

Petherick Michael (MOJ)

From: Petherick Michael (MOJ)
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July 2000 9:51 am
To: 'Thomas Eichelbaum'
Cc: Sim Val (MOJ)
Subject: RE: PETER ELLIS INQUIRY

Dear Sir Thomas

I have spoken with Court officials at the Christchurch High Court in relation to tape ' According to officials, the unrelated disclosure interview that you observed was accidentally recorded on the master tape subsequent to interview but prior to trial. The Police have destroyed their working copy of the tape, and there are no other copies.

I have requested the Court to make three edited copies of the tape, with the unrelated interview excised. We hope to receive the edited tapes before the end of this week. Upon receipt, we will send one tape to you, and retain the remaining two. As suggested, we will also endorse the tapes with an explanation prior to supplying them to the international experts.

At some stage, you may wish to return the version of tape 92/172 that you currently hold to me. We will send the three copies to the Christchurch High Court to be destroyed.

Finally, you may be interested to know that, according to Mr Chris Lange of the Christchurch Crown Solicitor's office, because the initial section of : interview was wiped prior to trial, the tape was not shown to the jury.

Please ring me if you have any queries, or if anything is unclear.

Regards: Michael

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas Eichelbaum
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2000 7:30 PM
To: Petherick Michael (MOJ)
Subject: PETER ELLIS INQUIRY

Michael, no immediate hurry but before the tapes are sent off to the international experts, you need to check.

In my copy, the first 6 pages of transcript were not on the tape. Instead, there was a portion of a disclosure interview with an intellectually handicapped person, concerning some unrelated case. If the 2 tapes you are holding are the same, they need to be patched up in some way - at a minimum the unrelated interview should be deleted, and a brief explanation endorsed on the cassette, to the effect that the commencement of the interview is missing.

Thanks, Thomas Eichelbaum