

(Inspector) JOHN F.C.B.VANCE: being first duly sworn as a witness for the Prosecution testifies as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR ORR:

- 1209 Q First of all, Mr Vance, you are the City Analyst, a duly qualified analyst and chemist? A. Yes.
- 1210 Q You made certain examinations in this case? A. Yes, I did.
- 1211 Q Did you make an examination of this revolver, Exhibit "J" ? A. Yes, I did, sir.



1212 Q At the time you first got it, did it have some empty cartridges and some loaded cartridges in it? A. Yes.

1213 Q Are they contained in this package? A. Yes, cellophane package; my number 7841.J.V.

PACKAGE CONTAINING TWO LOADED SHELLS AND FOUR EMPTY  
MARKED EXHIBIT "M".

1214 Q They were in the cylinder? A. They were in the chamber of the revolver when I received it.

1215 Q Did you make an examination of the bullet, the bullet taken from the body and handed to you by Dr. Hunter, which is in a small glass bottle here and is in this case as Exhibit "G"? A. Yes, my number.....

1216 Q .....Take it out. It has been opened. Dr. Hunter opened it; at least, we opened it for him. It is probably hard to get out? A. Yes, my number 7842.J.V.

1217 Q Did you make a comparison of that bullet with the revolver? A. Yes, I did.

1218 Q Can you say anything as to the conclusions you came to as a result? A. Yes, your worship, the bullet was fired from a Webley gun of the same lands, grooves same scarifications and marks as the barrel of this gun contained; in other words, this bullet passed through this barrel.

1219 Q What is the calibre and weight of the bullet? A. The calibre is decimal 455 and the weight of the bullet is 259.18 grains.

1220 Q When you say the bullet passed through this barrel I take it you mean this barrel or one exactly similarly marked as this barrel is? A. Yes.

1221 Q That is the more correct way to put it? A. Yes.



1222.Q. THE COURT: Just on that point: I understand that some men swear, give evidence to this extent with regard to guns; they will swear that a certain shot was fired from a certain gun? A. Yes.

1223 Q Are you going that far or are you only expressing an opinion? A. No. I explained to Mr Orr, I have not finished the examination so far. I want to take photographs of the whole thing. So far as it goes, this bullet passed through a gun of the same markings and scarifications that this gun contained. The proof will be afterwards after the photographs have been made.

MR ORR: 1224.Q. Well; further proof? A. Further proof, I should say.

THE COURT: 1225.Q. When you get all that proof would you go so far as to say this is the same gun? A. That is possible, yes.

1226 Q Possible to say? A. Possible to say.

MR ORR: 1227.Q. Or a gun exactly similar? A. Or exactly similar.

THE COURT: 1228.Q. There may be two the same? A. In rifling the gun the rifling makes peculiar scarifications in the gun in itself, depending upon the hardness or roughness of the metals, which peculiar pitting or scarification is imprinted on the bullet. In that way, if there is anything peculiar it impresses it. By that way you identify it.

MR ORR: 1229.Q. I understand it is like finger printing; we have never yet found two exactly the same? A. No.

1230 Q It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that two might be the same?



THE COURT: 1231.Q. You would go that far? A. Yes.

MR ORR: It is just about as good as fingerprinting, but there have been certain mistakes made by experts in Canadian cases, that is why the thing has fallen down.

THE COURT: I know; I have read it.

MR ORR: There are some Canadian experts have made some mistakes.

MR ORR: 1231.Q. I think that is the proper way to put it the way I have put it? A. Yes. That is the correct way.

MR ORR: In this case it is not very important anyway.

1232 Q The next thing; did you examine any clothing in connection with this matter? A. Not so far, it has not been completed.

1233 Q You haven't examined any at all - a cap? A. No, I have it begun but it is not finished yet.

1234 Q Which package has got the hat in? A. The smaller one.

1235 Q I produce a package here with blood stained cap in. Is this it? A. Yes.

1236 Q That shews, without any very detailed examination; it shews a hole in the top of it? A. It shews a hole in the very top.

1237 Q And burns? A. It shews burning here and stains similar to powder stains, but it has not been completely finished; and blood on the cap.

1238 Q That is just a cursory examination you gave it, a cursory examination? A. Yes.

MR MELLISH: There will be further examinations?

MR ORR: There may be.

MR MELLISH: Before this Court?

MR ORR: That is a matter for the Crown Prosecutor to decide.



MR ORR: I will put this cap in as exhibit "N", just the cap.

CAP MARKED EXHIBIT "N".

MR. ORR: 1239.Q. Did you examine the bullet that Detective Gill had that Doctor Panton took out of the body? A. That is not finished yet.

1240 Q You haven't examined it. I see, alright. Did you examine the two portions, small portions of a bullet? A. No, not yet.

1241 Q Now, from the other examination of this weapon was there anything to indicate to you how recently it had been fired, or was it too late to tell? A. It was too late to tell.

1242 Q Could you tell whether it had been fired - that is, had it been cleaned since it was fired? A. No, the barrel was dirty.

THE COURT: 1243.Q. No fingerprints? A. No fingerprints, no.

MR ORR: That is all I will ask this witness. There may be some further examination carried on later.

CROSS/EXAMINATION BY MR MELLISH:

1244 Q You got four empty shells? A. Four empty cases, four live shells.

1245 Q Did you take them out yourself? A. I took them out myself.

1246 Q Did you examine the interior of these shells? A. Yes.

1247 Q Was it possible for you to determine whether they had all been fired at the same time? A. It was not.

1248 Q After a shell has been fired there would be a certain residue, smoke, soot and so forth inside the shell?

A Yes.



1249 Q As time passed wouldn't that change under atmospheric conditions, age and so forth? A. You mean the powder?

1250 Q Powder markings? A. That would depend entirely upon the weather conditions and how it was kept.

1251 Q Did you direct your attention as to whether the appearance of the interior of the shells would indicate they were fired at the same period back?

A That is not possible to tell, unless it is a long long time away.

1252 Q Your answer would be then the time between your examination and the firing of the shells, there would not be sufficient change to make that determination?

A I couldn't find the change at all, no.

1253 Q Did you expecially direct your attention to that, if there was any difference at all? A. It is one of the routines for us to examine the inside of cartridge cases as well as the outside.

1254 Q Did you attend to that? A. Yes.

1255 Q You did examine it? A. I did examine it, yes.

1256 Q Did you examine the revolver for fingerprints? A. Yes.

1257 Q Did you find any fingerprints upon it at all?

A None at all.

1258 Q Any prints of the hand or any portion of the hand?

A There was apparently nothing at all.

1259 Q How would the surface of a Webley revolver retain a fingerprint; would it be a good surface for retaining fingerprints or hand prints? A. They are usually more or less difficult of - revolvers are difficult to get fingerprints on.



- 1260 Q I see; that the butt of the revolver is rough?  
A Corrugated.
- 1261 Q Would that hold fingerprints? A. No.
- 1262 Q Would the exposed metal part of it hold fingerprints better? A. It would, yes.
- 1263 Q If one pressed their finger or fingers against the trigger, there would be considerable pressure exerted, wouldn't that make fingerprints on the trigger?  
A There was nothing there.
- 1264 Q You would ordinarily expect fingerprints to be there?  
A You don't usually get them on a revolver at all because there is so much rubbing. Of course if a revolver is used after using the trigger of a gun it is usually smeared, rubbed; there is no direct impression at all.
- 1265 Q So that if you press your finger against the trigger you would use considerable force, that would result in the fingerprint not being so clear? A. If it is rubbed at all. You must remember in using the trigger, the trigger moves. Of course, that would destroy the impression.
- 1266 Q Do you smear it? A. Yes.
- 1267 Q Now, this is a revolver that you fire by just pulling the trigger; it cocks itself? A. It is double action, yes.
- 1268 Q Now, in determining whether or not this bullet that was found in the body passed through the barrel, did you fire some similar bullets through the barrel?  
A Yes, I did.



- 1269 Q Were there some differentiating marks of the grooves in this particular revolver from others of the same make? A. In firing cartridges or bullets through this revolver - the impression left on this fired bullet as exactly the same as this left on the bullet taken from the body by Dr. Hunter handed to me for examination.
- 1270 Q Did you fire some bullets through another Webley?  
A No, just this one.
- 1271 Q Have you data that you work from shewing any difference between bullets going through different Webley pistols?  
A The Webley gun - the Webley revolver is - it has seven lands and seven grooves and the lands are narrow and the grooves are wide. In the making of these grooves and lands they push a rifling tool through and the rifling tool leaves marks on the inside of the barrel which creates an impression on the bullet passing through it. Those marks are usually different. It is shewn that no rifling tool passing through leaves the same impression on bullets from various guns. Wearing down makes a difference.
- 1272 Q Have you experimented yourself? A. In pushing rifling tools through?
- 1273 Q Yes? A. No, that is done by the manufacturing plant.
- 1274 Q This is from the text books on that subject? A. It is what we got from information, yes.
- 1275 Q Now, the bullet that was fired through the head then - this bullet that you examined was one that was fired through the head or down the neck - or was it from the stomach? A. I don't know where it came



from. I was standing just close to Dr. Hunter when the bullet was found. I don't know where it came from.

1276 Q You have no information what part of the body this came from? A. No, it was handed to me by Dr. Hunter, that is all I know.

1277 Q Did he hand you more than one bullet? A. Just one.

1278 Q Were there any other bullets or fragments of bullets that had been apparently fired on this occasion that you examined? A. There are many fragments but I have not examined them so far.

MR ORR: The bullet that is in that little dish there, Exhibit "G" in this case is the bullet that Dr. Hunter took from the body - I have forgotten where he took it from; he took it from the body.

MR MELLISH: It says: 'Bullet found by Dr. Hunter in Quan Quon case.'

MR ORR: I don't know where he took it from, but that is the bullet.

MR MELLISH: 1279. Q. So, so far as your examinations are concerned you would not be prepared to give evidence as to whether there was more than one gun used on this occasion? A. No so far.

1280 Q Now, there was some evidence give of some kind of material that was found in one of the wounds, given at the Coroner's Inquest; my recollection is that you said you have not examined that? A. It is not finished.

1281 Q Have you examined it since? A. Not so far.

1282 Q Your examination is not complete? A. It is not.

124.

complete.

MR MELLISH: Thank you.

Witness aside.

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