
HOFFMAN, EDWARD

Legend:

T: JOHN TEFFT

H: MR. HOFFMAN

UNINTEL: UNINTELLIGIBLE

(Today's date is July 29th, 1999. The time is . . . 1507 hours and I'll be making a telephone call to .
..) (phone ringing)

H: Hello.

T: Hi, is this Mr. Hoffman.

H: Yes.

T: Hi, this is John TEFFT, with San Diego Police.

H: Yes.

T: Hey, . . .

H: Oh, yeah.

T: I talked with you the other night.

H: Yes, I remember.

T: Yeah, hey do you have just about five minutes? [Personal data deleted]

T: All I wanted to do with you sir is I just wanted to read to you my final copy of your report and make sure it was all accurate and correct and so it just take a second to read to you.

H: It's no problem.

T: Alright.

H: Unintel.

T: Basically this is just basically an essence report. It's not an exact thing. It's like you're talking but it not a verbatim report. It's in essence.

H: Uh huh.

T: As I read it to you if you see any corrections uh please let me know and we'll make the corrections right then and there, okay?

H: Alright.

1 T: Alright it says earlier this evening I was in my house when I heard a helicopter flying
2 overhead. It's not uncommon for me to hear a helicopter in the summer time down in
3 Mission Beach. A short time later I heard it again but this time it sounder louder,
4 closer and lower. I decided to go outside and investigate. I saw the helicopter fly in a
5 tight circle around Mission boulevard. The helicopter had on its spotlight. It was
6 sometime between 8:30 and 8:40 p.m. I decided to walk down the street and see what
7 was going on. I stood on the north east corner of the liquor store lot that's Hub
8 Liquor.

9 H: Yes.

10 T: I located . . . It's located on the East Side of Mission Boulevard. It's directly across
11 the street from Little Sam's market.

12 H: Correct.

13 T: I saw a black male struggling with two police officers. It was right in front of the
14 store. All three subjects were standing. The police officers had out their batons. When
15 I say baton I'm talking about the long black sticks. Some officers have talked to me
16 about nun-chucks. I know what they look like but what I saw was black batons. The
17 officers were attempting to strike him.

18 H: Uh, let me just back up a moment.

19 T: Okay.

20 H: They asked me about nun-chucks.

21 T: Okay.

22 H: Um, I guess that's the same about talking about it.

23 T: Okay.

24 H: Early questions were did you see the officers using nun-chucks. That's okay I just
25 wanted to clarify with you.

26 T: Very good.

27 H: They asked me if I saw nun-chucks being used by the officers.

28 T: Right.

H: And as far as I can determine no so I just wanted to clarify that.

T: No problem.

H: They asked me about it.

T: Very good, sir.

1 H: Sure.

2 T: Uh, the officers were attempting to strike him. The black guy was really fighting the
3 officers. I thought to myself this person must be terribly desperate or on some type of
4 drugs. The officers were not able to contain, subdue or control him. It was a fairly
5 violent struggle. One of the officers or maybe both fired. I believe he fired between
6 six and eight times. It seemed to me the firing happened during the struggle. The
7 officer was about six feet away from the suspect when he fired. I saw only one
8 officer with his gun out. There may have been two but all I can tell you is I saw one.
9 It seems like the person fell slowly to the ground. I found it very odd how slow it was
10 that he fell. I expected after being shot that the person would fall much quicker. It
11 happened in slow motion. After the person fell to the ground he was lying on his
12 right side facing the store. His head was facing north and his feet were south. He
13 rolled on to his back. I didn't see any movement after he rolled on to his back. The
14 officer I saw pointing his weapon at the suspect he seemed somewhat frozen in
15 position. Additional police officers and paramedics arrived. At that . . . as that
16 occurred my vision was obstructed by the police cars.

16 H: It was by the ambulance.

17 T: Okay, by the ambulance as opposed to the police cars.

18 H: Yes, sir.

19 T: Okay, uh . . . and that's when I conclude the report. Is there anything in there other . . .

20 H: (sigh)

21 T: than what we talked about that is an error?

22 H: Nothing in error.

23 T: Okay.

24 H: There is one thing that I . . . I don't know if I've mentioned this of course at that time
25 (laugh) whether I've mentioned it but I was struck by the fact that no one seemed to
26 come to the aid of a man that was shot.

27 T: Okay.

28 H: Prior to the arrival . . .

H: Okay.

H: of the . . . of the ambulance.

T: Okay.

1 H: or paramedics. Um, in fact the officers in other words what I'm saying is . . .
2 T: Uh huh.
3 H: what I saw up to the arrival of the ambulance the officers continued at least one of
4 them who was standing to the north . . .
5 T: Uh huh.
6 H: of the man who was shot . . .
7 T: Uh huh.
8 H: That officer was most visible to me from my side.
9 T: Uh huh.
10 H: of the street he continued to uh . . . keep his gun trained with both hands.
11 T: Uh huh.
12 H: The double handgrip. Uh, continued to keep his gun on the man that was on the
13 ground.
14 T: Uh huh.
15 H: As far as I can determine up until the time other officers came in and or the
16 ambulance arrived.
17 T: Okay.
18 H: And those things all happened in such . . . fast frequency there that it's hard to
19 separate one from another.
20 T: Alrighty.
21 H: The other thing I think that is important to put in here if if I may . . .
22 T: Sure.
23 H: is that um . . . uh . . . this whole matter . . .
24 T: Uh huh.
25 H: I think took no more than 15 or 20 seconds.
26 T: Uh huh.
27 H: Of what I actually witnessed.
28 T: Uh huh.
H: In other words they . . . I know I've read the reports in the newspaper and so forth.
T: Um.
H: What ever happened before I saw nothing of that.
T: Right.

1 H: Nothing of it. I no nothing of it . . .

2 T: Um.

3 H: other than what I've read in the paper.

4 T: Right.

5 H: And so I don't try to make any claims of having seen anything else.

6 T: Uh huh.

7 H: But the little slice of the whole thing, which I saw which was sort of the combination
8 of the whole struggle. . .

9 T: Uh huh.

10 H: was not more than 15 or 20 seconds total. It was just sudden kinda like a sudden burst
11 of activity and then it was over.

12 T: Right.

13 H: And the back up officers came in after that. It was very shortly after backups arrived.
14 They started clearing the streets and what not. Clearing the scene from all the crowd .
15 . .

16 T: Uh huh.

17 H: that was gathering.

18 T: Sure.

19 H: Uh, then uh the paramedics from P.B. Fire Station came in.

20 T: Right.

21 H: There's nothing that you have there John that you've read. . .

22 T: Uh huh.

23 H: that I would disagree with.

24 T: Alright. Well that's what I wanted to find out.

25 H: Yeah.

26 T: Alright well Mr.Huff . . .

27 H: Let me say one other thing.

28 T: Sure you bet. [Personal data deleted]

H: Uh, but . . .you have got the essence of what of I saw there.

T: Alrighty.

H: There no question about that. [Personal data deleted]

T: Take care sir.

1 H: Sure.
2 T: Bye Bye.
3 H: Bye.
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