

Trooper Keppick.

Q. Well, you have just said it is foreign to this or that?

A. It appeared to be foreign because the dirt was flopped over grass.

Q. The soil in itself, have you ever seen such soil in this area?

A. Yes, it didn't seem to be anything unusual.

Q. That is all.

By Mr. Ertel:

That is all.

(Excused from witness stand.).

By Mr. Ertel:

It has been stipulated that Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 81 was a soil sample obtained from the Dye-Tex Corporation by Corporal Barto as testified to by, as would be testified to by Corporal Barto and also by Mr. Kremser.

TROOPER ALFRED R. GOMB, being duly sworn according to law, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

By Mr. Ertel:

Q. State your full name?

A. Trooper Alfred R. Gomb.

Q. Your occupation?

A. Pennsylvania State Police, Montoursville.

Q. How long have you been a Trooper?

A. This is my 14th year of service.

Q. Trooper, in this particular case, did you have

Trooper Gomb.

a special duty in relation to the vehicle of Kim Hubbard at the South Williamsport Borough Hall?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What did you do?

A. I was assigned to conduct a search of the interior of the vehicle and also to gather samples from the, soil samples from the interior and exterior of the vehicle.

Q. Did you do so?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Would you explain what you did as far as a search of the vehicle was concerned?

A. On the interior of the vehicle I examined the floor, dash, glove compartment, seats, complete interior of the vehicle and in so doing I gathered what appeared to be strands of hair from the front floor, front seat, passenger compartment.

Q. What did you do with that?

A. The strands were packaged in a plastic bag, sealed in a white envelope, marked as evidence and were later turned over to the evidence Officer.

Q. Who is Evidence Officer?

A. I turned those over to Corporal Houser.

Q. I show you marked as Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 100 and ask you if you can identify that?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What is it?

A. This is the manila envelope with a State Police evidence tag which contains a plastic bag with hair that I gathered

Trooper Gomb.

from the interior of the vehicle.

Q. Where did you find that hair?

A. This hair was found on the front seat, in the floor mats, and along the front door, in the seat belt on the or in the front of the vehicle.

Q. That was turned over to Trooper Houser?

A. Yes.

Q. You personally sealed those envelopes?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. I show you marked as Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 98 and ask you if you can identify that?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What is it?

A. Brown manila envelope on the evidence tag, which contains two white that each contain a plastic bag containing soil samples.

Q. Where were these taken from?

A. These were taken from the undercarriage, the frame area of the Oldsmobile vehicle by me.

Q. You personally scraped those?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Incidentally, will you describe the exterior of that vehicle when you examined it as far as cleanliness and so on, the exterior of the vehicle, the undercarriage, wheel wells and so on?

A. Those areas were clean, quite clean.

A. Could you get dust or dirt at all by rubbing your

Trooper Gomb.

hand on them?

A. Very little, possibly you would get some dust on your hands, but very little dust and dirt.

Q. You didn't find globs of mud or dirt underneath at all?

A. No, I didn't, Sir.

Q. I show you marked as Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 99, can you identify that?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What is it?

A. These are the individual samples that I obtained from scrapings and gathering off various points of the vehicle.

Q. Scrapings of what?

A. Mud, soil samples, dirt material.

Q. Where did you have to scrape to get those samples, Officer Gomb?

A. On the inside of the wheel wells, most to the rear section of the wheel wells and underneath the framing of the wheel wheels.

Q. Couldn't you get any samples from just underneath the car itself?

A. Not necessary.

Q. Was it clean there, is that what you are saying?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. And you had to go all of the way up in the wheel well to get a sample?

A. Inside and underneath it, yes, Sir.

Trooper Gomb.

*Feb 11 Faust  
Said Gomb's 90  
if he could  
475.  
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take off*

Q. If you come down, Officer, I would like you to examine Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 90, can you identify that?

A. (Witness leaves stand.) Yes, Sir.

Q. What is it?

A. It is a spare tire that I received from Poole's Service Station area.

Q. Did you personally obtain that tire?

A. Yes, Sir, I did.

Q. Do you recall who you obtained it from?

A. Mr. Faust.

Q. What date did you obtain that tire?

A. The 31st of October.

Q. Did you examine the car when the tires were still on it?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Can you describe the tires on the car as far as newness and oldness is concerned?

A. The two tires in the rear were old tires. There was one tire on the front of the vehicle, I believe on the left front, which was a newer, good condition tire. The tire in the right front was in poor condition.

Q. Subsequent to that you went to Poole's and obtained this particular tire, is that correct?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Now, in your search of the vehicle, did you search the vehicle again after the 31st of October?

A. Yes, Sir, I did.

Trooper Gomb.

Q. When did you search the vehicle again?

A. I searched the vehicle again on the evening, I believe the 1st of November.

Q. What did you do on that occasion?

A. On that occasion the complete interior of the vehicle was removed from the body.

Q. Did you take that out personally and with the help of others?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What did you find, if anything?

A. Nothing that I know to be of consequences. The only material that I gathered from that search that I packaged or marked as evidence was a section of fingernail, and also.... I am thinking over another time, Sir.

Q. All right, you found a fingernail, you tagged it with an evidence tag, is that right?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Did you submit that to Officer Houser?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Was that a cut fingernail or torn fingernail, from your observation?

A. I don't remember, Sir.

Q. For the benefit of Mr. Fierro, we will stipulate that fingernail was not able to be identified, it appeared to be a cut nail rather than a torn nail.

By Mr. Fierro:

I object, I don't want to agree or disagree.

*Call to be further of drawing on board*  
*WPAK 112*  
*476/*  
*T-ANSOY*

Trooper Gomb.

By The Court:

Strike it from the record and the Jury is instructed to disregard it, there is no stipulation.

By Mr. Ertel:

Q. Did you examine the vehicle again?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. When did you examine it again?

A. The evening of the 4th of November.

Q. What did you do on that occasion?

A. On that occasion I removed the contents from the vehicle, the interior and exterior, excuse me, the trunk.

Q. What did you remove from the trunk?

A. I removed a box of wood and a piece of material that I identified as "Gunk", caulking type material, and white powder substance. *He eliminated Spare Tire*

Q. That had no consequence for this investigation, as far as you were concerned?

A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. When you first examined the vehicle, did you observe a white helmet in the vehicle?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Where was that located?

A. The rear portion of the interior of the vehicle.

Q. No further questions.

By The Court:

Mr. Pierro?

CROSS EXAMINATION

By Mr. Fierro:

Q. This tire, tire No. 90 that you examined, you say you got this from a Mr. Faust at Poole's Service Station?

A. I believe that is the name, yes, Sir.

Q. Now, do you know where this Mr. Faust got the tire from, I mean at his station, where was it?

A. Yes, I know where it was.

Q. Where was it?

A. It was outside, to the outside of the building, outside of the south portion.

Q. When you say "outside", you mean exposed to the elements?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. And do you know how long it had been there? I mean if you know, don't guess?

A. Only what I was told, Sir.

Q. Only what you were told by whom, Mr. Faust?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Now, we understand as you say the outside of the Hubbard car was clean, but the inside was <sup>very</sup> dirty, wasn't it?

A. I would not characterize it as "very dirty".

Q. How about just "dirty"?

A. Dirty, yes, Sir.

Q. The outside clean, the inside dirty?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you the first man to make a search of the



Trooper Gomb.

interior of the car?

A. I believe so, yes.

Q. Assisted by somebody else?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Captain Smith?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Who?

A. Corporal Barto.

Q. In making an examination of the interior of the car, didn't you fellows place a lot of these objects on the ledge of the rear?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Well, who put the rim or what appears to be hub caps or rims on the ledge of this car, do you know?

A. I know of one, Sir.

Q. Who put it there?

A. I may have put it there.

Q. In other words then you did put something on that rear ledge?

A. No, Sir, I remember one hub cap in the rear of the vehicle and in searching I remember items on the back seat. I know that the one, I know there was one hub cap in the rear, but I don't remember if I had put it there or if it had been there prior. I remember the item as being there.

Q. Well, a moment ago you said you put it there?

A. I don't believe I said that, Sir, I said possibly I may have, I don't know.

Trooper Gomb.

Q. Did you make a check to determine about this white helmet, as to how long it may have been in that car?

A. No, Sir.

Q. You don't know whether it was there October 19th or not, do you?

A. No, Sir.

Q. All you know is when you saw this car at the Police Borough Hall, that stuff, whatever it was, that was on the ledge, including the white helmet was there?

A. Yes.

Q. That is all you know about it, right?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. That car had been there before you got there?

A. Right.

Q. Perhaps for days?

A. No, Sir.

Q. For how long?

A. That car arrived at the Borough Hall while I was at the Borough Hall.

Q. Brought there by whom?

A. I didn't see the arrival, Sir, I was inside of the building.

Q. You mean you didn't see Kim Hubbard drive that car down there?

A. That is correct, Sir.

Q. By the way, did you interrogate Kim Hubbard at any time?

Trooper Gomb.

A. No, Sir.

Q. Well, then all you know is about your search of the interior and exterior of the car and whatever things you picked up and turned over to Corporal Houser, is that the size of the investigation that you participated in?

A. Yes, Sir, and also that I turned the car back in the presence of Chief Smith to Mr. Hubbard.

Q. It is not too important, but how long was that car in Police custody at that time before it was turned back to Kim Hubbard? Let's say about two weeks?

A. No, Sir, from the, I believe from the date of 31st of October until the evening hours of the 7th of November.

Q. Seven or eight days?

A. Approximately, yes.

Q. And then, of course, subsequently the car was also obtained, I don't know whether it was by you or someother Officer, do you remember?

A. Not to my knowledge, no, Sir.

Q. Do you know where the car is now?

A. Today, yes, Sir.

Q. Where?

A. The State Police Barracks in Montoursville.

Q. Do you know when it was gotten by the State Police this last time?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. When?

A. On the night that Mr. Hubbard was taken into custody.

Trooper Gomb.

Q. When was that?

A. I am not familiar with that night, Sir.

Q. You have now told us the extent of your participation in this case?

A. I did have other participation as far as investigation, yes, Sir.

Q. Well, let's find out what you investigated, now you said you did some other matters, did they include, for example showing some photographs of suspects to other people?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Well, what else did you do in this case?

A. I conducted house to house inquiries and correlated reports, information, talked to different people.

Q. When you say "correlated reports" are we talking about paper work?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. But you did go house to house, obviously looking for anybody who might know something about this case, isn't that correct?

A. That is correct, Sir.

Q. And when you say "talking to people", that is also what you mean by that answer, whether you went house to house or whether you seen them on the street, this is what you mean, searching for witnesses?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Did you go to the Grimes' house in the course of your investigation which is next door to the Hubbard house?

A. Not to my knowledge, no, Sir.

Q. When you say you went house to house, where did you go house to house?

A. Howard Street.

Q. Just Howard Street?

A. Howard Street and the intersecting streets where a home was located on the corners.

Q. Howard Street is where Mrs. Nevel lives, I believe?

A. I believe so, yes.

Q. Did you go in Mrs. Nevel's neighborhood, house to house talking to people?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Did you find anybody else who saw Jennifer Hill around 4:30?

A. No, Sir, I did not.

Q. How many people did you talk to on Howard Street, approximately, unless you know exactly?

A. Approximately 75.

Q. Approximately 75?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Of all of those people, you could find not a one, and I am not talking about Mrs. Nevel, you could not find a one who saw Jennifer Hill on that street, October 19th, around 4:30, could you?

A. No, Sir, I could not.

Q. Did you canvass West Central Avenue near Market Street?

A. No, Sir.

Trooper Gomb.

Q. I suppose somebody else did?

A. I believe so, yes.

Q. Thank you, that is all.

By The Court:

Gentlemen, we are going to recess, unless it is a very short re-direct.

By Mr. Ertel:

I don't if it will be short, I don't know.

By The Court:

The Defendant is excused. The jury is excused.

Court is recessed.

(Recessed at 10:55 A.M., EDST.).

(Reconvened at 11:15 A.M., EDST.).

(Trooper Alfred Gomb returned to witness stand.).

(Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 106 marked for identification.).

By Mr. Ertel:

Q. Over the recess we looked and found Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 106, can you identify that?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What is it?

A. This is the fingernail that I found in the fold of the front seat of the vehicle and the box and bagged that, I prepared for the evidence.

Q. Who did you turn that over to?

A. Corporal Houser.

Q. You put it in the box?

A. Yes, Sir.

Trooper Gomb.

Q. Did you put it in the bag also?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Did you seal the bag?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Thank you. Now, which seat did you find that in?

A. This came from the innerfold of the front seat of the vehicle.

Q. Now, when you say "innerfold", that does not describe to me where it was actually?

A. During the search of the seat, the seat was removed from the car itself, taken out of the car, put on newspapers that I had laid on the floor, the innerflap from the bottom of the seat, the seat itself and the top of the back portion of the seat was taken apart and the material between that fold was allowed to fall onto the newspaper. In so doing that is when I discovered that fingernail.

Q. Which side of the car was that on, left or right?

A. It just fell from the fold of the vehicle, Sir, I cannot say if it was to any particular side.

Q. Officer this is the back of the seat (draws on board), this is the back where you lean against, and this is the seat, you are talking in here?

A. That is correct. (Indicating between back of seat and the seat itself.).

Q. Now, Officer, you said you were the coordinator of the reports and so on, did you man the telephone in Borough Hall?

A. Yes, Sir.

Trooper Gomb.

Q. Did you receive a call on November 3rd?

A. Several calls, yes, Sir.

Q. Did you receive in particular from the Hubbard home?

A. Yes, Sir, I did.

Q. What time approximately was that call?

A. The afternoon hours, I did not log the time.

Q. In the afternoon hours?

A. Yes.

Q. Who called?

A. A party on the phone identified herself as Mrs.

Hubbard.

Q. Who did she ask to speak with?

A. With you, Sir.

Q. Did you hand the phone to me?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Subsequent to that, did somebody appear at Borough Hall?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Who appeared?

A. Kim Hubbard.

Q. Can you tell us approximately how long after that phone call?

A. 20 minutes - a half hour.

Q. Now, you said you made a search of the Howard Street area, is that correct?

A. Yes, Sir.



Trooper Gomb.

Q. From house to house, were you able to determine if most people worked and were home on that particular day on October 19th?

By Mr. Fierro:

He is asking for hearsay, and I object.

By Mr. Ertel:

He asked him for what he did.

By The Court:

The objection is over ruled, you may answer.

A. Yes, Sir.

By Mr. Ertel:

Q. What was your results as far as your investigation along that street?

A. Approximately half of the people that I talked to, close to half of the people that I talked to were not at home during the course of my questioning, they were working or away.

Q. And half of the people you talked to, did they indicate whether they were home on October 19th?

By Mr. Fierro:

I object.

By The Court:

The objection is sustained.

By Mr. Ertel:

No further questions.

RE-CROSS EXAMINATION

By Mr. Fierro:

Q. You either did or did not talk to 75 people on

Trooper Gomb.

Howard Street as you told me, now what is it?

A. I talked to that approximate number, Sir.

Q. That is right. Okey, by the way, just a few more questions that I missed on the search of the car, did you find the girl's ear ring?

A. No, Sir.

Q. You did not?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Did you find a girl's clothing of any sort?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Did you find your, in your search there were, however minute, any blood particles anywhere in the car?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Did you find anywhere in the car that there was damage to the interior of the car, particularly the seat, the fabric, anything of that nature other than normal wear and tear?

A. No, Sir.

Q. That is all.

By Mr. Ertel:

I have no further questions.

(Excused from witness stand.)

JAMES L. MILLER, being duly sworn according to law, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

By Mr. Ertel:

It is stipulated that Corporal Barto took Commonwealth Exhibit No. 80, which is mud or dirt, whatever you want to call it,