.

Gardner: Did she know the reason you was going there?

Soering: (Long pause) I would have to say that we had discussed it, obviously. Ah...but I don't think that either she or I were truly clear about what was going to happen..at all...ah.

Gardner: I want...

Soering: We were...sooner or later, I was going to have to speak, okay, to Mr. & Mrs. Haysom about their feelings about me anyway and ah..I don't know how Elizabeth felt about me driving down there...what her...what she thought my motives were...or what she thought you know.

Gardner: But she knew you were gonna leave D.C. and go to Loose Chippings.

Soering: Right.

Gardner: Okay, now on Friday when you rented the car, was this in the plans? That you were gonna, you and Elizabeth were gonna rent a car in Charlottesville, go to Wasington D.C., and then you were gonna return back to Loose Chippings?

Soering: I would say...well, we were planning on going to

Washington anyway, all right, we...because of the way U.V.A. is arranged, during the first year, ah, it is very nearly impossible to have...can I be frank on this tape? It's very hard to have sex with your girlfriend or your boyfriend because there's no opportunity, every room has a roommate who is equally interested in having his girlfriend or her boyfriend come in so it's always a conflict situation where ah you have to kick your roommate out and ah make him sleep on the sofa and that's not something that makes you very popular so ah, we both felt we needed a vacation anyway, ah I think it would be fair to suggest that umm our trip to or my trip, sorry, that was, I consider, I speaking of our, because um, we did discuss, we did discuss everything, ah, I mean by our personal lives, our emotions, and one of the problems in our relationship is that, the distinction between her and me was much too blurred, we were not really, we did not consider ourselves separate people which was a mistake, that's ah, we made in our emotional lives. Um and I, I don't know whether that's appropriate to say this on the tape or but I have commented on that particular emotional situation at length in the gray notebook which I started at Ashford Prison. Um...so that's where the "our" comes from, okay, ah, it was to be my trip and

it..it did, obviously come up.

Gardner: Okay. When you say it obviously came up, what are you referring to ?

Soering: It, the trip.

Gardner: Okay, okay, so..

Soering: Then again, it's, it's um...you know, it's...I certainly was not at all certain in my mind, okay, and...

Gardner: You weren't certain in your mind of what? And I need for you to.....?

Soering: Right. I was not at all certain that I wanted to confront Derek and Nancy Haysom...ah, with the fact that they approve, disapproved of um my relationship with their daughter.

Gardner: Okay, now you said earlier that you arrived at Loose Chippings after dark?

Soering: Right.

Gardner: On Saturday evening.

Soering: Right.

Gardner: Which I believe would have been the 30th?

Soering: I wouldn't have a earthly, but..

Gardner: Okay. So, so go ahead.

Soering: What happened on that evening? (Long pause) It's ah very hard to talk about. I'm.....

Gardner: When you pulled into the driveway, were the lights on?

Soering: Um, yes, I think so.

Gardner: Okay, and was there anyone visiting?

Soering: Um, no.

Gardner: Okay, so you got out of the rented car and went to the front door?

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Now, I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I'm just trying to help ...

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: You, here...

Soering: Yes, well that's, that's correct.

Gardner: And if I say something...you correct me, okay.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: And did you knock on the door?

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: And who came to the door?

Soering: Derek Haysom.

Garnder: Okay. At this point did he invite you in?

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: And what type of conversation or...between the two of you?

Soering: Well, um...we had a drink...

Garnder: And, and what type of drink did you have?

Soering: Alcoholic. It was Boodles gin, if I, remember correctly.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: Um. No actually it wasn't, I remember, -ah..for some reason it stuck in my mind that ah..the Boodles was

in the back of the closet...apparently very expensive ah...very what I was drinking I didn't like anywhere near as much as Boodles so I, I put a price tag on it, I don't know whether that's really, it's not relevant, but I think it was gin yes, that I was drinking.

Gardner: Where was ah Ms. Haysom?

Soering: Ah...she was upstairs.

Gardner: She was upstairs. Now did...when you knocked on the door?

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Ah, Mr. Haysom came to the front door?

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: And invited you in?

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Was Ms. Haysom down at that time?

Soering: I believe not.

Gardner: Okay, did she come down while you were having a drink?

Soering: Oh, yes.

Gardner: And did she join you?

Soering: Drinking...yes. I mean, she may have all ready been drinking, I expect so, as I understand, she drank heavily...

Gardner: And...?

Soering: So did Mr. Haysom.

Gardner: Were they drinking previous to your arriving that

night?

Soering: I couldn't say for sure, but I would assume so, all right.

Gardner: Why?

Soering: Why, because of what Elizabeth had told me about their habits and what sort...you know...I mean, I went, went to lunch with them once ah...I...and they drank there too...they seem to drink a lot.

Gardner: Had they eaten dinner when you arrived?

Soering: I think so.

Gardner: You think they had? Did they offer you any...anything to eat?

Soering: Uh-huh, yes.

Gardner: And did you eat?

Soering: Um.

Gardner: What did you have to eat?

Soering: God only knows.

Gardner: You don't have any idea?

Soering: Not at all.

Gardner: And where did you sit...

Soering: It was not sweet, it was ah, you know, it was left overs, you know, that sort of thing.

Gardner: Hamburger and rice? Salad? You don't remember?

Soering: I don't.

Gardner: Okay. Where did you sit while you were eating this meal?

Soering: Um, in the dining room, obviously.

Gardner: Okay. Did anyone sit at the table with you while you were eating?

Soering: Uh-huh. Right.

Gardner: Who, who sat there?

Soering: Mr. & Mrs. Haysom, both.

Gardner: Both of them?

Soering: Right.

Gardner: Now, where exactly were you sitting at the table?

Soering: Where was I sitting? Ah..., I think I was sitting with my back to the window that looks down on the hill behind the house.

Gardner: Okay. And where was Mr. Haysom sitting?

Soering: Near to my left.

Gardner: At the head of the table?

Soering: Yeah.

Gardner: And Mrs. Haysom?

Soering: I think she was sitting across?

Gardner: Okay. So what was, what type of conversation was taking place while you were eating?

Soering: Let me try to remember....ah, Mr. & Mrs. Haysom were fighting again. I remember that, they ah were ahh making biting sarcastic remarks to each other. I just happened to remember that um...

Gardner: What were they fighting about? Now when we say fighting, do you mean fist-to-cuffs, or do you mean verbally?

Soering: Verbally, but very bitterly, you know.

Gardner: About what?

Soering: Umm, it started off about her painting, I believe, um Mrs. Haysom's painting cause I think that's what she was doing upstairs, ah...

Gardner: How long did you eat dinner, how long did it take to eat dinner?

Soering: Perhaps ten minutes, I would say.

Gardner: Perhaps ten minutes?

Soering: Yeah, cause they were, they didn't eat.

Gardner: Okay, they had all ready eaten?

Soering: And so, yeah, (Inaudible) don't know.

Gardner: Do you remember being offered ice cream or any dessert when you were finished eating?

Soering: I believe perhaps Mr. Haysom was eating ice cream.

Gardner: You think he was eating ice cream...

Soering: Yeah.

Gardner: And so y'all were....

Soering: So yeah.

Gardner: So you and Mr. & Mrs. Haysom were having a drink?

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Who asked you if you cared for something to eat?

Soering: I'd assume Mrs. Haysom.

Gardner: You're assuming Mrs. Haysom?

Soering: Yeah. But you know.

Gardner: Okay, so evidently she went in and warmed you something up....

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: And invited you to the table?

Soering: Right.

Gardner: All right what happened after you got through eating?

Soering: Can we take a break?

Gardner: Do you want stop here?

Soering: Yeah, could we.

Gardner: For what reason?

Soering: Ah...I think I need a drink of water.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: I think I need to sit back and relax for just a second.

Gardner: Okay, I'm gonna turn the tape off...turn it off and just...then we'll turn it right back on when you get ready...

Soering: Right. Right.

Gardner: Ah, Jens, ah you were saying and we wanted to turn the tape back on that something about some verbal slips or something?

Soering: Yeah. ah, earlier before the tape was on I..I ah made at least...well I made two verbal slips which umm, gave the impression that Elizabeth had come with me to Loose Chipping's, she did in fact, not ah, and I'm worried that she's going to try to play the hero and in her statement suggest that she did come with me to...so that she would then be sharing whatever burden there is...whatever punishment, more

equally, and like I said, in fact, she did not come with me. Ah, she stayed in D.C., going to the movies to Witness and to the Rocky Horror picture show for which you have tickets of those dates and ah, I don't know whether that's enough to place her there from me, but, um like I said, I ah, I'm telling the truth now, she did not come with me, if she tells the truth, she will say the same thing...ah, I would like to ah...

Gardner: Do you remember what theater, that those that those movies were playing?

Soering: I remember the last one, it was well, I don't remember the names, okay, they should be on the piece of paper, all right, they should be scribbled on there somewhere.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: One of them, when you drive through Georgetown, all right and there's a, you drive on the main road, okay, parallel to the river, then you come to a traffic light with a bank directly across and then to the left there's a main road it's, it's one, it's one that's got the name of one of the States, it's either Michigan Avenue or something like that, way up that road there's a German Embassy all right, on the right hand side in Wahsington and ah on that road there's two theaters on that road and ah, one was closer to the center of Georgetown and the other

was further away, the second one was closer to the center of Georgetown.

Gardner: How did she get to the movie?

Soering: I would say with a taxi.

Gardner: Taxi?

Soering: I..you know, I, I, I'm not sure.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: You know.

Gardner: Are, are you ready to proceed with what we were talking about ...

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Or what's your feelings?

Soering: I'd like to chat a bit about Elizabeth's involvement.

Gardner: Okay.

Beever: Can I come in there?

Gardner: Sure.

Beever: Is it, ah, is it fair to say then that to discuss Elizabeth's involvement?

Soering: Uh-huh.

Beever: Ah, that ah, she knew that evening by visiting two cinemas and purchasing two tickets in each cinema that (a) she was preparing an alibi for you for something that you were going to do and (b) she must have been aware that you were visiting Loose Chippings and you intended to do something untowards there.

Soering: Umm. Well, I think the problem with that is ah, the use of the word, going to and ah, as I was saying earlier before the tape was on, um unfortunately um certainly in my mind I was not at all firm as to ah what was going to happen. Ah...

Beever: What agreement had taken place between you then..for her to go and buy those two tickets at each cinema?

Soering: Umm.

Beever: It would be fair to say...

Soering: Right, yeah.

Beever: Wouldn't it, that you'd used the word "alibi" to us earlier on before the tape was on?

Soering: Uh-huh. Yes.

Beever: What was she preparing an alibi for?

Soering: Ah...I think it will be fair to say that um as you have pointed out in the letters ah the issue of ah um murder had obviously come up...

Beever: Between you....

Soering: Between us, all right. Um, I think the way I was viewing the situation was that I wanted to see what um the parents attitude really was because after all I had really only met them once for a very short lunch and um I obviously went there with certain preconceptions expecting certain things, all right, certain attitudes of theirs but um God knows I was I was not, not at all set.....

Beever: Set to do what?

Soering: Set to ah....kill them.

Beever: At that time?

Soering: Yes.

Beever: Were you carrying a weapon with you?

Soering: Was I carrying a weapon with me?...ah, well
the...the question here ah of course is....

Beever: Let's put it this way then, can I just ask you a
question....

Soering: Right.

Beever: Another way. I've read some diary extracts
belonging to you.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Beever: And at one stage you make reference to a Swiss Army
knife.

Soering: Right.

Beever: Were you carrying that that day...

Soering: I was absolutely not carrying the Swiss Army knife.

Beever: That day?

Soering: Or at any other day, that Swiss Army knife has been
in my desk drawer for most of it's life, it's been
a pretty useless thing, until we decided to head out
ah of American and go to Europe and I took it along
then because it seemed like a useful tool in the way
of scissors, knife, and fingernail clippers and all
that sort of thing...corkscrew all being in one...

Beever: Yes, I understand...

Soering: Tools, so it was you know when we left for Europe we

in the days before we had gone to the library and read about or the time before we left more than just days um we read about various African countries and we were expecting more or less wilderness to to go you know to more or less wilderness.

Beever: I understand. We're going off the point...

Soering: Right.

Beever: You weren't carrying the Swiss Army knife?

Soering: Right.

Beever: I accept that. When you left Washington D.C. that evening, were you carrying a weapon with you when you went to Loose Chippings?

Soering: Umm. Yeah, I...there's a reason why I hesitate... to answer that question and it is because somewhere in the back of my head there sticks um ah the thing of something about if you carry a weapon that implies an intent to use it and ah of course we're talking about two different things here, intent and whether I was in fact carrying a weapon, ah and ...

Beever: Let's forget the question.

Soering: My, my, my, myI think, I think, I think it would be fair to say that my mind was not set to do anything in a firm way ah...I...

Gardner: The knife that you had, that you carried along with you, was it your knife?

Soering: Well, ah see, I'm, I'm I don't, I find it really hard to answer that particular question right now,

okay.

Wright: I think it would be in order and to to....

Soering: Umm.

Wright: Come back to that question later.

Beever: Okay, then...

Soering: Because um You know....

Wright: Continue, continue from that point where Jens is describing what happened inside Loose Chippings?

Soering: Yeah, inside Loose Chippings.

Beever: You've eaten your meal.

Soering: Well, ah I feel like I'm backing down at the two essential points, one is the weapon and the other one is the description of what actually followed ah...after the meal...um, and I'm not sure whether I can actually say it.

Beever: Do you remember any conversations....

Soering: I can tell you, I can tell you that um we talked about Elizabeth and me okay and um there was very serious a very serious row between her parents, okay. And ah which wasn't kinda screaming and shouting, it was....

Wright: Was that between them? Or between you and them?

Soering: It was ...one of those things where I was more or less a tennis ball being hit back and forth between the two players ah..you know, if you, if you can imagine what I am talking about, I was the subject and a participant, okay, in that um...

Gardner: What room were you in?

Soering: What room was I in? Dining, well okay, I, there was a lot of heavy argument between Mr. & Mrs. Haysom..in the living room before we went into the dining room but it continued in the dining room all right.

Beever: Were you the, were you the subject of the verbal altercation between Mr. & Mrs. Haysom, then? Or you and Elizabethwere the subjects of the argument?

Soering: Well, when I came there, I got the impression that there was....well when I first met them I had the impression that there was a lot of strain between them already, okay. When I came to the house, the same sort of strain seemed to be there um..and the altercation started.

Gardner: The altercation....

Soering: Ah, started about painting but it quickly carried over into ah...I'm trying to remember whether there were other subjects we discussed too. It ended up being about ah you know, Elizabeth and me and how inappropriate that relationship was. At that...I think it would be fair to say that ah...both of them agreed it was inappropriate but completely disagreed on how to handle the situation or what to do with it...um..I unfortunately don't remember details, okay, of what was said and who said what ah....

Beever: Did you resent what they were saying? About you and Elizabeth?

Soering: Did I resent what they were saying about me and Elizabeth. It's very hard to say that to remember and you know, what was going on at the time because it was very long ago, over a year now and ah...my feelings have changed so much about the whole affair, my relationship with Elizabeth, although I do still love her, ah, you know it's, it's very hard to, to remember what I was feeling because I didn't record my feelings and um one of the reasons why I'm here is that I don't learn from my mistakes, because I don't fucking well remember them. Can we change that, that's really not the way I want to phrase that...do you mind.

Gardner: Do you...how do you want to...just go ahead?

Soering: Well, it's it's just I mean I'd rather not use the word fucking well on the tape.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: If that's going to be used in in a front of a jury, because...

Gardner: You've apologized or whatever you want to do...

Soering: Well, yeah, I'm sorry I used a nasty word. um.

Gardner: Okay.

Beever: Did you....at any time during the evening did you, did you get to a stage then if not resentment, that you felt anger?

Soering: I think...I think that anger and resentment were to some degree there before I left, I mean that was a basic emotion towards them at that point okay, not just, not just there but you know even in the days and weeks before ...

Beever: Is this when you left D.C.?

Soering: Right. Yes, I mean, I didn't, I that's that's why, I mean I wanted, I didn't understand why there was resistance to me from them and ah, you know, I think, I think that's the basic under-current of emotion there um, ummm I, I think, I think you can maybe perhaps understand that umm events aren't completely clear. I think you can perhaps understand why.

Beever: Yes.

Soering: Um. Because, I mean, I've, I've been angrier...you know...

Beever: Have you got a violent temper?

Soering: Umm. Have I got a violent temper? I don't now, um, the reason for that is that I've changed a fuck of a lot...hell of a lot, sorry. Ashford has, Ashford has done some really bad things to my language ah...A violent temper is something that um and God knows I'm not placing blame on anybody, all right, but a violent temper is something that for example my my father had, he's not at all a physically violent man, all right, I mean I was never hit as a

child, they were good parents and I'm not placing the blame on them, it's just that if there is some if one can inherit a violent temper then I certainly um have the genes at least on my father's side for it, that's not something I'm blaming him for and you know, and I'm I'm not at any way shape or form ah, playing the poor little rich kid or ah blaming my parents and going into all the you know, those ridiculous Freudian things ah because it's something, ...yes?

Wright: Jens, what was the result of this disagreement? You've gone a little bit off the subject and we want to get back to this meeting.

Beever: What Mr. Wright's getting at, I'm asking you these questions for obvious reasons, you know what all three of us are getting at and that's why we're asking you.....

Soering: Right.

Beever: What happened.

Wright: Yeah.

Soering: (Long pause) Do you mind if I take another break. I know that it's being obnoxious, I know it...

Beever: We can, we can keep on taking breaks all night.

Gardner: We'll be here all night, you know,

Beever: Ahhhh....

Gardner: It, it's something that, you know that you're gonna have to...

Soering: Yeah.

Beever: It's a fact....that Mr. & Mrs. Haysom probably died from stab wounds that night?

Soering: Uh-huh.

Beever: Would you agree with that?

Soering: (Long pause) Yes.

Beever: Yes.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: When you arrived at ah Loose Chippings.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Ah, the weapon that we were talking about earlier...

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: Did you take that in with you, into the house?

Wright: Can I assist you, Jens? You said a few minutes ago that the, the the Swiss Army knife....

Soering: Uh-huh.

Wright: Definitely wasn't used....

Soering: Right, right.

Wright: Ah, as a weapon against Mr. & Mrs. Haysom.

Soering: Right.

Wright: So that infers that you you know that for a fact?

Soering: Right, I do know that's a fact...yeah.

Wright: That, that was the case. Do you know what weapon was used to attack Mr. & Mrs. Haysom?

Soering: (Long pause) Sorry, I need a break, I'm sorry, I need to.... take a break.

Gardner: Okay. We'll turn the tape off and let you have a

little break.

Gardner: Okay, we took a little short break there. Ah.. If we can go...just go a little bit further ah..you you had dinner in review, you had dinner with them.

Soering: Uh-huh. Right.

Gardner: Ah and you adjourned into the living room? Possibly, after eating or....

Soering: I don't remember that part ah like I said there's um besides the fact that it was a year ago ah Ievents I don't have a very good memory in the first place because events of that weekend in particular ah.....

Gardner: Aren't, Jens aren't you an Echol's scholar?

Soering: Yeah.

Gardner: And you don't have a very good memory?

Soering: That's right...that's why I didn't do very well at Math, because in any other subjects I could talk my way or write my way out of a corner, even if I didn't have the facts, I could ...ah say something intelligent about the one or two facts I did know. In math, you either have to a very good memory or you have to have that particular kind of mind, I do not have a mathematical mind, I didn't have a memory which is why I was ranked fifth in high school not first, perhaps...

Gardner: Okay. Ah enough of that question.

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: Was, was the argument between ah Derek and Nancy Haysom, was it initially I assume by what you're telling me that it was over her painting?

Soering: Yes.

Gardner: Was it a problem with she was spending too much time painting or....ah the time at the art gallery that she should have been home or just exactly what was it?

Soering: I think it was a case of Mr. Haysom making ah what is the word, deprecating remarks about her paintings in general, she had just come down from painting and then he he said something about that being ridiculous you know, the whole painting thing being ridiculous ah thing to do.

Gardner: Okay. Ah..had you taken anything before you arrived at ah Loose Chippings?

Soering: In the way of drugs or something?

Gardner: Drugs.

Soering: Ah...my involvement with drugs has been limited to very few...I would guess around about four joints in high school ah...I think I took one puff during my first semester in college, it was something really disgusting tasting ah..that somebody there had and that's the extent of my involvement with drugs and I don't take them.

Gardner: Okay. Had you drank anything before you got there?

Soering: Before I got there, no.

Gardner: How many drinks did you have approximately, I realize its been 14 months ago...

Soering: Right. Right.

Gardner: While you were there?

Soering: How many drinks did I have? We were drinking...they were, as I said, they were drinking when I came and I was immediately offered a drink and drank continuously while I was there ah, I don't remember, I don't I'd, I'd have to think about the number, but it, it did stick very strongly in my mind that they mixed very stiff drinks ah...

Gardner: Are you, are you much of a drinker?

Soering: No.

Gardner: Or were you at that time?

Soering: I was not then and I have never been, it's one of the things that socially in high school and at U.V.A. there was a lot of drinking and I mean in America it's ah at that age level, it's apparently considered a great joy and a lot of fun to ah get drunk and throw up every weekend um I did that well I guess it'd be three times while I was in high school was most of my friends did it every weekend and I only did it once at college. And I'm not a drinker, I don't, don't.....

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: I don't I can't hold it very well.

Gardner: Now, ah I asked you this before,

Soering: Uh-huh.

Garnder: Before we took our last break about the weapon.

Soering: Umm.

Gardner: And ah you had said or you have said in this statement ah previous that you had taken a weapon with you to Loose Chippings?

Soering: No, I I didn't, at least I didn't.

Wright: No, In fact, he didn't...actually say he had.

Gardner: Oh, okay.

Soering: Right.

Gardner: Oh all right, okay. I miss... I'm sorry I'm misunderstood you. When we were talking about the weapon a few minutes ago...

Soering: You you were asking about the Swiss Army knife, and I....

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: I was being very definite that it was not the Swiss Army knife...

Gardner: Right.

Soering: Because the Swiss Army knife was in my drawer and ah....

Gardner: Okay, well let's go back into ah...to when when y'all were in the house, you and the Haysom's... what happened? What, what started the ruckus or the argument between you and whomever?

Soering: Ah, like I said, it it was, Mr. Haysom asked me inside and called to his wife and and she came down

wiping her hands of paint, I believe, she was, she seemed to be doing something with her hands um for some reason I seem to remember her wiping her hands of paint, I don't know. Umm.....he

Beever: Was that with a tissue?

Soering: Was that with a tissue? Like I said, I'm not definite, I I just remember, for some reason I remember her coming down the stairs wiping her hands. I, she was, she had been painting, ah, I don't know whether she had been drinking upstairs..I'm fairly certain Mr. Haysom was drinking and as she came down that's when he made the first remark about her painting, then she shot one back at him...ah..I think at the early stages, as I understand it, it was something that they did quite commonly in public anyway, ah, at the early stages I, I didn't just didn't pay any attention to it because it was really more between them and on general subjects such as painting.

Gardner: How were you received?

Soering: I don't remember. It was ah..., it was, I'd say it was fairly friendly, I mean, I was you know, it wasn't like I was refused entrance or anything I was you know I was...I ah...

Gardner: I mean, was they glad to see you, did, did he ah when he asked you to come in, could you tell that he was general...ah...genuinely welcoming...welcoming

you into his home or did you get the opinion or impression that he ah he would just soon not for you to be there or whatever? I mean, I mean...ah..

Soering: No, I don't think as, as, as, as I don't you know as I said I don't know Mr. Haysom very well, I, I, I didn't expect a warm hardy welcome, ah he's an abrupt person ah...so he was really no more or less abrupt ah than I expected him to be, I mean I think maybe for a lot of people what the way he was received me would not be considered necessarily the best of behavior, but he's, he's he's, you know he's he's a character and you know he was a character. He presented himself at certainly at that in that evening ah...I wouldn't say gruffly, but um...

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: Ah, it was I wouldn't you know if certainly an outsider not, not that sort of quaint kind of warm welcome or something, it was ah..and I think ah..Mrs. Haysom was was fairly, fairly formal, I mean you know just normal hospitality.

Gardner: Ah, before this. And I'm gonna make sure I understand this, before this meeting...

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: And, and your visit to Loose Chippings,...

Soering: Uh-huh.

Gardner: This particular night. You had been to Loose Chippings once before?

Soering: Umm, at least once, yeah. Yeah, um, um on weekends that her parents were not there.

Gardner: That was I believe in February of 85 that you had in a previous statement that you gave me and Investigator Reid...

Soering: Um. Yeah, I mean, it's ah..it was again, the thing of you know there being absolutely no privacy at U.V.A. and um you know, that was a private place to go.

Gardner: Okay. Okay. Now, of course they weren't there that particular weekend....

Soering: Right.

Gardner: The weekend that you and Elizabeth was there together, but how many times had you met the Haysom's?

Soering: Um. I think I met Mrs. Haysom once at the very beginning of the first semester of college and then we had that lunch, short lunch and I don't remember when that was to tell you the truth. But I'm sure you do, so.

Gardner: Okay.

Soering: I, I'm trying to remember whether I saw them at any other times than that, ah...I can't remember right now, no.

Gardner: Okay. Okay. Now let's get back to the matter at hand, ah...did you and Mr. Haysom or Mrs. Haysom have words?

Soering: Um.....

Wright: Jens.

Soering: It's ummm, um I'm I'm not, I'm not trying to, what's it called, not....

Gardner: Stall?

Soering: Yes, that's it stall, I'm not trying stall, thank you. The word (inaudible), come into my head, I'm not trying to stall, it's um...I'm I'm genuinely trying to decide whether I mean voices, voices weren't raised between me and them, voices were raised between the two of them quite loudly at one point, um...and the atmosphere got quite tense, okay, now, you know, I was younger than they were so I you know I didn't um...I wasn't you know, I didn't really feel like I you know shouldn't shout and scream at them. Amazingly enough um, manners come into it somewhere, I don't know. So it's um....

Gardner: Okay. So at one point and I'm gonna be, I'm gonna ask you, at some point did you stab Derek Haysom....with a knife, did you cut him with a knife? (long pause) Yes or no?

Soering: I really, I really don't want to answer that.

Wright: Jens, I'll tell you what...

Soering: I know, I know that I, I just, it's just not....

Wright: Right. If you find it difficult at this stage...

Soering: Right. Uh-huh.

Wright: Ah to talk about that particular part of the

evening....

Soering: Right.

Wright: You've all ready talked about this what happened from from the Friday night really, right up to the time when you were in their dining room....

Soering: Uh-huh.

Wright: Yourself, Mr. Haysom and Mrs. Haysom...

Soering: Arguing, yes.

Wright: If you find it difficult at this point, then let's skip a little bit.

Soering: Uh-huh.

Wright: Okay, and let's talk about what the position was, what the condition of the house was, your condition when you left. Okay, now that's got to be a little bit easier for you because we're we're missing out a big chunk.

Soering: Yeah.

Wright: Now then. When you left, whereabouts were Derek and Nancy Haysom...when you left the house that night?

Soering: Um.

Wright: I'm asking you where they were? That's....

Soering: I know, I know, I'm I'm, I'm sitting here and I'm you know, I'm seeing certain things, all right....

Wright: All right.

Soering: And ah...

Wright: Well, let me ask you a different question. What

time did you leave... approximately?

Soering: Um, what, do you mean as, as in watch time?

Wright: Well, what time...

Soering: I, I, it was...

Wright: Of the day?

Soering: It was, it was, I left um soon after their argument.
All right.

Wright: Yes.

Soering: And, um...

Wright: Yes, what time was that approximately?

Soering: Well, I it's

Wright: I understand that it might be difficult...

Soering: Very, very hard to, very hard to say because I mean
I don't even,

Wright: Well, clearly.....

Soering: I don't even remember what time I arrived,
umm...how...

Wright: How long

Soering: I know it was after dinner, it was obviously still
darkness....

Wright: Yes.

Soering: Um....

Wright: How long do you think you were there?

Soering: Total. In the house um...possibly no more than
forty-five minutes okay.

Wright: Uh-huh.

Soering: No more than that.

Wright: Right, okay.

Beever: What were you wearing?

Soering: What was I wearing? Um...jeans and a silver coat, I believe...silver windbreaker.

Beever: A silver windbreaker.

Soering: Yeah.

Beever: Where are those clothes now?

Wright: Is this another difficult question?

Soering: Yes, very.

Wright: Right.

Gardner: Did you throw them away?

Soering: Did I throw them, yes, yes.

Gardner: You did throw the clothes away?

Soering: Right.

Gardner: Will you tell me where you threw the, threw the, threw the clothes away? Can you tell me that?

Wright: Jens, can you remember what they themselves were wearing, Nancy and Derek?

Soering: What they were wearing? (Long pause) That's, that's, that's a very hard question umm. Let me try to think. Um..I think, I think, Mrs. Haysom was wearing jeans, I think. Um...but I, I, like I said, um...I mean it's, I would say that part of it is very, very confused.

Wright: It's vague.

Soering: Yes.....

Beever: Did you....

Soering: Very confused.

Beever: Did you throw your clothes away that evening or during the following morning?

Soering: Ah..I think both, I mean this.....

Beever: Are you saying both...

Soering: Right.

Beever: Both items or both....

Soering: Both times. Different things.

Beever: In separate places. In what sort of place did you throw them away?

Soering: Ah, yeah, trash bins and stuff like that.

Gardner: Excuse me.

Soering: Trash bin and stuff like that.

Gardner: Trash bins?

Beever: Between Loose Chippings and D.C.?

Soering: Umm.

Beever: That would mean you arrived back in D.C. with no trousers on, wouldn't it?

Soering: Um, yeah there should be a well, I don't know if you have it, I mean a video tape In the, of the elevator in the Marriott that evening, which perhaps does show me without my trousers on, because in fact that's what happened.

Beever: When you got back to the Marriott Hotel?

Soering: Yeah.

Gardner: So, you drove all the way up from Lynchburg to Washington, from Loose Chippings to Washington with

no britches on...no trousers?

Soering: Umm.

Beever: Did you have an injury that night?

Soering: I...I'm sorry...I'm sorry.

Beever: You can't answer that question? When you...

Soering: I...

Beever: Sorry, let me finish...

Soering: Yeah.

Beever: When you threw your trousers and your windsheet away that night, did you have occasion to throw a knife away or a weapon away?

Soering: Umm. I, I'm really afraid of answering that question and....

Gardner: Would you like to stop for the night?

Soering: Ahhh....

Gardner: If you would like....

Soering: Umm.

Gardner: Stop for the night and we'll pick it up again in the morning?

Soering: Yeah, um, I, I, I've got some questions, um..um.

Beever: If you want to ask some questions, fire away...

Soering: Yeah, ahh....I'd like to speak with somebody in the morning.

Beever: Okay.

Soering: Ummm. Before I come back here.

Beever: Yes.

Soering: Um...I'd, I'd...

Gardner: Somebody being ahh whom to whom were you referring?

Soering: Well, for some reason my father pops into my head,
but um...I think I need to talk to somebody...I need
I, I, I.....

1 THE COURT: All right, we'll take a
2 one-hour lunch break at this time, adjourn
3 court.

4 (Whereupon a luncheon recess was
5 taken.)

6 THE COURT: All right, had you finish
7 with the last witness?

8 MR. UPDIKE: No, sir, Your Honor, and
9 not as far as this particular tape is
10 concerned either, we'd like to introduce t
11 tape and everything. However, Your Honor,
12 we have here at the courthouse now, five
13 witnesses, each of which we would anticipa
14 their testimony being very brief. It's no
15 the order that I would have expected to ca
16 them at this point, put them on, it concer
17 the car rental and the hotel bill, matters
18 which I wouldn't expect a lot of time
19 addressing, then go back to Investigator
20 Gardner.

21 THE COURT: All right, that will be
22 fine, bring back the jury.

23 (TAPE MARKED AS COMMONWEALTH'S EXHIB
24 49.)