

RE: JEREMIAH HURLEY 12:10 p.m., Oct. 30, 1991
HOMICIDE - 10/28/91 Homicide Unit, South Boston

(PLEASE NOTE: ...dots indicate transcriber could not get what was said).

Conducting this interview is Sgt. Det. William Mahoney, Boston Police Homicide Unit. Present is Sgt. Det. Timothy Murray, Boston Police Homicide Unit.

STATEMENT OF DENISE KRAFT

- Q. Okay. The time is 12:10 p.m. It's October 30th, 1991. The speaker is Sergeant Mahoney, of the Boston Police Homicide Unit. Also present in the room is Sergeant Tim Murray, of the Homicide unit, and Police Officer Denise Kraft, of Area E-5, on the second floor of the old District 6, Homicide Unit, at 2-73 D Street, South Boston. We're going to be interviewing Denise relative to the Roslindale explosion which killed one police officer and injured another. Okay, Denise, could you just state your name and spell your last name for the tape.
- A. Denise Kraft, K-R-A-F-T.
- Q. And, Denise, how old are you?
- A. 26.
- Q. And your date of birth is?
- A. 1/9/65.
- Q. And your address?
- A. 42 Bradstreet Ave., in Roslindale.
- Q. And a telephone number there?
- A. 325-6795.
- Q. All right. Denise, what is your ID on the Boston Police?

A. 9-9-4-8.

Q. 9-9-4-8. So you've been a police officer for approximately two years?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. And you're currently assigned to Area E-5?

A. Right.

Q. Okay. And you work the day shift?

A. Em hem.

Q. Now on Monday, October 28th, two days ago, you were working the day shift. Can you me tell what unit you were assigned to?

A. 4-33, which is a Service Unit.

Q. A Service Unit. So you're a single by yourself?

A. Right.

Q. Okay. And at some point in time you received a call?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. Could you tell me first the nature of the call?

A. It was to respond to 39 Eastbourne Street for a bomb.

Q. 39 Eastbourne Street and you got that from a dispatcher?

A. Right.

Q. And in your own opinion what time did you get that call?

A. It must have been like 11:55, close to noontime.

Q. Okay. And how long from the time you got the call

A. Eh, probably six or eight minutes afterwards, cause I was up in West Roxbury and I took my time cause I knew the dispatcher then called the Bomb Squad and I knew they would be on their way.

Q. Okay. So prior to you arriving at 39 Eastbourne you heard the dispatcher also have the Bomb Squad respond?

A. Right. And she called the Bomb Squad and she told them that there's a bomb in the driveway.

Q. So when you first responded, when you first arrived were you there by yourself?

A. Em hem.

Q. Initially you were the first uniform police officer on the scene?

A. Right.

Q. Okay. And tell us in your words if you will what you saw, what happened, and what you next did?

A. Okay. I pulled up and Mr. Shay was standing in front of his house, I waved to a neighbor across the street and I waved to him, and I got out of the car and he said, eh, you know, I said hello. "I'm Officer Kraft." He said, "Hi." I said, "What's going on?", and he said, "I think there's a bomb in my driveway." I said, "Where, over here?" He said, "Yes." So we started walking over to it and I said, "Is it ticking?" Cause I don't know anything about bombs, but I just didn't want to go over there. It was, you know. He said, "No.

I picked it up and moved it because I think it was attached to under my car, and when I drove forward I heard a noise like I ran something over and I saw the black box and I tossed it to the side of the house, next to the house." And then he showed me an indent in the driveway where it had fallen in the dirt or something and made a little mark. And, eh, I said, "Where is it now?" He said, "I put it back here in the back of driveway behind this truck so no kids would come along and pick it up and play with it." Then we walked back there and there was something like a plastic black thing or something laying next to it. It had a prong shape and then I saw the black box and he said, "these magnets.", and he started explaining how the magnets, he thinks the magnets, were attached under his car and how I could see all the magnets on the top. And I said, eh, and he was going into, you know, all the story of how it was hooked under his car. I said, "Okay. Why don't we go back up front and wait for the Bomb Squad." Cause I thought maybe this could be something real. And so we walked back up there. I said, "I'm going to go in my car and get something to write on and I'll take some information while we're waiting." So he went in his house and then when I got back he said, "I'm in here." So I went

"Have a seat.", "Do you remember me?" and I said, "No.", and he said, "I came in the station and made out a report and you took the report." I said, "Oh, yeah." And then I remembered him, you know, and he said about someone following me. I said, "Yes, I remember. Didn't it come back to some man in Brookline?" Cause I remember when he came in the station I was on the front desk that day and I didn't want to make out the report cause usually it's, you know, insurance guys or something following him. But Mr. Shay was really, you know, adamant, "This is a threat to my family and I really, you know, I want a report made." Cause he seemed like he was really scared about it, so I went ahead and wrote the report and I

He said that this was a threat to his family, I think I put it in the report. And, eh, he said something about his daughter, taking his daughter to school and he was worried about her safety and stuff. So I took the report and I said, "Oh, yeah, it came back to a man in Brookline." Cause originally when he came into the station I just ran the plate and I said, "Do you know this person?", and he said, "No, I don't." So I think he even wrote the name of the person and so back at the house he goes, "Yeah, but I didn't know that man from Brookline. I didn't hear anything after that so I figured it was just insurance people. But now, you know, I found

this in my driveway and I was talking to some of my friends later and they said maybe it could be something like a bomb." So then I heard Sergeant Craven call me and I went outside and the Bomb Unit pulled up and Sergeant Craven asked me where it was and I pointed, "It's back there.", and then I showed, eh, I showed them where it was. Then the units from the Bomb Squad they went back to investigate and me and Sergeant Craven stayed in front of the truck and were asking him more questions about it if anybody else was bothering them or, you know, of what he thought it might be. But he was just telling us that maybe, he thought maybe, it could be something with his Chapman lock or something like that that somebody else would put up in his car and he was just..... I remember Sergeant Craven saying, "Maybe you just." We thought it was just a piece of machinery or something. He said, "Maybe you just went over a bump and then it, you know, latched on cause it had all those magnets on it.", and he just kind of made a face like he didn't seem to think that that's what happened, and then that's when we heard the explosion. And then right when it exploded I remember Mr. Shay he screamed something, "Oh, Jesus." He screamed

.....

Q. And then what next did you do?

A. We were right in front of the truck and I turned

and I saw Frankie he motioned like for me to get back and I just stood there because I didn't know, you know, if it was going to explode again or, you know, I was just like in shock of what had happened and I just put my radio up and said, "4-43." And then Sergeant Craven cut in said, "9-11, get me an ambulance in a hurry." And we both ran back to where they were and, eh, then we just saw them. I just started saying prayers and I turned around and I saw all the people and all the smoke and stuff and I said, "Somebody do. Get some help. Call someone. You know, call 9-11. Get the Fire Department. Get some towels." And, eh, I ran back and, eh, you know, Frank told me, "Tell my children that I love them. Tell my wife I love her." And, eh, he said, "I feel so weak." And at this time somebody handed a whole pile of towels and I put a towel up to his face, his eye's fallen, his eye is gone, his face is a mess. And that's when I was looking at the other parts of his body cause I couldn't see where all the blood was coming from because of his uniform. And then I looked over and Sergeant Craven was holding him, holding his hand and trying to stop the bleeding. And I gave Sergeant Craven the towel and then I looked down and his leg was gone. So I didn't know what to do, I just covered it up. And then we just sat there and we said some

prayers and he talk to the guys and trying to help them out a little bit and that was it.

Q. Okay. Okay. Just when you said that Mr. Shay said to you "Don't you remember me" and you eventually did remember him from taking a report about somebody following him, you then made out a report?

A. Em hem.

Q. And when was that report made out?

A. Well, we talked about that. Because I said, "That was just a couple of months ago. Was in that July?", and he said, "Yes, it was in July.", and he said, "No, I was taking my daughter to school, so it must have been in June." But it ended up when I looked at the report it was a May day, so -

Q. So you have found the report?

A. Yeah, they found it.

Q. Okay. Okay.

A. Yeah.

Q. Now you said that some how or another it traced back to a guy in Brookline or some such?

A. Yeah, he gave me the plate number.

Q. Oh, he had given you the plate number of this person -

A. Yeah.

Q. who he believe was following him. And that's all incorporated in the report?

A. Right, he gave me the plate number and I got the

Q. Okay. We will be able to get a copy of the report, so I don't see too much point in going over it at this point in time. Now you said when you first pulled up -

A. Em hem.

Q. and he was standing outside there was a neighbor across the street?

A. Em hem.

Q. Was it a male or a female?

A. It was a male.

Q. Okay. Could you describe him?

A. Eh, I don't really recall. I remember he had brown hair.

Q. Okay.

A. He must have been age. I think around my age maybe. Cause he waved at me and smiled. When I waved at him I thought, this can't be the caller because he's smiling and waving.

Q. Okay. Did he have the appearance to be out there just passing by or had he?

A. No, he was doing something. He was doing something. No, he looked like he belonged there like he was doing something. He was either working in the yard or something.

Q. Okay.

A. Yeah.

... the man in front of his house?

Q. He wasn't, to the best of your ability to guess do you know if he was aware that Mr. Shay had called the police relative to a bomb in the back yard?

A. No, I don't know.

Q. Could make a guess? I'm not

A. No, I don't know. Maybe he was, I don't know if he was just being friendly like that and that's a dead end street. So I don't know why he'd be driving down there.

Q. Okay. Now something I wrote something. Now when you went into the house with him and you were talking relative to the prior incident and then this incident and when Sergeant Craven came up he called you outside?

A. Yeah.

Q. And then you came outside?

A. Yeah, I heard him.....

Q. And did Mr. Shay come outside with you also?

A. Em hem.

Q. And did he then have conversation with Sergeant Craven similar to the conversation you had with him?

A. Well, eh, not right away. Because they were more concerned. Then the two bomb guys came up and they were more concerned about where was it, you know. So then we all started walking back to where it was, and then I remember we stayed back and they went ahead, and I remember I was trying

to tell Sergeant Craven, "I took a report from this guy before that he was following me." Because everybody to think that. I wanted them to know that, you know, maybe this was somebody who had somebody following him.

Q. On the black, you described some sort of a black conical object was there beside the box -

A. Em hem.

Q. and the box had the magnets on top of the box, correct?

A. Em hem.

Q. How many magnets if you can guess?

A. A lot.I don't know. I'd say thirty or something.

Q. Thirty magnets?

A. Yeah, it seemed like there was little round things all over the top of it.

Q. And how big would you say they were?

A. Like this big.

Q. Okay. How big was the box?

A. It was almost about the size of a shoe box and it was about, it was not that big.

Q. Not as thick as this box that I have in front of me?

A. Well, yeah. Yeah, about three inches. Yeah.

Q. Okay. So I'm a showing you a box that's approximately twelve by twelve and by about -

A. No, it was skinnier than that.

Q. Yeah. But the box I'm showing you is approximately

deep and the box you saw was maybe a third the width and length of this -

A.

Q. or was it as long and only -

A. It was about like this.

Q. About half the size of this box?

A. Yeah.

Q. And it was about three inches deep, so what I'm going to suggest to you -

A. Em hem.

Q. is I'm going to suggest and I could be a little bit off. In fact if I got a tape measure I will measure, I've got a tape measure here. This box that I'm showing you is thirteen and a half inches. You're going to say it was approximately six to seven inches?

A. Yeah, maybe a little bit.....

Q. Okay. And about the same length?

A. Yeah, maybe a little shorter than that....

Q. Okay. So, roughly, maybe twelve long by six wide -

A. Yeah.

Q. and about three deep?

A. Yeah.

Q. Okay. I just want to show you some small little magnets. Did they look like that or would they have been bigger than that?

A. Well, they -

A. they were fatter than that, a little smaller and, you know, they were taller.

Q. Okay. And you say there was about thirty of them all over the box?

A. Yeah, see like they were all over.

Q. Okay.

A. You know, like something had been placed there, cause he showed me two of them -

Q. Okay.

A. and it looked like it had fell off there. You know.

Q. Okay. Okay. At this point I don't have any questions. Timmy, I imagine you have several.

SGT. MURRAY

Q. Sergeant Murray speaking. Denise, when you arrived what side of the street was the neighbor that waved at you, same side as Shay's house or the other side?

A. Left.

Q. To the best of your memory, was he on the street, on the sidewalk, or in a yard?

A. He was in his yard.

Q. In a yard, okay.

A. Uh uh.

Q. Did you see him at anytime later in the day? I know it's very confusing. But did you see him anytime afterwards?

A. No, cause I don't remember those people that I yelled at or anything I don't remember him.

Q. Okay. So he wasn't one of the people that ...

get blankets, or towels, or whatever?

A. I don't remember.

Q. Okay. You said you went into Mr. Shay's house?

A. Em hem.

Q. Whose idea was that?

A. His. Cause I said, "We'll wait. We'll wait out front. I've just got to get my notebook."

Q. Yeah.

A. So I went in the car and got my piece of paper, then I got out and I said, "Where did he go?" He said, "I'm in here." Cause he has like a porch around -

Q. Yeah.

A. So he opened the door for me so I went in.

Q. Okay. Getting back to when you arrived at the scene did you, if you remember, give an Adam/Robert on the radio?

A. Yeah, I did.

Q. Okay.

A. Cause I turned on to Eastbourne street and then for some reason when I saw the neighbor wave I said, "What address was it again?" Cause he looked a friendly wave and then I said, "433. Adam/Robert. What was the number again?" Just to make sure, cause I didn't want to park right at the driveway or something. You know, I didn't

.....

Q. Em hem.

Q. Where were you when you broadcast?

A. Where was.

Q. If you remember.

A. What, when I said that?

Q. Yeah. Where were you when you said "What's the number again"?

A. Eh,

Q. In reference to Mr. Shay's house.

A. Probably just a couple of houses up. I don't remember.

Q. Only a couple of houses away?

A. Yeah.

Q. Before you get to his house on a dead end street or past his house?

A. Before I got to his house.

Q. Before you got to his house?

A. Yeah.

Q. Okay. When you parked your vehicle did you park with the engine of the car facing towards Mr. Shay's or did you go to the end of the street and come back?

A. Right past his house I parked my cruiser.

Q. On the same side or the opposite side?

A. The same side of his house, but I parked it past his driveway cause I didn't want to -

Q. Okay. Aside from asking for the address did you make other broadcasts after the dispatcher told you 39, did you respond to that?

A. After, eh,

again" and the dispatcher said "that's 39" did you respond to the dispatcher, if you remember?

A. If I can remember, eh, Yeah. Then I said, "Okay. Adam/Robert." Cause I figured I was right there, you know.

Q. Okay. And then where you said you were you stopped the car there or did you continue to drive and then park?

A. I don't really remember.

Q. Okay. You got out of your car and you spoke to Mr. Shay, you walked into the back, he showed you the object?

A. Em hem.

Q. Did you touch the object?

A. No.

Q. How close did you get to it?

A. Eh, can I stand up.

Q. Sure.

A. I don't know..... I was probably.

SGT. MAHONEY

Q. Pretend that's the object, okay.

A. Okay. This, eh, like at the end of this desk is the end of the truck. I stopped right at the end of the truck and it was right there

SGT. MAHONEY

Q. Could have been five feet, five or six feet?

A. Because I didn't. He was in front of me, yeah, and he said, "That's it right there.", and I said,

there. It looked like some kind of plastic Halloween thing or something. Was that there? And like a cone thing or I don't know what it was and then the thing was laying right next to it.

Q. Okay.

A. And then right when I saw it he turned to me and he tried to show me them, you know, he's right in front of me. He goes, "And see these magnets. See those magnets." You know, I said, "Let's. Come on, let's get out." Cause I didn't know. I knew he picked it up and threw it around, but I didn't want to be there

.....

Q. Did he touch the object while you were there?

A. (heard no answer).

Q. No, okay. Then you walked to the front, you said you had to get a notebook out of your car?

A. Em hem.

Q. You went to your car?

A. Em hem.

Q. Did you say anything like did you ask for an ETA for the Bomb Squad or did you say anything on the radio?

A. Uh uh.

Q. Okay. Did you have a portable with you?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. Then you came out of the car and you looked for Mr. Shay and he said "I'm in here", -

A. Yes.

Q. and you went in the house?

A. Right.

Q. Do you remember anyone else in the house?

A. No, it was real quiet.

Q. It was quiet in the house?

A. Yeah.

Q. No TV on or radio on?

A. (heard no answer).

Q. Okay. You didn't hear anybody else in the house?

A. Uh uh.

Q. Okay. And then the Bomb Squad arrived?

A. Em hem.

Q. How did you?

A. Ur Sergeant Craven. I heard Sergeant Craven outside and he said, "Denise." And then I said, "Oh, they're here.", and I got up and went out the door, and Sergeant Craven, "Where is it? Where is it?" You know. And I said, "It's right up here." And then I don't remember if I led him. You know, I think they just walked ahead and Mr. Shay.

Q. Did Shay go with them?

A. Yes.

Q. And where did you stay?

A. I was behind everybody.

Q. Okay. And how approximately how far. Were you in the driveway?

A. Em hem.

the two bomb guys with them at that point?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. So the four of them went up towards the object?

A. Em hem.

Q. And you stayed back a little bit in the driveway?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay.

A. Well, we all went up there. It was just. Cause that truck was right there, so it was like we all went up there, and then Sergeant Craven went over to the other side of the truck, -

Q. Em hem.

A. and the two bomb guys went up to look at the thing, and me and Mr. Shay stayed back at that side of the truck. And then I was talking, like trying to tell Sergeant Craven this guy, you know, cause I wanted him to tell the bomb guys.

Q. Right.

A. So I remember I ran around to the other side to see if I could tell Sergeant Craven.

Q. Yeah.

A. But there was all bushes there and stuff so I couldn't get to him, so I ran back around to the other side to where Mr. Shay was.

Q. And you went around to back where Mr. Shay was?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. Where were you when it exploded?

A. When it exploded, in front of the truck.

Q. In front of the truck. Who was with you?

A. Me, and Sergeant Craven, and Mr. Shay.

Q. Okay. So you're in front of the truck, you, Sergeant Craven, and Mr. Shay. By in front of the truck you mean the driver's compartment?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. So you're between the street and the object and the truck is between you and the object. Is that right?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. And there's you, Sergeant Craven, and Mr. Shay and you're speaking to the two of them or is there anyone talking?

A. Yeah. Sergeant Craven was. One of the bomb guys was taking down information too, he came back over.

Q. Em hem.

A. Both of the bomb men came back over, one went to the truck and the other one asked him questions about the lawsuits and stuff. Sergeant Craven was asking him if he was having troubles with anyone, you know, he started talking about the lawsuits, and I was kind of not paying attention. But it was something about dynamite and stuff. So I thought, you know I remember thinking,

or he had went through a bomb or something.

A. And then, eh, he wrote some stuff down and put it in his inside pocket, and then he went back up to help his partner.

Q. Did you hear Shay mention the word dynamite or was Craven.....Shay say.

A. I didn't really pay attention to his story. But I remember he said, "That explosion was so loud it would make anybody's bell ring." Or something like that, cause he lost his hearing or something.

Q. Okay.

A. He was like, "Right.", and then Frankie was like, "Yeah." You know.

Q. And then Frankie walked away from you?

A. Yeah, then he walked back to his partner....., either went to the cruiser or their cruiser, and then they both walked back to the bomb thing.

Q. Okay. And then they walked back to where the bomb was?

A. Em hem.

Q. Okay. Was there any radio communication there. Were they calling for any additional systems or anyone calling for any additional systems?

A. (heard no answer).

Q. Okay. Did Sergeant Craven call on his radio?

A. No.

Q. Did you call on your radio?

A. No.

Q. And you're there with Craven and Mr. Shay?

A. Em hem.

Q. And then the bomb went off?

A. Em hem.

Q. Right before the bomb went off did you hear any scraping? Did you hear what the two bomb guys who were working with the bomb -

A. Em.

Q. could you hear what they were doing?

A. (heard no answer).

Q. Did you hear any scraping?

A. No.

Q. Metal on metal?

A. Uh uh.

Q. Could you hear what the bomb guys were saying?

A. Uh uh.

Q. Okay. And as best you can remember when the bomb went off what did Shay say?

A. He yelled something like, "Oh, Jesus.", or "Oh, oh no", or something. I remember it was real high pitched like, "Oh, God", or something like that.

Q. What was his reaction?

A. I didn't look at him. I just immediately turned around and I think I closed my eyes or something and went like this cause there was smoke and I could feel things flying, you know.

Q. Yeah.

A. And I turned around and I opened my eyes and I

or something. So I didn't know what we were suppose to do, you know, and I looked at Sergeant Craven and that's when I said, "4-33."

Q. Okay. When was the next time you remember seeing Shay?

A. Right before the explosion. Oh, the next time I remember seeing him afterwards?

Q. Yeah. you're attention is focused on the -

A. Yeah.

Q. site now. When is the next time you saw Shay and what was he doing?

A. Never. I didn't see him after that.

Q. Okay.

A. He didn't come back there with us or.....
He wasn't there.

Q. He didn't go back there? Did you speak to Shay at all afterwards?

A. Uh uh.

Q. Never saw him again?

A. Uh uh.

Q. When you saw Shay in the driveway when you were talking to Shay in the driveway did he have anything in his hands, or anything like a beeper, or a clicker, or a garage door opener?

A. Uh uh.

Q. Anything in his hands whatsoever?

A. No.

Q. Was he carrying anything?

A. No.

Q. Did he have anything on his belt?

A. I don't remember.

Q. And when the bomb went off you heard Shay, as you remember what did he say?

A. Something like, "Oh, Gee." Something like, "Oh, God, no." Just something, you know, like a scream or something.

SGT. MAHONEY

Q. It was a spontaneous type of a thing, a frightful scream, or whatever?

A. Yeah.

Q. That was instantaneous.....

A. Right.

Q. Just to follow Sergeant Murray, did you notice whether Shay had his hands in his pockets?

A. No, I don't remember.

Q. Okay. Did you notice on the device itself, I know just.....looked at it. But were there any wires?

A. I think I remember a wire. Because he said, when we first saw it he said, "If you could see on the other side there's a wire." And I think I saw the, for some reason I said, "Em hem." But then I don't, I can't, really recall it.....

Q. The wire, let me just and I'm going to be suggestive to you, but just to try to refresh your memory.

Could it have been an antenna type of a wire, like

A. I don't know. But for some reason it's really foggy, but for some reason I think it fell off. Cause I remember one of the, I think I remember one of the, bomb guys saying something like, "Well, that's that", like when they went to look at it or something it fell off or something. And I thought, for some reason I don't know why, cause I don't really remember it. But I remember thinking that the wire fell off, so, oh, well, you know, it's not about the bomb, the wire fell off or something about the wire fell off or something, for some reason.

Q. It wouldn't have been a -

A. It wasn't a long wire or anything sticking out.

Q. It wouldn't have been one of the magnets that you described was falling off?

A. No. No.

SGT. MURRAY

Q. Did you see the bomb guy pick it up or did you just hear his words?

A. I just, I just.....

Q. If you remember.

A. I don't remember.

Q. Okay.

A. I don't remember.

Q. Do you know what color the wire might have been?

A. No.

Q. Do you remember what color the object was?

Q. Was it totally black? Was there any other color visible on the object?

A. Uh uh.

Q. When you looked at it I know you didn't touch it, you only got within five or six feet of it, did you get an opinion or could you, did you have an opinion, as to what the object was made out of (END OF SIDE I) (Went to Side II and found nothing on it).

JS.....0.....