

**July 24, 2017**

**Wendell Blanhum**

**Commissioner Paul Slowe:** Do you have any evidence for this inquiry this afternoon?

**Senior Superintendent Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Paul Slowe:** You swearing by which book?

**Blanhum:** The Bible.

**Commissioner Slowe:** The evidence you are about to give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help me God.

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Please for the record, state your name, rank, position.

**Blanhum:** Wendell Blanhum, Senior Superintendent of Police ...

**Commissioner Slowe:** Let me interrupt briefly, let me say a couple of things, sorry. As I would have had to do with the others. The proceedings are being recorded, I know you are accustomed to giving evidence where you have to stop so the magistrate or the judge could record, for the purpose of this you can flow. The next thing I should caution you about, I know you are the Crime Chief, questions may be asked and in your judgment, you may feel that the answer to the questions might compromise National Security. I am saying to you now that whenever you get to that stage please indicate so perhaps the answers could be given in a more private setting.

**Blanhum:** Okay sir.

**Blanhum:** I was at the Criminal Investigation Department in the capacity of Assistant Commissioner, law enforcement. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of March of the year 2017, while I was on duty at the Criminal Investigation Department Headquarters, in my office I received a telephone call from a young lady who identified herself as an employee of the Ministry of Public Security. She then told me a story that there was a young man there who reported that he was offered seven million dollars to kill President Granger. Immediately I asked her to have the young man remained there while I ensure that someone goes to that location to escort him to CID Headquarters. I subsequently made contact with Commander 'A' Division, Assistant Commissioner, Clifton Hickens and I explained to him the story that was told to me by the young lady. I also requested that due to the serious nature of that allegation that he send none other than the Divisional Detective Officer in charge of Crime from 'A' Division, Superintendent, Michael Kingston.

Subsequently, Kingston came to my office in the company of a young man who identified himself as Andriff Gillard. I then offered Kingston and Gillard a seat in my

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office and I further summoned the Head of the Major Crime Investigation Department, which is Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Mitchell Caesar, while at my office I introduced Caesar to Gillard then Gillard proceeded to tell us his story. After telling us of the allegation made against the businessman, I instructed the Head of the Major Crime Unit to commence an investigation into that matter. Then Gillard, Mr. Kingston, and Caesar then left my office. Thereafter I reported the allegation to Mr. David Ramnarine the Assistant Commissioner of Police who was acting for the Commissioner of Police.

Mr. Ramnarine told me that he would inform his superior and give me an update on the matter. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, I contacted the Head of the Major Crimes Investigation Unit for an update to do my afternoon brief, which is done on a daily basis to the Commissioner of Police. Caesar indicated to me that they finished taking the statement from Gillard, which consisted of seventeen (17) pages, and they are in the process of going and execute the arrest of the businessman who this allegation was made against. Up to the following morning...Well I reported what was told to me by Mr. Caesar, I told Mr. Ramnarine, and the following morning during my morning break, about 8:30, Mr. Caesar indicated to me that he received information that Khan, Nizam Khan was placed on station bail, further he reported that they had made significant progress with regards to the investigation in that they would have obtained statements from Gillard, they went to Diamond, Gillard identified the businessman, Nizam Khan. He was arrested and they conducted a search of his premises, but nothing of an evidential value was found.

He also related that they were able to obtain a statement from one Stephen Persaud also, he was provided with his explanation and thereafter, I would have contacted the police legal advisor from time to time as the investigation progress gradually. Sometime during the course of the investigation, in fact, several times the investigators reported to me the conduct of Andriff Gillard, in that he was shouting after he was told that he must submit himself to do a confrontation with one, Leon Basdeo and Lloyd Adams. It was brought to my attention that Gillard was shifting the allegation itself and placing it on conflicts with investigators. I even had cause to write him, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017 about Gillard behavior and what was reported to me. Having done so the investigation, I sent to the police legal advisor on several occasions, that one stated by minute also to her, and that Gillard was frustrating the process of the investigation. The police legal advisor, we would have discussed also the evidence that we have and the statements that were taken and she gave them advice, which was dated the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2017. The evidence that the Guyana Police Force is in possession of at the point in time was tenuous and there was nothing at that stage to charge anyone with. I later received a form, based on her instructions, the last advice that she gave was for the Guyana Police Force to continue with further investigation in the matter.

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**Commissioner Slowe:** That is it?

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** All right.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Let us start from the beginning. When you first learned of this matter was when you received a call from a young lady from Public Security.

**Blanhum:** That is correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And you then called the Commander.

**Blanhum:** That is correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Then sent someone over to take the man to CID Headquarters.

**Blanhum:** Correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Why did you decide to take this man to CID Headquarters?

**Blanhum:** Because of the serious nature of the allegation, and because of the experienced personnel we have at CID Headquarters which is in keeping with the standing order, they decided to take over that matter, and we did similar matters before, we did a similar matter with a young lady who would have placed threatening messages on her Facebook, so we would have already investigated a similar matter. We thought it prudent to bring the investigation to the Criminal and Investigation Department Headquarters.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You talked about standing order and protocol. Which Division... (Inaudible) offence... alleged to be incompetent.

**Blanhum:** A Division.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Was there a record made about this allegation at A Division?

**Blanhum:** I would not be able to say, sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** How you mean man, this allegation was made in March...

**Blanhum:** March the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Slowe:** March the 29<sup>th</sup>, this is July the 24<sup>th</sup> and you can't say now, here, whether you are aware, if any record was made in the Division which this allegation was made.

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**Blanhum:** On a weekly basis as the Crime Chief I am engaged with about one hundred (100) investigations, at the executive level, the strategic level, the tactical level and the Operational level, and I think the question should be asked to the investigators themselves.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No, they come under you, don't dance there, you are responsible as senior ...

**Blanhum:** I have one hundred investigations to deal with on a weekly basis!

**Commissioner Slowe:** Hold on; hold on, so you are suggesting to me that you are overwhelmed?

**Blanhum:** I'm overwhelmed, I never said that.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No, you are suggesting, you are talking...

**Blanhum:** I am telling you I would not be able to answer that question, it's for the investigator to say whether he made an entry, it's for an investigator to do that, not me.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So it's not your responsibility?

**Blanhum:** It is not my responsibility!

**Commissioner Slowe:** So you are not responsible for finding out from them if the proper records were made?

**Blanhum:** That is not my responsibility.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Alright, don't get worked up.

**Blanhum:** I am telling you that wasn't my responsibility.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I am saying differently.

**Blanhum:** Well that is your opinion.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Listen to me, listen to me carefully, I am saying to you, I know police they commander this morning informed me this morning that I am from another era and the era I am referring to was just about seven to eight years ago, as the person in charge, you have a responsibility to ensure that your subordinates do the correct thing, but in this case, would be to ensure that some record was made, but it's a different time.

**Blanhum:** It has nothing to do with a different time, I am at the CID Headquarters, I am at the CID for 18 years, and there is no way, there was never any instance whereby the Crime Chief would call to ensure that an entry is made in an occurrence book. That

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is for an investigator to do, which is why we have supervisors, and those supervisors they have to ensure that records are made in the book. Not the Crime Chief.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So you are not a supervisor?

**Blanhum:** I am a manager at the executive level.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You are a manager?

**Blanhum:** I am a Manager at the executive level of the Guyana Police Force.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So who are you managing?

**Blanhum:** I am managing my ranks, the supervisors and the lower level ranks.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Who are the ranks that you are managing?

**Blanhum:** I am saying I am managing the ranks within the Criminal Investigation Department the middle managers and the lower level ranks.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Therefore as a manager managing those ranks, don't you have a responsibility to ensure that they do what is the correct thing?

**Blanhum:** I said that is why they have supervisors.

**Commissioner Slowe:** But you are a supervisor.

**Blanhum:** I am a manager.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So what the difference between a manager and a supervisor?

**Blanhum:** There are a lot of differences.

**Commissioner Slowe:** let me know, let me know, tell the inquiry what is the difference...

**Blanhum:** As I told you, on a weekly basis I deal with about one hundred investigations...

**Commissioner Slowe:** I will ask you again.

**Blanhum:** ...and if I have to ensure that every entry is made in the diary, then I would be overwhelmed, and that is not my duty.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Have you ever heard the term, 'vicarious liability'?

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**Blanhum:** I have heard about, 'vicarious liability', but what I am saying and maintaining, that it was not my duty to ensure that every constable out there and investigator go and make an entry in the station diary.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Are you familiar with the standing order governing the roles of Assistant Commissioner of law enforcement?

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** What does it say?

**Blanhum:** It says several things and my responsibility; one is that I am directly responsible for the general administration of the Criminal Investigation Department to the Commissioner. My responsibilities, and I continue; one, is to maintain the criminal (inaudible) state within the country, two (inaudible) any serious or complicated case of murder, manslaughter etc. Any matter on behalf of the Government, by the Attorney General Chambers. Third to conduct training, detective training for members of the Guyana Police Force, fourth for me to conduct inspections on behalf of the Commissioner of Police, of the CID establishments, also to maintain a photographic branch, an efficient photographic branch an efficient finger print branch, an efficient criminals records office, we don't have this anymore, an efficient forensic laboratory and any other duties so directed by the Commissioner of Police. So those are my duties.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So I am getting a record that you don't believe that you are responsible for ensuring that the people below you do what supposed to be done.

**Blanhum:** Not in that particular issue. I mandated them to investigate a crime, at the end of the day when they finish their investigation, that crime file is submitted to my office.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Now let us deal with that part, so you are saying to me therefore that once you mandate an investigation to take place, you wait until it is completed, and when the file is presented to you before you make a determination.

**Blanhum:** That could never be the case when I mentioned to the commission just now that I receive morning briefs about the investigation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You still don't get it, I'm saying once you instruct an investigation to commence, you wait until the investigation is complete, and then the file comes to you, and then you make a determination based on that. Is that what you are saying?

**Blanhum:** As I stated, I said on a daily basis at morning breaks or intervals I would get briefings and I would address it.

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**Commissioner Slowe:** Okay let me come direct to this one now. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of March this report was made, were you aware of this report? When did you receive your first briefing on the matter?

**Blanhum:** I received the briefing, as I mentioned to the Commission just now, at 4 o'clock.

**Commissioner Slowe:** At 4 o'clock of that afternoon.

**Blanhum:** That is correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** and what were you told then?

**Blanhum:** I was told that... I mentioned this already, statements...

**Commissioner Slowe:** Hold on, hold on, hold on, hold on officer , as Commissioner of the inquiry I think I have the right to ask you questions at any time, so even if you answered it before sir, you still have an obligation to answer again.

**Blanhum:** I mentioned the statements...

**Commissioner Slowe:** Do you understand?

**Blanhum:** Yes I understand. I mentioned statements, seventeen pages of the statement were taken from Andriff Gillard and I was told by the Head of the Major crime and investigation unit that the ranks were en route to the location to arrest Mr. Khan whom the allegation was made against.

**Commissioner Slowe:** This was at 4 o'clock.

**Blanhum:** Yes Sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So when next were you briefed?

**Blanhum:** the next morning, during my morning briefs.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And what were you told then?

**Blanhum:** I was told that the Investigation has progressed significantly apart from Gillard's statement the investigators were able to contact Mr. Nizam Khan whom the allegation was made against, they conducted a search of his premises, but nothing of evidential value was found. Thereafter Khan was escorted to CID Headquarters, where he was interviewed, after he was interviewed, he gave a statement, after the statement was given, a confrontation was held between Khan and Gillard additionally I was told that another individual, Stephen Persaud , was contacted by the police and a statement also appeared from Stephen Persaud ,and then I was informed that there was some

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issue , some disorderly behavior by Khan's brother .So those were some of the information I received at 8.30 the morning.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And you considered those things that were done between the time the statement was given, the arrest of this man, the search and all of that to be significant progress.

**Blanhum:** Significant process, based on the nature of the allegation. It was not a murder whereby the police had to go, escort the body and wait on postmortem, to do a postmortem report and all these things. It was just an allegation by one individual to another.

**Commissioner Slowe:** It was just an allegation, and therefore the person against whom, the target of the allegation was not have factored to your arrangement then.

**Blanhum:** Most definitely, that is what I said, and that is why I brought the matter to the CID Headquarters.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You said it wasn't a murder....

**Blanhum:** I was telling you that in terms of progress, it was significant progress, that is why I said it was significant progress, because had it been a murder, we could not have said we made significant progress, if we had to do postmortem examination, interview witnesses, get persons to collaborate the story made by the reporter and these things.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So you made significant progress?

**Blanhum:** That is Correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So you made significant progress by the next morning.

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** At that stage when it was reported to you where was Nizam Khan the man whom the allegation was made?

**Blanhum:** I wouldn't be able to say where he was. I wouldn't be able to say.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Wait what I hearing here man you are the Crime Chief, were you not on the 30<sup>th</sup> that is the day...

**Blanhum:** The 30<sup>th</sup> my briefing took place in my office,

**Commissioner Slowe:** No no

**Blanhum:** My office is on the middle flat of the Criminal Investigation.



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**Commissioner Slowe:** I understand all of that but I am saying that on the following morning the morning of the 30th

**Blanhum:** Correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Did you not seek to find out where was Nizam Khan whom this allegation was made against?

**Blanhum:** I was told he was placed on bail on mentioned that before.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You was told he was placed on station bail?

**Blanhum:** Precisely.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Did you inquiry why on whose instructions he was placed on station bail?

**Blanhum:** I did.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And what were you told?

**Blanhum:** I was told the Commissioner would have made contact with the Investigator who was in charged at that point in time that is the night before that the Commissioner would have given certain instructions.

**Commissioner Slowe:** The Commissioner? When you say the Commissioner who you refer to?

**Blanhum:** I am speaking about the substantive Commissioner of Police, Mr. Seelall Persaud.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So was the person who...so the person was sent on bail based on that, that is what you were told?

**Blanhum:** That is my information.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Did you find it strange or unusual that according to you given the nature of this report so serious because it was so significant that it had to be taken over by the Major Crime Investigation Unit, did you not find it strange that within 24hours this man was sent on bail?

**Blanhum:** No I did not find it strange one (1) as I mentioned before significant progress was made by the investigators (2) standing order number 74 speaks to, and that is very clear that the police are obligated for the granting of bail for the very, and I emphasize very at the earliest opportunity after an arrest is made, and it is a big violation of the persons' rights if you were not to consider bail for that person.

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Further, the standing order is very clear in that they categorize certain offenses for which bail should not be granted one murder, two treason, miss prison of treason and treason felony and the offense for which Nizam Khan was arrested for does not fall within those categories.

**Commissioner Slowe:** The plot to assassinate the President so don't seem to be treasonous?

**Blanhum:** Plot. You can define plot, no I am speaking about legal.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No but you can't...

**Blanhum:** As I told you before

**Commissioner Slowe:** Hold on hold on I just want to get it straight you suggested to me before that a plot or a plan to assassinate the head of State, the president of the cooperative republic of Guyana does not fall under that category?

**Blanhum:** Your definition and my definition they are very different.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So what is it...

**Blanhum:** And I am working with the offense that was established that was given to us by the police legal advisor

**Commissioner Slowe:** No don't go there Mr. Blanhum, the police legal advisor ain't come into play yet I am talking about the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> of March

**Blanhum:** If you check the station diary, you will see that the offense he was booked for is incitement to commit murder.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Against whom?

**Blanhum:** Against the President.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And you believe that that is treasonous that that cannot rank with an incitement to commit murder against a junkie?

**Blanhum:** It is treasonous sir that is what you are saying?

**Commissioner Slowe:** No, I am asking you.

**Blanhum:** I have already made myself clear; I said that the offense for which Nizam Khan was booked for it does not fall into any of those categories.

**Commissioner Slowe:** When you said booked for what you mean?

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**Blanhum:** (Inaudible) based on the allegation, the allegation was legally was one incitement or assassination to commit murder.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Against who?

**Blanhum:** Against the President of the Republic of Guyana.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And you felt that that should be treated...

**Blanhum:** We have the legal mind

**Commissioner Slowe:** Don't worry about what we have man don't worry about all the

**Blanhum:** (inaudible) I am in charge of the law enforcement agency the primary law enforcement agency in Guyana.

**Commissioner Slowe:** yea

**Blanhum:** And every action

**Commissioner Slowe:** You are in charge of the primary law enforcement ...that is news to me I thought was the Commissioner.

**Blanhum:** I am speaking about the CID

**Commissioner Slowe:** No but listen to me...if you want to get technical the CID cannot be the primary law enforcement agency

**Blanhum:** Department

**Commissioner Slowe:** But you said agency.

**Blanhum:** Well my mistake department, department

**Commissioner Slowe:** I did not know you does make mistake.

**Blanhum:** Department I am not invulnerable

**Commissioner Slowe:** I thought that was left to mortals like me

**Commissioner Slowe:** Anyhow, let's continue so you felt that this threat was to be treated

**Blanhum:** Is not what I felt I as the Crime Chief I am obligated to rely on facts not my feelings or my opinions.

**Commissioner Slowe:** On facts?

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**Blanhum:** Precisously.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And you saying that by 8 o'clock, 8:30 the morning sufficient facts for you to be comfortable with the fact that this man was sent on bail.

**Blanhum:** As I said based on facts I was satisfied.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Based on the facts you were satisfied. Let me move forward on this thing did you submit a report, you had cause to submit a report on this matter?

**Blanhum:** I would have submitted I think one or two reports to the Commissioner of Police for the information of the national security council.

**Commissioner Slowe:** When can you recall when the first report was submitted?

**Blanhum:** I cannot recall.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You cannot recall?

**Blanhum:** No

**Commissioner Slowe:** Would this be one of the reports you submitted?

**Blanhum:** Yes.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No hold on what date is that report?

**Blanhum:** the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April.

**Commissioner Slowe:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, so we have an allegation made on the 29 of March just make sure I get it right, march has how many days? 31 all right 29, 30, 31, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> so this report was submitted 5 days after the allegation was made?

**Blanhum:** That was when it was requested. That was when the report was requested for the information for the National Security Council.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Yea, all right so 5 days after?

**Blanhum:** That was when it was requested.

**Commissioner Slowe:** That is what I am asking you.

**Blanhum:** I said yes.

**Commissioner Slowe:** All right, let me draw to your attention to paragraph 8 of that same report.

**Blanhum:** You have my attention, sir.

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**Commissioner Slowe:** You have it there ok good. And this report again you submitted it to the Commissioner for the information for the national security council, paragraph 8 can you please tell this... read paragraph 8 for me, please.

**Blanhum:** Written report submitted by Sergeant 19822 Komal Pitama he said that he is of the view that Andriff Gillard story is malicious that it does appear to have personal grievance which has been engaging the attention of the police and although Gillard and reported Khan to the police on several occasions after the alleged offer was made to him he never utilised any of the opportunities to report this serious matter to the police. The investigator noted that Gillard also expressed his frustration with the manner in which the police were handling previous reports about Nizam Khan, thus he went to the Ministry of Public Security to seek their intervention and it was there for the first time that he reported that Nizam Khan offered him money to kill President Granger or to have someone do it for him.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Thank you Mr. Blanhum. And therefore this is a report that you sent to the Commissioner 5 days after and you saying this is not you who write it is the sergeant who conducted the investigation formed the opinion of this wide process due 5 days after that Gillard story was malicious, right?

**Blanhum:** That is what was told to me.

**Commissioner Slowe:** That is what was to you?

**Blanhum:** Yes.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And what was told to you that what you said?

**Blanhum:** inaudible

**Commissioner Slowe:** A Sergeant

**Blanhum:** I was reporting if you look at the report you will see that I mentioned this is the view of the investigating rank. Not my view.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I get several things wrong with that, because again I am from a different era, that when the investigating rank said so that the person who was going to send it on to his superior if he did not agree should indicate clearly that looks not withstanding the investigating rank feel that look this is my view. Inaudible. Further again you are saying that Detective Sergeant Komal Pitama attached (inaudible) a written report written by Sergeant Pitama (inaudible) would it surprise you to know that Pitama (inaudible) submitted a report?

**Blanhum:** I have the report that was submitted

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**Commissioner Slowe:** You have a report that

**Blanhum:** I have the information that was in that report is what was extract from a report by me

**Commissioner Slowe:** And where is the report can I ask?

**Blanhum:** I won't be able to say.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You know the reason I ask is because I wrote to the Commissioner of Police in the official capacity as the Commission requesting all documents all statements in this matter and during the course of the hearing so far I have a document, statements that were presented to the commission, so I am a bit (inaudible) because you are saying that a report was submitted to you by Pitama. Pitama came here Thursday and clearly stated that he never submitted a report, as a matter of fact, let me ask you too on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March when this report was made who was the lead, investigator?

**Blanhum:** The 29<sup>th</sup> of March I instructed the head of the Major Crime investigation to spearhead the investigation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So the investigation was spearheaded by?

**Blanhum:** Mr. Caesar.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Mr. Caesar. All right, now let me, the major crime unit you spoke about mp and all of that, is there an mp dealing with the indicating how the major crime unit should operate?

**Blanhum:** there is no written SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) as to how the major crimes investigation unit should operate.

**Commissioner Slowe:** There is no written SOP.

Blanhum: No written

**Commissioner Slowe:** So how it operates then based on what?

**Blanhum:** Basically investigations as I mentioned those complicated investigations, serious investigations they would come to my attention and then I instruct them to conduct an investigation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** but this man...

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**Blanhum:** Or I if I see it fit I would take an investigation from one of the division if they having some difficulties and I would bring it to the major crimes investigation department and so forth.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Now based on this investigation was not started in a division so how determination would have...

**Blanhum:** It did not start in a?

**Commissioner Slowe:** It did not start in a division

**Blanhum: I said before** let me just confirm this investigation and the investigation with the Facebook threats I as the head of the Criminal Investigation Department directed that the major crimes investigation unit conduct the investigation and the reason being is that they are more experienced they have more resources available to them and on a daily basis they have 24hrs to the police legal advisor

**Commissioner Slowe:** (inaudible) at the same time they have a whole lot of matters to deal with but anyhow, coming back to the mp so you said there is no written SOP.

**Blanhum:** No written SOP, No.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So you took a decision based on the wing of someone, someone just decide, well maybe wing was the wrong word, but someone just decide, well this one we gonna deal with this and the seriousness there is no protocol to say for example divisional commander from the (inaudible) can make a definition that this falls in the purvey of the Major Crime Unit, there is no such thing?

**Blanhum:** At the end of the day, I am the Crime Chief I make the call as to which investigation should be investigated

**Commissioner Slowe:** Yea, yea but no written document, that is what I want to know.

**Blanhum: No.**

**Commissioner Slowe:** All right nothing documented. Now again given the nature of this alleged threat was any other agency involved?

**Blanhum:** You need to be more specific.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Involved in the investigation

**Blanhum:** Another agency involved in the investigation?

**Commissioner Slowe:** Yes.

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**Blanhum:** Not to my knowledge.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Not to my knowledge so this was a, an investigation was done wholly and solely by the major crime unit of the criminal investigation department

**Blanhum:** We would have asked criminal branch which is the intelligent arm of the Guyana Police Force to assist with some information. And I can't disclose anything further pertaining to that.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Well I cautioned you before

**Blanhum:** I took your caution, sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I caution you before, that does not mean that it cannot be disclosed. I cautioned you before precisely because of that. Because I know that given your position you might have information that you do not feel comfortable in relation to this matter that you do not feel comfortable sharing in an open sitting and therefore that is why I cautioned you if ever you get to that stage to indicate and then I will decide.

**Blanhum:** Well I am at that stage now sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** In respect to that?

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** In respect to that so you are saying special branch might have been involved in well not might, involved but the nature of their involvement cannot be disclosed at this sitting.

**Blanhum:** At this point sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Right, any other agency was involved?

**Blanhum:** Nope. Not that I could recall at this point.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Not that you could recall, but if an agency was involved you would know?

**Blanhum:** As I said not that, I can recall at this point.

**Commissioner Slowe:** But you would know.

**Blanhum:** I will have to know.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You will have to know right so you can't recall then I would have to assume no agency was also involved. You said this was one report you submitted



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you also indicated that Police Legal Advisor, advised on some processes to be taken, can you say what are some of those advise (inaudible)?

**Blanhum:** First advise I can recall correctly she asked that the Police conduct that is Leon Basdeo, Baldeo sorry and Andriff Gillard and for investigators to do a confrontation after that was done, well we had the painful experience of having Gillard subject himself to have a confrontation, a very painful experience, she also advised afterwards, after the confrontation she advised that the police contact one Lloyd Adams for us to do a confrontation also, and this based on Adams report to the police that Gillard contacted him for him to fabricate a story, told him that he fabricate this story against Khan, so she taught it prudent that we investigator should hold another confrontation and once again our biggest challenge was to get Gillard to come and do that confrontation.

She also advised after that confrontation was done Adams would have mentioned that the information that he received from Gillard that he fabricated this allegation was related to him via telephone so she asked that we obtain the telephone print out from Digicel that print out was obtained and the print was shown Gillard in the presence of Anthony during the confrontation. Telephone print out.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And this would have been, how long after the report was made?

**Blanhum:** After the report was made I...

**Commissioner Slowe:** Average, about how long after you average?

**Blanhum:** I think it's 14 days.

**Commissioner Slowe:** 14 days after.

**Blanhum:** Almost on a daily basis, they were in contact with her telephone communication.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Yea but I ask that because I want to know because again I will come back to the following morning at 8:30 significant progress was made by 830 the next morning and yet still there was no confrontation between these persons claim who wanted to tell their story.

**Blanhum:** That information were filtered to the Commissioner of Police after.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No well

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**Blanhum:** That is what the Police Legal Advisor advised that the investigators continue the investigation at this stage too for people to come forward and say that I heard XYZ and that I was present when this threat was made, the investigation is ongoing

**Commissioner Slowe:** I understand all of that the investigation is ongoing, but I am still going to ask again. You are claiming that the police legal advisor observed that no confrontation was done with Baldeo two week after, no investigation was done with Anthony, but you already conclude the following morning at 8:30 that the investigation had significantly progressed.

**Blanhum:** I said they made significant progress, I never said that investigation was completed.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I never said completed, I never said completed, I know you said that with notwithstanding the fact that these, what I would call routine measures, because in my experience, confrontations with accused persons, those are routine things. Two weeks after those things weren't done but yet still you are able to say that significant progress...

**Blanhum:** It's not that those confrontations were not done, as I said before, we had a problem with getting Gillard to come to CID to do the confrontation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So how it was done if he didn't come to do it?

**Blanhum:** We had to basically go to his residence and ask him to come and do the confrontation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** But that the same point Mr. Blanhum. The confrontation was not done by 8:30 the next morning, that is what I am saying, so if took two weeks, three weeks, four weeks...

**Blanhum:** At that stage, the police we were not in receipt of any information pertaining to any information coming from Leon Baldeo, that information would have been filtered to us after that decision was made, that there is this young man who was contacted by Gillard for him to come and support his statement.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And that was two weeks after.

**Blanhum:** I don't remember the date.

**Commissioner Slowe:** About how long after?

**Blanhum:** I wouldn't be able to say.

**Commissioner Slowe:** But it wasn't by the next morning?

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**Blanhum:** As I said, no.

**Commissioner Slowe:** It was not.

**Blanhum:** The information, none of the investigators have the for the foresight of a Jewish prophet. None of us would know that we are going to have someone else come to say that look, I was contacted, and I was asked to come and give cooperating evidence to support the allegation. We do not have the fore sight of a Jewish Prophet.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And I don't expect you to have.

**Blanhum:** Thank you.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I don't expect you to have, but I am saying, I am saying that based on what you are saying, that by the next morning, significant progress...

**Blanhum:** That is my judgment.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Is your judgment.

**Blanhum:** Exactly.

**Commissioner Slowe:** That by the next morning 8.30 significant progress was made, in this investigation. But that your judgment right?

**Blanhum:** Precisely.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Your judgment. I can't fault you. But that is it that is your judgment.

**Blanhum:** And that is the fact, I have stated the facts.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I don't know that. Again this report that you submitted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, this is a report that you sent to the Commissioner, on what day did Gillard go to the Ministry of Public Security?

**Blanhum:** The 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2017.

**Commissioner Slowe:** But you are saying in this report that he went on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April.

**Blanhum:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> of April?

**Commissioner Slowe:** Look Aubrey, please show Mr. Blanhum, this is in your report that he went on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April.

**Blanhum:** That would be an error on my part.

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**Commissioner Slowe:** Error, again you making mistakes like this, a report that was submitted to the Commissioner for the attention of the National Security Council, and you making a glaring mistake.

**Blanhum:** Dates, why does...What relevance is that to the case, the investigation...

**Commissioner Slowe:** It got a lot, It shows that you were not diligent in observing the dates...

**Blanhum:** Dates?

**Commissioner Slowe:** Listen to me carefully, listen to me, it tells me that due attention was not catered for a document that you were sending to your superior, that has to go perhaps to the highest security level in the country. That is what it is telling me. That you are in the wrong.

**Blanhum:** I have seen documents coming from various places with the wrong dates...

**Commissioner Slowe:** So what, because of that you have...

**Blanhum:** It's not because, what I'm saying what relevance that has to do with the investigation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** It has a lot...

**Blanhum:** The outcome of the investigation?

**Commissioner Slowe:** Not the outcome.

**Blanhum:** Ohhh.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You are telling me that the Crime Chief, the man who is in charge of, who is responsible for all these matters, did not pay due attention to a report he was sending to the Commissioner, which had to go on the highest level of National Security. That is what you are telling me. That is what it is telling me.

**Blanhum:** As I said before that has no relevance to this investigation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** It has no relevance.

**Blanhum:** It has no relevance.

**Commissioner Slowe:** It has a lot of relevance to the people to whom you are reporting, in terms of how accurate, how diligent this investigation is going to be.

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**Commissioner Slowe:** Because if a simple thing like the date that the report was made, a mistake can be made to that, then I were in that position, I would be left to wonder what else...

**Blanhum:** We can only speculate on eventualities, which are far from reality...

**Commissioner Slowe:** I would have formed a conclusion...

**Blanhum:** That is the only speculation...

**Commissioner Slowe:** I would have formed a conclusion. Do you want to hear the conclusion I would have formed?

**Blanhum:** That is your opinion.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No, you want to hear my opinion.

**Blanhum:** I don't want to listen to your opinion.

**Commissioner Slowe** Well let me tell you, I would have formed the opinion that due diligence was not paid to the report which you submitted, based on the dates, a simple thing like that, you claimed that the report was made on the 29<sup>th</sup>, but your report was dated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> stated that the man reported on the same day your report was submitted.

**Blanhum:** Sir we have the former chief justice, you have lawyers here, in the court persons would have made mistakes about dates and they don't crucify you for dates...

**Commissioner Slowe:** I know they don't crucify you for dates but...

**Blanhum:** That is why I refresh my statement, and I said the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Blanhum:** So that why I am asking, what impact that has on the outcome of the investigation?

**Commissioner Slowe:** You wouldn't know because you are not doing the investigation, according to you, you are just waiting until the people finish...

**Blanhum:** How am I not doing the investigation?

**Commissioner Slowe:** But that is what you said, you said you don't get involved...

**Blanhum:** I'm saying, I do not go on the ground to do the actual investigation, my function I to give them advice, give them guidance.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Alright, so what advice and guidance did you give in this particular matter?

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**Blanhum:** As I said before, from time to time I would give them advice...

**Commissioner Slowe:** What advice did you give them?

**Blanhum:** I would have told them to make urgent contact with Gillard to get the statement, everything that the police advisor, advised or communicated to me, I filtered to them.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So you were just a messenger carrying a message?

**Blanhum:** That will go on Demerara waves, I must commend you.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No you are saying....

**Blanhum:** That is what I am saying.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You are saying is that what the police legal advisor tells you...

**Blanhum:** I said, no, I said I give them guidance.

**Commissioner Slowe:** So what guidance did you give them?

**Blanhum:** I would have asked them to contact Gillard, give them information on questionable persons, I would have told them to make certain requests at Special Branch, and all these things.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You would have told them to make a request at the special branch?

**Blanhum:** I did that.

**Blanhum:** Who you would have told that?

**Blanhum:** I would have spoken to the investigators, to find out whether they had any information about this individual...

**Commissioner Slowe:** And that is not your function...

**Blanhum:** Whom the allegation was made against.

**Blanhum:** I did it, we have a very good... If you want me to go beyond the line, I will go beyond the line. We have a very good communication process with Special Branch...

**Commissioner Slowe:** I don't want to hear that, I am just saying...

**Blanhum:** I have (inaudible )my channel for the sake of expediency.

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**Commissioner Slowe:** I am just saying, all of that I understand, but I'm just saying I would have thought, giving the nature of this, because you said among the things you advised or instructed the people give out to do, is to make contact with Special Branch.

**Commissioner Slowe:** The question is, why they at a lower level have to do that, and not at your level.

**Blanhum:** I did it at my level, but what I am saying, they would usually follow up with them, to get information, they would share information we have that system in place. So we have something which could break the bureaucratic lines.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Break what?

**Blanhum:** Bureaucratic channels/lines.

**Commissioner Slowe:** The bureaucratic lines?

**Commissioner Slowe:** What about the chain of command?

**Blanhum:** As I said, I did it, and we have myself and (inaudible) of the Special Branch, if you want me to go in details I could...

**Commissioner Slowe:** No

**Blanhum:** For the persons to hear, we have an understanding ...

**Commissioner Slowe:** Although I said I don't want you to go into details, in your opinion it will compromise National Security...I am just trying to ensure that I get a full understanding of what transpired, especially as it relates to your role, and how this investigation would have been handled. That is all I'm trying to get, this is my term to see how the investigation was handled, and that is what I am trying to satisfy, terms of reference. So these questions that I am asking you is in an effort to make sure that those terms are covered.

**Blanhum:** With all due respect Commissioner, you are making(inaudible) to your comments based on your personal experience which (inaudible)

**Commissioner Slowe:** you might think so, but I am saying these questions are asked because again of my knowledge and because I want to understand fully what was obtained at the time, whether you determine it's credible or not should be a matter for you. But I'm saying that when I ask you what role you played, is to determine, as the terms of reference indicated, what level of supervision was exercised in this matter, which is what I am trying to find out.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Have you seen the terms of reference?

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**Commissioner Slowe:** You have. Did I ask you anything outside the terms of reference?

**Blanhum:** I am not at liberty to state here at this moment.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Okay good enough. So you are saying the current status is that the investigation is still ongoing?

**Blanhum:** Based on the on the advice from Justice Singh, the Police, we are to conduct further investigation into the matter.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Police have to conduct further investigation into the matter.

**Blanhum:** Precisely.

**Commissioner Slowe:** That's the advice...

**Blanhum:** And at this point in time her advised dated the 11<sup>th</sup> of June,2017 she stated that having revealed the statements from the ...the evidence is rather tenuous and there is at this point in time nothing to charge anyone with.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Did you review the same file that was sent to us?

**Blanhum:** Yes I did

**Commissioner Slowe:** And you came to an opinion?

**Blanhum:** If I came to an opinion? It is not about my opinion, it's about facts, and I said that.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Well you have to come to opinion from something based on what you see...

**Blanhum:** It's not about my opinion, this is a criminal investigation, it's nothing to speculate, and give opinions, I rely on facts...

**Commissioner Slowe:** Yes, it's not about speculation; you would have read the statement in the file, right?

**Blanhum:** Yes.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You have seen the report in the file, so I am asking you that based on what you read and what you saw, what opinion you came to?

**Blanhum:** I believed that in my opinion, the police did (inaudible)

**Commissioner Slowe:** Yes but that was after, we nothing talking about before.



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**Blanhum:** I believe we had discussions before...

**Commissioner Slowe:** the police legal advisor, the file, if it's still the same it goes from you to the police legal advisor and is expected from the crime chief even before it goes there, you would have perused the file and perhaps make comments and then send it back.

**Blanhum:** I made comments. I mentioned that before.

**Commissioner Slowe:** You mentioned what?

**Blanhum:** In the minutes you will see my comments into the police investigation.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Your comments are in the file?

**Blanhum:** Precisely.

**Commissioner Slowe :** I told you before I am not too sure what transpired because I don't think all the documents were submitted to the commission, because you made reference to reports that I have not yet seen, so forgive me if I ask questions or say thing that are not...

**Blanhum:** Well if you had the file I would have pointed out my minute.

**Commissioner Slowe:** No, not just your minute, they got things in the file but based on what you said there should be other things there that are not there, that is what I'm trying to get.

**Blanhum:** I don't know I haven't seen your file.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Not my file. Is the Police file. The police

**Blanhum:** Well the file that you are in possession of, I haven't seen it.

**Commissioner Slowe:** And that is all you want to say on this matter?

**Blanhum:** Precisely.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Mr. Chang.

**Mr. Chang:** yes yes (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** Yes sir, on a 24hr basis they can be called out at any particular time, to respond to a major investigation.

**Mr. Chang:** So tell me there is no occurrence book kept at the CID Headquarters?

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**Blanhum:** An occurrence book is not kept at the Criminal Investigation Department, it's not an (inaudible). The standing order makes provision for the occurrence book to be kept at police stations.

**Mr. Chang:** On the 29<sup>th</sup> did you, apart from speaking to Gillard, were there any further statements taken from him?

**Blanhum:** I can't remember.

**Mr. Chang:** 1, 2, 3.

**Blanhum:** There were three additional statements.

**Mr. Chang:** While the Commissioner is on leave, would you from time to time seek advice from the Commissioner even though he is on leave?

**Blanhum:** Yes sir, both myself and the Acting Commissioner. He gives us advice on matters.

**Mr. Chang:** Does he give you all instruction and guidance?

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** On the 29<sup>th</sup> you said Andriff Gillard give his statement

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** you said there was statement by

**Blanhum:** Stephen Persaud

**Mr. Chang:** Stephen Persaud (inaudible) all these things on the 29<sup>th</sup> plus you had to arrest

**Blanhum:** And execute search

**Mr. Chang:** On the 30<sup>th</sup> when you review everything you felt this was malicious your opinion (inaudible) did you feel (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** The allegation at that point in time, Khan did not produce any corroborating evidence to support his allegation, Gillard sorry did not produce corroborating evidence to support his allegation. Also, Khan denied the allegation. And then also Khan denied the allegation.

**Mr. Chang:** Apart from that in Gillard statement made on the 29<sup>th</sup> he said that early in 2016 or sorry or early December 2015 or January 2016 he had cause to report Khan, Nizam Khan

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**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** did that statement reveal the nature of the allegation he made against Khan?

**Blanhum:** I can't remember off hand but it had nothing to do with the allegation he made on the 29<sup>th</sup>

**Mr. Chang:** Did he say that he went to report Khan for stealing two radio set and when he approached Khan, Khan drew a gun on him

**Blanhum:** That is correct.

**Mr. Chang:** Did you say that he was dissatisfied by ... with the police at Grove

**Blanhum:** He said that when he came to my office

**Mr. Chang:** He said that. He said caused him to go and report to some ...

**Blanhum:** Senior Superintendent Das

**Mr. Chang:** Senior Superintendent Das. Imran Khan this a man who pulls a gun at he and say he gone cripple he, could you say that these allegations about this offer to assassinate were made to Das by Gillard at that stage in January 2016.

**Blanhum:** Based on the decision by Mr. Das no. And Khan had several opportunities based on his...Gillard sorry had several opportunities to report this threat in 2015 to 2017 and he never from at any given moment reported that Khan offered him seven million dollars to kill President Granger

**Mr. Chang:** that was in January 2016 and it was reported that this very Khan threaten...

**Blanhum:** threaten to cripple him

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** well...

**Mr. Chang:** I think you mentioned the police did the police encounter any problems in getting Khan to the station?

**Blanhum:** No sir.

**Mr. Chang:** (Inaudible)

**Blanhum:** Definitely.

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**Mr. Chang:** You know as Crime Chief now I can't get in too much (Inaudible) any attempt on the life of the President (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** Absolutely none.

**Mr. Chang:** Could you say whether particularly between June 2015 and (inaudible) any attempt made on the life of the President?

**Blanhum:** Absolutely none.

**Mr. Chang:** Could you tell me whether after the President became President after the election in 2015 could you say how long after President Granger (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** No I wouldn't be able to say, no sir no.

**Mr. Chang:** But you know President Granger did not remove (inaudible) that's a long time back

**Blanhum:** that is (inaudible) I will agree with you.

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible ) not sure I just ask you (inaudible) I think you said that based on the investigation there was no plot to assassinate

**Blanhum:** Absolutely none. As I was advised by our legal advisor.

**Mr. Chang:** Now in relation to the issue do you know that a sole conspiracy (inaudible) is a flight risk

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** That is the (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible) I don't know whether you were around at this (Inaudible)

**Blanhum:** I could check the record.

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible)

**Commissioner Slowe:** (inaudible)

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible) now (inaudible) this is the case (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible) likely how will the investigation take to complete

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**Blanhum:** That is criminal

**Mr. Chang:** Does the police take these things into consideration?

**Blanhum:** yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible) the kind of evidence you have available and how long the (inaudible) take to continue. I am saying to you that the sole (inaudible) whether he is a flight risk

**Blanhum:** That is correct sir.

**Mr. Chang:** at the juncture of the investigation to agree with the legal advisor (inaudible)

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Mr. Chang:** That is all I wish to say.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Mr. Ram?

**Mr. Ram:** No sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** I just want to clarify a few again, you have to bear with me because I come from an old era dinosaur, you know we have facts to consider when granting of bail? Or Mr. Chang you taught me that (inaudible) which is in many cases for us when conducting an investigation one of the most serious ones so even though, even though many factors (inaudible) whether the person is a flight risk, whether the person he put on bail will interfere with the investigation or the witness just three I can remember

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible) available

**Commissioner Slowe:** not if they can interfere very relevant

**Mr. Chang:** Yes.

**Commissioner Slowe:** Now in many cases you might make a determination that look if this man was sent on bail would go and tamper the witness, tamper with (inaudible), so we just want to get that straight. Now Mr. Blanhum you said that even though the Commissioner was on leave you and the acting Commissioner seek guidance and advice from the Commissioner

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**Blanhum:** That is correct.

**Commissioner Slowe:** How you know that Mr. Ramnarine would do that?

**Blanhum:** Because I in my presence Mr. Ramnarine would have contacted Commissioner of Police and would have told that, he contacted the Commissioner of Police on the way forward in certain matters.

**Commissioner Slowe:** All right there is a Stephen on the 29<sup>th</sup> you gave a statement about this

**Blanhum:** Yes sir.

**Commissioner Slowe:** In relation to what?

**Blanhum:** That it had to do with I can't remember vividly but it had it had to do with Stephen was I think his landlord at one point in time and they had a whole host of problems between the two of them and because of the fact that he was also removed from the premises Gillard was of the belief that Khan would have caused him to do that so there was a lot of escalating viciously between both Stephen Persaud and Gillard

**Commissioner Slowe:** But we referred to the records Pitama specifically stated when asked that even Persaud went there in an unrelated matter something to do with tyres, is that so?

**Mr. Chang:** yes he said that

**Commissioner Slowe:** unrelated to this issue am I correct Mr. Chang?

**Mr. Chang:** (inaudible) because when you look at it (Inaudible) Gillard statement he mentioned that Khan

**Commissioner Slowe:** I can recall all that, what I am saying based on what the Crime Chief is now saying that the investigating rank said that on the night when this investigation was being done he mentioned two person not only Persaud not only Stephen and some other person went there to give statement in a matter in related to this investigation that is what I can recall.

**Mr. Chang:** (Inaudible) Gillard own statement

**Commissioner Slowe:** You mentioned something about radio set, Khan went there and report some Khan removed which of the Khan he was referring to?

**Mr. Chang:** He was referring to Nizam Khan

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**Commissioner Slowe:** Not according to the record. The report you submitted. The record that has been enter before this Commission clearly stated that he referring to Imran Khan

**Mr. Chang:** Nizam

**Commissioner Slowe:** Nizam all right my bad. June 2015 to whenever I just want to ask the question is there a statute of limitation in this matter?

**Blanhum:** Not to my knowledge

**Commissioner Slowe:** There is no statue. Just wanted to find out.

**Mr. Chang:** if indictable is no relation (inaudible)

**Commissioner Slowe:** (inaudible) indictable is no

**Mr. Chang: (inaudible)**

**Commissioner Slowe:** Thanks for that, I just wanted to find that out, so in other words that even if evidence comes to this year or whatever (Inaudible) right just wanted to get. Mr. Blanhum I don't think I have any other question to ask.

**Mr. Chang:** Sir may I ask a question. (inaudible) what you understand by that?

**Blanhum:** It has no bearing that is my interpretation

**Commissioner Slowe:** Well Mr. Chang no no he said a flimsy thing that tenuous can't be synonymous to flimsy but not no bearing. I ain't accepting the tenuous got not bearing, no he saying no bearing but it cannot be no bearing

**Mr. Chang:** At this juncture how would you view the allegation made by Gillard?

**Blanhum:** I would say with the greatest amount of respect it is my humble opinion that the allegation made by Gillard against Khan is (Inaudible) irrelevant. Based on what you said before this Commission five days after the allegation was made that was already determined that it was malicious so I am not sure anything would have happened between then and now to change your opinion five days after on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April it was concluded by the investigating rank

**Mr. Chang:** You see when you write long statements

**Commissioner Slowe:** That is what I am saying five days after it was concluded and more at that a conclusion was drawn that it was malicious even though later on we go on to say that the investigation should continue, we already conclude that it is malicious but we don't need to continue the investigation

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**Wendell Blahum**

**Mr. Chang:** you see (inaudible) when you look at evidence Pitama own story

**Commissioner Slowe:** Cannot stand

**Mr. Chang:** His own story, when you look at it

**Commissioner Slowe:** But I just want the point for emphasis that five days after this report was made a conclusion was drawn that the report was malicious. Thank you very much, Mr. Blahum you are excused.

**Blahum:** Thank you, sir.