

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

IRELAND



| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Reference Code: | 2010/19/1714 |
| Creation Date(s): | 21 January 1977 |
| Extent and medium: | 8 pages |
| Creator(s): | Department of Foreign Affairs |
| Access Conditions: | Open |
| Copyright: | National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives. |

THE QUEEN

- v -

PATRICK ARMSTRONG

A F F I D A V I T

of

Edward Butler

SWORN

1977

FILED

1977

Messrs George E. Baker & Co.
Norfolk House,
187 High Street,
Guildford, Surrey GU1 3AX
Solicitors for the Appellant

4

THE QUEEN

- v -

PATRICK ARMSTRONG

I EDWARD BUTLER of H.M. Prison Brixton, Jebb Avenue, London SW2 MAKE OATH and SAY as follows:

1. There is now produced and shown to me marked "A" a copy of a statement the original of which was in the handwriting of Mr. James Still and signed by me together with one plan marked "EB 1" and initialled by me.
2. There is now produced and shown to me marked "B" a verbatim transcript of the interview between myself, Mr. James Still and Mr. Alastair Logan in the presence of my Solicitor Mr. Rose-Smith taken on the 1st November 1976.
3. My statement the plan and the verbatim transcript of the interview are true to the best of my recollection knowledge and belief.
4. I am prepared to attend Court and testify at this Appeal if required to do so.

SWORN at H.M. Prison, Brixton

this 21st day of January 1977

E. Butler

Before me,

J. T. F. L.
.....
~~Commissioner for Oaths/Solicitor~~

LFA

" A "

Contents

A copy of a statement signed
by me together with plan
marked "EB 1"

Brixton Prison
1st November, 1976.

Statement of EDWARD BUTLER, No. 338637, Brixton Prison, S.W.2.

I have been cautioned that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so and that anything I say will be recorded and may be disclosed to the prosecuting authorities, i.e. The Home Office, Police or both.

(Signed) E. Butler.

I am not involved in the Guildford incident - I wasn't in the Country at the time - I think it was August 1974 I came middle of October 1974.

On 6th November 1974 I was in a rented room in Fulham with three other men.. The bomb used on Kings Arms, Woolwich, was made in the room on Wednesday - the others were Harry Duggan, Joe O'Connell and Brendon Dowd. It had been arranged for me to meet O'Connell and Dowd on my arrival in this Country.

The bomb was made of about 6 lbs gelignite i.e. about 12 sticks and about 2 lbs of bolts - not too sure about 3 inches long - to make anti personnel bomb, commercial detonator and fuse of 7 seconds delay - the fuse was off a roll - cut at 7 seconds. I am not sure I think nuts as well. Probably two matches taped to fuse - sticks taped with masking tape bolts taped outside - carried it in a duffle bag. O'Connell was the leader of the group. The group had intelligence on the pub. I didn't know before coming - it was discussed by the boys as to which pub - because soldiers were in it.

About 7 o'clock that evening Dowd and Duggan went for a car - steal one. O'Connell and I arranged to meet them about 9 o'clock in Sloane Square. I think it's alongside the tube station.

O'Connell had the bag and we went to the pub we had one or two drinks while waiting. One - Brendon Dowd - came in looked around and saw and went back outside. O'Connell and I then left met Brendon Dowd outside - then to a nearby street where there was a car. White Corsair 4 door went in that car - it was my first job and I remember it fairly well. Dowd drove straight to Woolwich got there about half ten - parked in Francis Street. O'Connell and Dowd at separate times went up to see if there were many soldiers in it - decided to come back next night - This had happened on Wednesday evening. Returned to city

left car - O'Connell and I returned to flat 21 Waldemar Avenue, Fulham. Dowd returned separately from other two.

Next day, Thursday, Duggan and Dowd went out to get a car. O'Connell and I said we'd meet in same pub, Sloane Square. O'Connell carried bomb in duffle bag. We had drink and about 9 o'clock Dowd and Duggan came in, also had drink. Left to same street as before. Not same car but a dark Contina. Drove straight there, Dowd drove. On main road just before Kings Arms I got out - the others drove on and left into Francis Street. I walked into car park of pub to look in window - saw good few soldiers in pub and went to Francis Street to meet the boys in car - said "Good, worth doing". O'Connell said he was going to look at an entry - near pub - as he thought we might do it from there. Said high wall - couldn't do it - decided to throw in window facing Francis Street. O'Connell, Duggan and I got out - O'Connell had bomb - Duggan was going to cover him - he had a gun - there was a covered in lorry down from the pub - middle aged man sitting down in lorry. I was to keep an eye on him in case he got suspicious. O'Connell threw bomb - the boys ran back - bomb went off before we got into car - we got in - Dowd had motor running - and drove away. It was dark - I don't think the car had parking lights on when stopped. Just as we drove away a woman running or hurrying towards pub on opposite side to pub - further down on left crowd came from another pub but no one took notice of car so far as I could tell.

About 2 miles from pub decided to abandon car in case anyone had noted number. On way passed bus going to London, bit further turned left and left again into housing estate. Got out, Duggan and O'Connell hurried back to catch bus. Dowd and I followed, there was stop after turned right. O'Connell and Duggan got on stayed down stairs, Dowd and I went upstairs. After bus got a tube to Putney Bridge.

We listened to LBC on radio to hear what had happened. Later followed reports in papers as well.

"p" is pub on my sketch - "B" where I left the car (Sketch is ERI). "L" is lorry, "C" compressor, "D" is car, "X" is window where bomb was thrown, "B1" is where I stood, "CP" is car park, "W" is where I saw woman, Arrow indicates direction we drove off. I didn't see any signs of work having been done to the road.

Looking at London Street Guide I think it was junction of

Francis Street and Hillreach - I'm not sure but I think it was Clivedon Place where Dowd parked at Sloane Square.

I didn't go on any reconnaissance. I don't know where bolts came from, I didn't purchase them. We had two rooms in Fulham, one down, bomb made upstairs - I didn't make it. The car was four door, dark coloured Cortina. One of the boys told me usually was a Cortina - I do'n't know where it was stolen from - I don't think there was a radio - been in so many easy to get mixed up. I do'n't know number of bus we took after leaving car. Dowd drove, O'Connell in front, I sat behind O'Connell, Duggan sat behind Dowd. When I got back I got in behind Dowd - Dowd had stayed in car. I was wearing blue coat $\frac{3}{4}$ length - Police have it - didn't wear hood which zipped on - had green bush hat on, blue trousers, black shoes, grey pullover inside coat - not sure whether wearing sports jacket as well - I think the other three had plastics macs - Brendon could have been wearing a hat - all four were armed. Not any of us went into pub. I think there were couple cars parked in front of ours in Francis Street. When driving away we didn't go fast because we didn't want to draw attention to ourselves. I was looking to my right and behind when we drove away.

When got to Putney Bridge station I was with Dowd - the other two were travelling apart from Dowd and myself - got back roughly same time.

I am not sure where Corsair was dumped but nearer to town - got home by tube - don't know car numbers.

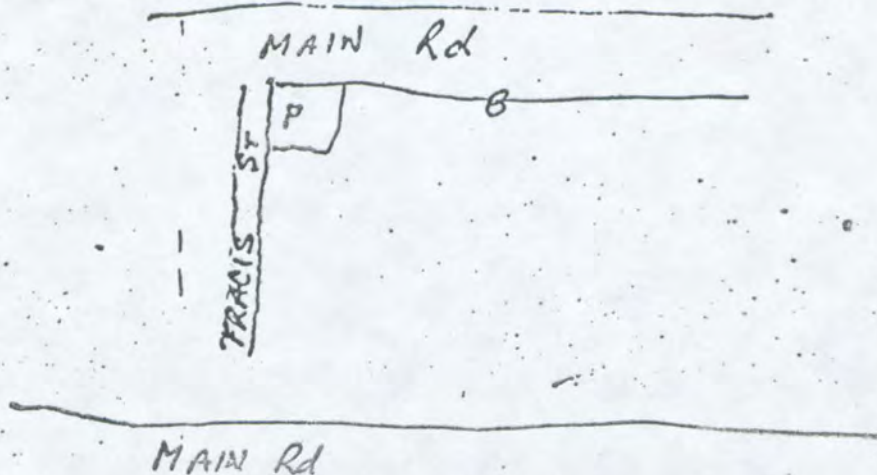
This has been read to me and it is true.

(Signed) E. Butler

Statement taken and read over to Edward Butler by me and signed by Edward Butler after he had agreed that it represented the substance of what he had said during an interview with him

(Signed) J. Still

EB1



THE QUEEN

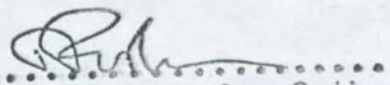
- v -

PATRICK ARMSTRONG

This is the exhibit marked "A"
referred to in the Affidavit
of Edward Butler

Sworn this 21st day of January
1977

Before me,


.....
Commissioner for Caths
Solicitor

George E. Baker & Co.,
Norfolk House,
187 High Street,
Guildford, Surrey GU1 3AX
Solicitors for the Appellant