

RECORD OF TELEPHONE C

CRIME & MISCONDUCT COMMISSION
No. 2005-5 Date 10 Nov 05
IN THE MATTER OF:

OP GRAND

EXHIBIT No. *213*

CLERK

TAPE NO: 1 (of) 1

DATE: 19/10/2005

PLACE: CMC

TIME COMMENCED: 1114HRS

TIME CONCLUDED: 1143HRS

INTERVIEWEE: HENRY JOSEPH HODGSON

INTERVIEWER/S: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI

LEGAL OFFICER: THERESA HAMILTON

RE: OPERATION GRAND

FILE NUMBER: MI-05-2482

Complainant:	OPERATION GRAND
Subject(s):	OPERATION GRAND
Investigator:	DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI
Statement Of:	HENRY JOSEPH HODGSON
Legal Officer:	THERESA HAMILTON
File Number:	MI-05-2482
Directory :	

COPY TAPE 1 OF 1 - RECORD OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN
DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI AND HENRY JOSEPH HODGSON

LEGAL OFFICER: THERESA HAMILTON

RE: OPERATION GRAND

KB = KEN BEMI

HH = HENRY HODGSON

1 KB The time now is 11:14am on the morning of Wednesday the 19th day of October 2005.
2 I'm attempting to telephone Mr Henry Joseph Hodgson who is Niree Christison's father
3 in order to ask him some questions pertaining to his involvement with Quadrant or Chris
4 Morgan from Quadrant and in particular whether he had any meetings (ui). Dialling the
5 mobile phone number provided by Niree Christison 0412882242
6
7 -Background Noise- (People talking)
8
9 HH Hello
10
11 KB Hi I was after Henry Hodgson thanks
12
13 HH Speaking
14
15 KB Yes ah Henry my name's Ken Bemi. I'm a Detective Inspector with the Crime and
16 Misconduct Commission in Brisbane. How are you?
17
18 HH Good thanks, yourself?
19
20 KB Not too bad at all thanks. Have you got a couple of minutes for me to chat?
21
22 HH (ui)
23
24 KB Thank you very much. I spoke to Niree yesterday
25
26 HH (ui) my daughter yep
27
28 KB Yeah your daughter and she suggested I give you a call to clarify a number of issues
29
30 HH Right
31

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32 KB Um now as you know the ah Crime and Misconduct Commission is conducting an
33 inquiry into the events surrounding the Gold Coast City Council in March 2004
34
35 HH (ui)
36
37 KB Now, can you just explain ah well first of all can I just grab you full name if you wouldn't
38 mind
39
40 HH Yeah Henry Joseph Hodgson
41
42 KB And you date of birth
43
44 HH 13/01/40
45
46 KB And what's your current address Henry?
47
48 HH 1414 Mount Cotton Road Burbank
49
50 KB And you current occupation?
51
52 HH Ah oh company director
53
54 KB Right okay and ah what company is that with, can I ask?
55
56 HH Yes um Champion Bicycles and Scooters Pty Ltd
57
58 KB And whereabouts are they?
59
60 HH Ah we were at ah Capalaba, we're at ah Tenterfield, Caboolture we were at Capalaba (ui)
61 burgled three times in ah six months and ah each time they caught 'em they'd pat 'em on
62 the head and let 'em go again
63
64 KB That's no good at all
65
66 HH Bloody terrible
67
68 KB Yes
69
70 HH So we closed that store down so we're now actually operating I've had a big shed built on
71 my property here at Burbank
72
73 KB Yeah
74
75 HH So we're operating from here

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76
77 KB Alright. Listen the ah March 2004 elections, your daughter Niree ran as a candidate
78
79 HH Correct
80
81 KB And she ran against ah Eddie Sarroff I believe
82
83 HH Correct
84
85 KB Can you tell me your involvement in those ah elections
86
87 HH Yes I was the campaign manager for it if if you'd call it such I mean I run the campaign
88 for her
89
90 KB For your daughter Niree?
91
92 HH Yeah
93
94 KB And what was your involvement as a campaign manager?
95
96 HH Oh day-to-day hands on (ui)
97
98 KB Alright and can you tell me ah what kind of things that included?
99
100 HH Oh that included sort of sitting down with Niree going through the um procedures, what
101 brochures were to be done um you know manning her booths ah getting people to man the
102 booths and ah getting distribution of the pamphlets (ui) letterboxes all that sort of thing
103
104 KB Now can you tell me when Niree actually nominated to run in the council elections?
105
106 HH I think it was most probably about three weeks or so before it was it was just before the
107 close-off date about four or five days before the close-off date for candidates to nominate
108
109 KB Were there any other people involved ah with you in managing her campaign?
110
111 HH Oh not really, my wife and two other people I s'pose you know whatever friend you could
112 possibly get to help ah Gail (ui) who was in the liberal party at ah Broadbeach
113
114 KB Were there any other councillors that linked support?
115
116 HH No they offered, one offered
117
118 KB And who was that?
119

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120 HH Bob La Castra
121
122 KB And what kind of offer did that take
123
124 HH Well I was actually in Sydney and Niree phoned me and said that Bob had spoken to her
125 and said that um he wanted to meet some people um
126
127 KB He wanted or she wanted to meet some people
128
129 HH He suggested she meet
130
131 KB Okay
132
133 HH These people who were possibly could help her and her campaign so she spoke to me in
134 Sydney and I said to her you're not to see anybody um (ui) when they sort of say these
135 sort of things you get a bit bloody wary about 'em. You want to be there when they come
136 because Niree, even though she's an extremely intelligent and ah well educated person
137 she ah you know they can get sort of ah
138
139 KB Sure
140
141 HH (ui) so I said no I must be there um so make an appointment for such and such a date
142 which was I'm pretty sure (ui) it was a Monday um ah and I'll go with you um I then
143 came back from Sydney um and we actually had coffee with ah Bob La Castra and um
144 (ui) what's all this about and he just said oh you know I just want to help ah candidates if
145 they can which people don't help for nothing you know so
146
147 KB Exactly. Why did he want to help?
148
149 HH Well that's exactly the reason I sort of said to Niree see a candidate should not take
150 donations themselves. Candidates should never handle donations (ui). That's the
151 procedure we've always operated on and I've been involved in quite a lot of campaigns in
152 ah in Brisbane over the last twenty odd years um so anyway um (ui) an appointment was
153 arranged with Chris somebody or other I think it was and um we went down and um I was
154 a bit suspicious because I'm pretty certain the building had Ray Constructions on it. I'm
155 not too sure it might have been next door but anyway I went into this building and ah with
156 Niree and we sat down and um this guy was going on and Bob was going on (ui) and I
157 just said to him straight out you know could you tell me what we're actually here for and
158 what ah this meeting's all about um Niree's running as an independent and um her first
159 duty is to the constituents of the (ui) and secondly the whole Gold Coast and ah he said oh
160 you know we can do this we can possibly help you to help them I said I don't think you
161 can, our campaign's already pretty well mapped out and um and she's ah she doesn't
162 want to (ui)
163

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164 KB Was she offered any donations?
165
166 HH No no
167
168 KB She wasn't, so what was the meeting for?
169
170 HH Well I think it may have developed further but I cut it pretty well short um you know it
171 was only the whole meeting only went for maybe ah oh max ten minutes I s'pose
172
173 KB Alright if I can take you back just a couple of steps there, are you saying you met with this
174 person as a result of a recommendation from Bob La Castra
175
176 HH Yeah
177
178 KB Alright we don't know why he wanted to help Niree?
179
180 HH Well I mean Niree's pretty well known on the coast you know and ah I think she'd had
181 some dealings with Bob La Castra in so far as um she's involved in this ah Against Youth
182 Suicide (ui) stuff on the coast and I think she's most probably had some contacts plus the
183 um Police Citizens Youth Club down at ah um off Monaco Street there (ui) so she's been
184 involved in those sort of things as a volunteer on quite a few occasions (ui) more than
185 likely she got to know him through that
186
187 KB Did Bob La Castra indicate what this meeting would achieve, not the meeting with him
188 but meeting with this other person?
189
190 HH No he didn't he just said that they may be able to help Niree
191
192 KB In in what way?
193
194 HH Well there was no way (ui) maybe with advice and ah this sort of thing but ah there was
195 no mention at any time of money funds but at the same time I didn't like the feeling I had
196 in the guts
197
198 KB Right so he didn't outline any particular services that
199
200 HH No nah
201
202 KB This person may be able to provide?
203
204 HH No only that um maybe the (ui) the campaign for her and you know possibly ah (ui) and
205 that's when I (ui) let's have a look you know the campaign's already set out um we know
206 what we're doing um
207

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208 KB Was there any mention from Bob La Castra about a power bloc at all
209
210 HH No no
211
212 KB Or a bloc of candidates?
213
214 HH No not to my no
215
216 KB What about a a fund, an election fund?
217
218 HH No but you know if you've got half a brain and I mean the thing is I just didn't like the
219 see Niree was running as an independent and I wanted her to continue running as an
220 independent I didn't want anybody coming (ui) well you know I helped you know I
221 helped you do the campaign, I helped to do this um and ah as I said you know look (ui)
222 about quite a bit ah I just thought of um ah um I just didn't like it
223
224 KB Did he ever mention, he being Bob La Castra, anything in relation to a Commonsense
225 Fund or a Lionel Barden Trust Fund?
226
227 HH No
228
229 KB No mention of that at all ?
230
231 HH No no there was no mention of any financial assistance ah it was only my gut feeling that
232 I just didn't ah want Niree to be involved in
233
234 KB Fair enough
235
236 HH I think they may have said I think he may have said that there were some other candidates
237 getting help but I can't be sure about that
238
239 KB You can't recall what candidates he mentioned?
240
241 HH I I can't remember if he did but I have a feeling that um that that's only you know ah
242 possibly somewhere in my mind but whether that was ah it was said or not I I don't know
243 ah I think it (ui) you know these people can help you Niree and ah you know if you're
244 serious about running and winning and you stand against the (ui) guy on the Gold Coast
245 um
246
247 KB But he didn't he was not specific in relation to how that help would be or how it would in
248 what form it would take the assistance?
249

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250 HH No no it (ui) you know see this guy and ah see what he can ah you know he can help
251 cause he's experienced in all this sort of thing and ah you know he can possibly ah help
252 (ui) your program, your campaign (ui)
253
254 KB Where did the meeting take place with Bob La Castra I'm talking about sorry?
255
256 HH Oh that that was just in a in a coffee shop (ui) in Broadbeach
257
258 KB You don't know which coffee shop or
259
260 HH No Niree might remember I can't remember
261
262 KB Alright do you know when that was?
263
264 HH To put a date on it, no I wouldn't ah but it was um I'm pretty certain I had her meeting
265 with um Chris whatever his name is ah on a Monday I think it was so it most probably
266 would have been the previous Thursday (ui)
267
268 KB So was there anyone else present at the meeting with Bob La Castra apart from himself,
269 you and Niree
270
271 HH No just the three of us
272
273 KB Alright so Bob La Castra suggested you meet with this person Chris. Do you know what
274 his last name was?
275
276 HH No but I have read it in the paper so I'd be lying if I didn't (ui)
277
278 KB Alright and who do you think that would be now since you read it in the paper?
279
280 HH Morgan wasn't it
281
282 KB Chris Morgan yeah and do you know what company he was attached to?
283
284 HH I'm pretty certain it was Quadrant
285
286 KB Quadrant did you realise it was Quadrant when you went there?
287
288 HH Well I mean it's all on the (ui)
289
290 KB Yeah
291
292 HH Is that -stutters- actually in Ray um Ray's (ui) on it
293

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294 KB Yeah there's a whole um host of offices there
295
296 HH (ui)
297
298 KB I think it's next to Ray's building matter of fact
299
300 HH I'm pretty certain it was you know I said either in the building or next door as soon as I
301 saw that um I got a bit a bit of a tickle in the brain so
302
303 KB So Niree rang up, made an appointment and on the Monday ah do you know
304
305 HH I'm not too sure if Niree rang up or um or Bob did cause I got a funny feeling Bob may
306 have made the appointment
307
308 KB Alright and do you know
309
310 HH I'd have to confirm that
311
312 KB Do you know when that meeting was?
313
314 HH That was on a Monday I'm pretty certain it was a Monday I came back from Sydney and
315 I'm pretty certain it was a Monday
316
317 KB The 9th February 2004 would that be about right?
318
319 HH It could have been could have been (ui)
320
321 KB Did you make any diary notes or any other record in relation to that meeting?
322
323 HH No because no because it was really um even when we went in I wasn't comfortable so I
324 wasn't really interested I thought we'd go through with the procedure just to see what the
325 people had to say but ah
326
327 KB Who was there at that meeting?
328
329 HH Just ah I think Bob was with us
330
331 KB Bob La Castra?
332
333 HH I think he was yeah
334
335 KB There was Chris Morgan, Bob La Castra, yourself and Niree?
336
337 HH Yeah I think so

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338
339 KB And can you recall what was discussed during that meeting?
340
341 HH Well it was just that you know Niree was running and um you know with the campaign
342 you know possibly ah that she could be helped you know in so far as setting it up and ah
343 and um going on and ah they can possibly do (ui) such and such ah they didn't actually
344 say what. There was definitely no mention of money but you'd have had to been a bloody
345 clown not to understand that ah you know you don't get these things done for nothing
346
347 KB Was there any mention or offer of advertising or the production of pamphlets or any other
348 material to assist Niree with the campaign?
349
350 HH I didn't let it get to that stage as I said you know after the pleasantries um Niree was
351 running as an independent under the independent (ui) she was to remain an independent
352 um and ah so actually I piped up and said to the guy look what actually are you actually
353 what what (ui) here is give me a bit of um he asked me a few questions about whether I
354 had been in campaigns before and ah um (ui) -Background Noise- (people talking) so
355 I've actually been in the liberal party for quite a number of years
356
357 KB I see
358
359 HH And um so I told them that ah well I said to him you know straight to his face you know
360 what actually is this meeting about you know (ui) can't go on with pleasantries anymore
361 and ah
362
363 KB What was stated to you then when you asked that question? I'm I'm assuming you asked
364 that to Chris Morgan?
365
366 HH I did and I also said that we didn't need financial assistance and ah Niree's campaign was
367 a was a pauper's campaign but ah um it was going to be straight down the track (ui) and
368 basically I think at the end of that that actually killed the meeting (ui)
369
370 KB So when you put it to Chris Morgan you said well basically you said was (ui) cut to the
371 chase what's all this about what did he can you recall the words he replied with?
372
373 HH No I can't (ui) at the same time I also said that she didn't need any um she wasn't
374 interested in ah donations um and ah basically that killed the meeting (ui) let me know or
375 something to that effect
376
377 KB What did Bob La Castra have to say during that meeting?
378
379 HH Very little
380
381 KB Did he say anything that you can recall?

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382
383 HH I'm pretty I'm pretty certain he was there you'd better confirm with Niree if he was there
384 um I've got a feeling he (ui) I'm pretty sure he was but I just can't it ended up such a non-
385 event because I didn't like the idea of it ah that's why I told Niree she was not to go on
386 her own until I got back from Sydney um cause I didn't want Niree accepting donations
387 from anybody. As I said as a candidate a candidate shouldn't accept donations, they
388 should come through the committee so they can be ah recorded um and I didn't want ah
389 um Niree getting tied up with (ui) call favours and again people don't do nothing for
390 nothing
391
392 KB Was um in relation to that meeting with Chris Morgan and Bob La Castra was there,
393 yourself and Niree, can you recall whereabouts that meeting took place, it was at
394 Quadrant but do you know whereabouts in Quadrant. Was it in an office?
395
396 HH I reckon it was in Chris' office
397
398 KB In his office?
399
400 HH Yeah
401
402 KB And how long did it go for?
403
404 HH Maybe ten minutes max -pause- it was quick
405
406 KB So it wasn't a long meeting?
407
408 HH No it wasn't cause I didn't want it to continue I just wanted um you know let me put it
409 this way, Niree's standing in that particular seat, she stood against the toughest guy on the
410 Gold Coast
411
412 KB Yeah
413
414 HH Um you know Niree couldn't get one article in the newspaper, not one article even though
415 she had plenty of good ones she sent them um you know the only people who can get in
416 the paper, in The Sun or The Bulletin was um Sarroff
417
418 KB Yeah
419
420 HH That girl down there whatever her name is um the um reporter, apparently she's friendly
421 with ah Crichlow and Sarroff and ah Niree could not get one article. I rang the editor
422 down there and ah got up him and told him I thought it was one sided ah and the other
423 guy that run the third candidate that run in the same (ui) he couldn't get one article you
424 know if um if Sarroff sneezed he got front page and ah I rang several people from that

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425 Bulletin newspaper and actually had a pretty heated discussion with them on a few
426 occasions I thought they were a pretty weak sort of newspaper
427
428 KB During that meeting you had at Chris Morgan's Quadrant office was there any mention
429 about ah I know you touched on this before but was there any mention that you can recall
430 at all about funding or about trust funds or about
431
432 HH No definitely not
433
434 KB Bloc of candidates running or
435
436 HH Definitely not. If there had of been we would have walked out immediately
437
438 KB Alright so
439
440 HH There was definitely nothing of that nature it was only a feeling I had in my gut that I
441 didn't like it I didn't like the buildings that were around it ah I just didn't like the ah the
442 idea of (ui) I had a feeling that I didn't want Niree involved in it
443
444 KB And if I can just direct you to what La Castra may have said during that meeting can you
445 just think about that and when you think about it can you actually recall anything that
446 sticks out in your mind, what he may have said?
447
448 HH Ah I think I think um I can't really recall him saying anything at all (ui) but um but the
449 thing with it is um no Chris actually there was a lot of waffle at the start I think it was sort
450 of a sounding out exercise and ah but it didn't get down because it just didn't last long
451 enough I mean when I said to him cause there's no sense in wasting your time in a
452 meeting um if they don't get to the quick straight away I mean you're only wasting your
453 time so that's when I put it to him you know that ah Niree's campaign was set out. He
454 did say one thing, okay well you've had experience um
455
456 KB What did he say sorry?
457
458 HH He said to me okay well you've had I I told him that I'd had experience in running
459 campaign's
460
461 KB This is La Castra?
462
463 HH No um
464
465 KB Chris Morgan?
466
467 HH Chris Morgan
468

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469 KB Right
470
471 HH And um Niree's campaign was all very mapped out um and ah and she didn't need she
472 didn't need funding from ah outside sources
473
474 KB I see. And ah
475
476 HH At that time the meeting basically turned back to a few pleasantries and maybe it was said
477 you know well if ah I can help you get in contact with him or some such thing you know
478 just the normal crap (ui)
479
480 KB Did it appear to you that Bob La Castra knew Chris Morgan from Quadrant?
481
482 HH It was obvious because he was the one that set up the (ui)
483
484 KB Set up the meeting and that he had a pretty good rapport with Chris Morgan do you think?
485
486 HH Oh well
487
488 KB In your opinion I mean
489
490 HH Well I couldn't really say I mean he he knew him well enough to make the appointment
491
492 KB Yeah
493
494 HH Um you know it wasn't as if he hadn't met him before when we went I mean you know I
495 mean that's um pretty obvious that he must have had some contact with the fellow
496
497 KB Did you ever have another meeting with Chris Morgan from Quadrant?
498
499 HH No none
500
501 KB Did you ever have another meeting with Bob La Castra with your daughter?
502
503 HH No I didn't no
504
505 KB So it was only that one well really two meetings, one having a cup of coffee with La
506 Castra and the other one was at Quadrant with La Castra
507
508 HH Well the reason I had to come to coffee was I wanted to find out from Bob what was what
509 was going on and um basically (ui) maybe this guy could you know probably (ui) you
510 know advertising you know experience in advertising experience in marketing and ah all
511 this sort of thing and um yeah ah maybe you know if he could he'd help Niree
512

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513 KB Was Councillor David Power or the late Councillor Sue Robbins ever mentioned during
514 that conversation with La Castra or Chris Morgan
515
516 HH No no
517
518 KB Did you ever receive or did Niree ever receive any services or benefits from Quadrant in
519 relation to election campaign?
520
521 HH None whatsoever. In fact I don't think that she ever heard from them again
522
523 KB Alright, what about any other funding from ah anyone?
524
525 HH No what what actually happened is Niree's campaign was that we would ensure that the
526 pamphlets we handed out ah on election day they were rather ~~expensive~~^{INEXPENSIVE} um we did things
527 you know pretty tight and I dropped in a few grand and ah and was basically ah (ui) Niree
528 spent some of her money her husband um but it wasn't it wasn't what you'd call (ui)
529 when I watch the thing now and seeing that some of these people got twenty-eight
530 thousand I can understand um (ui) if Niree had have won, I wanted Niree to stand against
531 the toughest guy on the coast because um I'd like Niree to stand for State Parliament not
532 just (ui) a council
533
534 KB Yeah
535
536 HH I thought her chances of beating Sarroff were ah you know pretty slim at the start but
537 being a female I thought that'd count for about six percent of the vote but
538
539 KB Yeah
540
541 HH When she couldn't get any ah stories in the paper ah it basically blew it to pieces
542
543 KB What did Bob La Castra say to you after that meeting with Chris Morgan at Quadrant?
544
545 HH I think it was just ah see ya later or something to that effect. We both we had our own car
546 so I'd say it was just see ya later or something to that effect you know I'll be in touch with
547 you (ui) or something like that
548
549 KB Did he get back in touch with Niree do you know?
550
551 HH Not to my knowledge I mean ah and I think I would have known if he had have no I'd say
552 they no that is incorrect they did speak because there was a Niree had pledged, councillors
553 get about three hundred thousand dollars a year in which they can spend in their electorate
554
555 KB Yes
556

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557 HH Um Sarroff had never spent one penny on the PCYC and they were desperately short of
558 doe and Niree had pledged that over the four years um she would um contribute four
559 hundred thousand out of that three hundred thousand per year they get which is roughly
560 about a hundred grand a year um and of course um Sarroff disputed that this was the thing
561 to do um and we we did speak to Bob um La Castra because he'd actually um distributed
562 something like two hundred and fifty thousand over um the previous four years to PCYC
563 in Nerang I think it was and also Christmas had donated I think twenty thousand to the
564 PCYC at um ah um (ui) anyway
565

566 KB Monaco Street
567

568 HH Monaco Street the southside of his electorate ah was actually Sarroff's electorate but
569 Chris was the donated contributed the money to them because they were so desperate (ui)
570

571 KB Who contributed sorry, Chris? What'd you say then?
572

573 HH No no no Christmas
574

575 KB Oh Christmas sorry I thought you said Chris yeah
576

577 HH No no Max Christmas yeah
578

579 KB Right
580

581 HH He actually ah gave the money from his three hundred thousand dollars a year for his
582 electorate ah which would seem quite stupid. I contacted those people and um I wanted
583 to confirm with Bob ah La Castra that he had done it so we spoke on issues of that nature
584 through the campaign. The only other person that Niree really had contacts with was
585 Susie Douglas um who ran and then beat Max Christmas and Jan Grew. They were
586 basically only ah councillors, the two councillors plus Susie Douglas cause we ah actually
587 handed out um um pamphlets for Susie and ah she handed out pamphlets for us at pre-
588 polling (ui)
589

590 KB Yeah. Is there anything else you can think of that may be relevant to this enquiry?
591

592 HH No not really ah (ui) with it is when you do something (ui) there's other silly buggers
593 that's gotta come out (ui)
594

595 KB Yeah no that's okay
596

597 HH So
598

599 KB It's what you're saying is right and ah that's the purpose of this inquiry of course
600

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601 HH Look I I I you can confirm my um honesty and that you know um Jimmy O'Donnell? I
602 know he's retired now
603
604 KB Yeah yep I know of him yeah
605
606 HH Yeah I'm a mate of Jimmy's and um Ronnie Redman's (ui)
607
608 KB Yeah
609
610 HH Um so um but um you know I didn't like the feeling I got I didn't want Niree beholding
611 to anybody and um I didn't really think that she could actually win it against Sarroff and I
612 was sure half way through the campaign and ah but whether (ui) --laughs- now you look
613 back I mean I see the figure of twenty-eight thousand dollars it makes your mouth water
614
615 KB Yeah
616
617 HH Ah because you think Jesus if ah if she had about twenty-eight grand she would've ah (ui)
618 because maybe she could also got some stories in the paper but I don't know the reason
619 why she couldn't get papers stories in the paper she just did not get one bloody story it
620 was terrible
621
622 KB There was a ah email I outlined that email to Niree yesterday when I spoke to her it was
623 from Chris Morgan to Brian Ray\
624
625 HH Right
626
627 KB Care of Sue Davies whose ah Sue Davies was ah Brian Davies PA
628
629 HH Yeah
630
631 KB And Chris Morgan refers to a a meeting that Niree rang him and and organised a meeting
632 with him ah in relation to information session virtually ah that's why I asked before
633 whether Niree
634
635 HH -Stutters-
636
637 KB Contacted him
638
639 HH Well um was that to make the meeting or
640
641 KB Yeah to make the meeting
642
643 HH Well then maybe maybe Bob La Castra's told Niree to ring him I don't know
644

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645 KB Yeah yeah
646
647 HH It was either one of them but um it was on Bob La Castra Bob La Castra gave Niree the
648 um the (ui) intro to to that ah Chris Morgan
649
650 KB I see
651
652 HH That there's no doubt (ui)
653
654 KB Did you have any meeting with Brian Ray at all the late Brian Ray at the time?
655
656 HH No no
657
658 KB You didn't have anything to do with him there?
659
660 HH Nothing whatsoever the only two people that we actually saw was Bob La Castra who set
661 the thing up ah introduced Niree to it as I said I was in Sydney, Niree phoned me and told
662 that she might be able to get assistance from ah this advertising ah marketing group down
663 the coast which I didn't seem to think was ah was right um and I told her that she wasn't
664 to see anybody until I got back um and ah and when I got back that's when the meeting
665 was arranged, we went um and basically after a you know very short period of time ten
666 minutes maximum I hit him with those two things and um basically told him we didn't
667 want any anything to do with it that's what I was actually saying to him
668
669 KB And in relation to Niree's funding for her campaign did any of those funds come from
670 any developers or companies of any description?
671
672 HH The only ah no Niree got no donations at all
673
674 KB Okay
675
676 HH In fact we had um we had family and ah friends we ah manned the booths and ah in fact
677 some of (ui) were a bit short ah Gail (ui) who ah was in the liberal party at ah
678 Broadbeach, they manned two booths for us um and ah and family and friends there was a
679 couple of people that we'd actually in the letterbox drop (ui) a couple of people phoned
680 up and say they'll ah they'll come and help um so we had about half a dozen of those sort
681 of people that sort of wandered along for a couple of hours and then a few of my
682 daughter's ah were in Sydney and actually flew up to um help us man the booths cause
683 we were short
684
685 KB I see. Just one more thing, that meeting you had with Chris Morgan, did you ever did you
686 know Chris Morgan prior to that meeting?
687
688 HH No

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689
690 KB You didn't that was the first time you had ever seen him
691
692 HH Yep
693
694 KB And you have not seen him since?
695
696 HH Have not seen him I wouldn't even know if I walked past him in the street
697
698 KB Alright and you haven't been to Quadrant since?
699
700 HH No
701
702 KB Alright look ah Mr Hodgson thank you very much for your time I do appreciate it
703
704 HH No worries at all
705
706 KB Thank you very much bye bye now
707
708 HH Oh you can confirm with Niree if you like that Bob La Castra was at that meeting ah with
709 Chris I can't see us going on our own but maybe we did but ah got a feeling he was there
710 but it was such an insignificant bloody thing that ah um I'd made up my mind before we
711 ever went there that ah that um Niree wasn't going to um accept anything for um for
712 nothing there's nothing you don't get anything in this world for nothing
713
714 KB Yeah that's for sure. Alright thank you very much
715
716 HH Bye
717
718 KB Bye bye
719
720 -Hangs up-
721
722 KB The time now is 11:43am on the 19th of October 2005 this interview is now concluded

JAH/I-J:/Misconduct/Op Grand/Interviews/Hodgson, Henry Tp1 of 1 19.10.05

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