
MAIN, RONALD

LEGEND:

D1: DETECTIVE MAKENAS-PARGA

RM: RON MAIN

D1: 7:20 in the morning, and I'm with Mr. Ron Main. And it's spelled M-A-I-N, Ron?

RM: Yes.

D1: Okay.

RM: It's spelled M-A-I-N.

D1: Okay. Why don't you just tell me in your own words what you saw and heard a, last Saturday night down here.

RM: Okay. A, last Saturday night I was a -- unintelligible -- I was in our a, living room a, working on my computer, which is out in a little offshoot side to the living room. A, a, heli-- helicopter came around and a, circled once or twice and it was real loud.

D1: Uh-huh.

RM: A, which was annoying because I had the windows right open there, and so I closed one window and got up to close the other window. A, when I did, I looked at the helicopter and it was close, like in our neighborhood. That's -- it looked like they were searching right here in our neighborhood.

D1: Uh-huh.

RM: Which a -- because of that I was curious. I was like, what's going on.

D1: Uh-huh.

RM: A, looked out the window. I saw two police officers running from a -- Strand Way -- running down the a, courtyard --

D1: The -- Queenstown Court -- toward --

RM: -- down --

D1: -- towards Mission Boulevard?

RM: Queenstown Court -- toward Mission Boulevard.

D1: Did you see if they were chasing anybody?

1 RM: No. I just saw that they were running.
2 D1: Okay.
3 RM: And a, because of that it was like, oh, you know, it's our neighborhood. And a, and
4 so I went over to a side window in our living room. And a, basically stuck my nose
5 out, you know, looking around to see if they were actually doing something down in
6 the a -- there's a -- down on the walkway --
7 D1: In the courtyard --
8 RM: -- right next to our --
9 D1: Unintelligible.
10 RM: Yeah. Up to -- unintelligible. And so I stuck my nose out on the side. And a, they
11 had already passed so I -- I went over just a little bit farther and a, was trying to peer
12 out -- out the window. And when I was doing that, what I heard was, a, a -- it was
13 two voices. A, first, one voice went, "Drop the weapon. Drop the weapon." And
14 right in between, the other voice went, "Drop the weapon. Drop the weapon."
15 D1: So you clearly heard two different voices?
16 RM: Definitely --
17 D1: Okay.
18 RM: -- two different voices. And very authoritative though. "Drop the weapon. Drop the
19 weapon."
20 D1: They were yelling?
21 RM: Yeah, yeah. A, but it was that authoritative command, "Drop the weapon. Drop the
22 weapon." And a, a, not more than I would say a second later, I mean it was like no
23 time at all, a, shots were fired. And it sounded like to me there was two sets of shots.
24 Maybe there wasn't, but it was like pop-pop, pop, and then pop-pop, maybe a third
25 pop, fourth pop. You know, I wasn't lis-- I wasn't counting.
26 D1: Yeah.
27 RM: But it -- it definitely sounded like two different sets of shots too.
28 D1: Uh-huh.
RM: And because I heard -- I saw them -- because I saw the police, you know, and they're
running, and then the "drop the weapon," you know, my mind construed that there
was like some kind gunfight going on --

1 D1: Uh-huh.

2 RM: -- out there. Because the -- even the shots sounded different. A, with that happened,
3 a, my wife had been watching the TV. A, with that happening I turned around and, of
4 course, we both looked at each other and it was like, wow, you know, what happened.
5 And -- and I said, I told her that, you know, the police were out there and, you know,
6 the shots were fired out in our neighborhood, I guess. I don't know exactly what I
7 told her. But a, and so I started going out the door, a, out to the courtyard to see
8 what was up. And a, I delayed just a moment because [Personal data deleted] was
9 like, hey, shots were fired. Don't run out (laughter.)

10 D1: Yeah.

11 RM: (Laughter) And a, I -- I hadn't even thought about that. A, a, but then I still went out
12 -- unintelligible -- sorry, I just -- I told her I'd stay in the courtyard if it seemed unsafe.
13 A, went down the steps, a, went to our gate, and peered ov-- loo-- looked over the
14 gate. A, when I did that, a, what I saw was two policemen and a, standing down at
15 the corner of Sam'sa market --

16 D1: Down on Mission Boulevard.

17 RM: On Mission Boulevard. And they were just standing looking toward -- Sam's door.
18 And a, across the -- what would you call it? The walkway? It's -- it's a six-foot wide
19 walk on the, a, it was a, a guy that, you know, that I've seen in our neighborhood. He
20 was just standing there looking the same way the police were looking. And a, couple
21 who, a, three guys came walking down our a, down the walk. And they all were
22 carrying like the big old heavy flashlights like a club. And I was like, oh, great. So we
23 got --

24 D1: Were they policemen?

25 RM: No. They were just guys.

26 D1: Just guys that had big long flashlights?

27 RM: Yeah. A, and because of that, I mean you'll see it happen, you know, that sort of like
28 the young guys and they'll be -- I said to [Personal data deleted] that oh, great, we got
vigilantes out now. Um, because you see guys with -- like if there was a burglary or
something like that --

D1: Uh-huh.

1 RM: -- you see -- unintelligible -- or somebody swipes something, all of a sudden you see
2 all these guys swarm out like little vigilantes --
3 D1: Oh, really.
4 RM: -- unintelligible -- around here. Uh-huh. And a --
5 D1: How long have you lived here?
6 RM: [Personal data deleted] years.
7 D1: Oh, long time.
8 RM: Uh-huh. And so, a, with that [Personal data deleted] and I stepped out of the gate.
9 And we started walking down towards Sam's. And a, three men were ahead of us ten
10 feet or something like that, and when they got up to Sam's a, it caused one of the
11 policemen to stop his concentration in what he was looking at and turn around, and a,
12 he had all of us go away. And then with that he turned and a, told the single person
13 that's Randy, you know, guy in the neighborhood?
14 D1: Yes.
15 RM: Yeah, he told him to -- he a, said I want -- might as well put cuffs on him or something
16 like that. And he asked him to turn around, and Randy turned around. Put the cuffs on
17 him; put him down --
18 D1: Unintelligible.
19 RM: -- unintelligible.
20 D1: Was Randy that guy that you saw --
21 RM: Yeah, he was --
22 D1: -- standing there --
23 RM: -- the guy --
24 D1: -- looking?
25 RM: -- just standing at the corner -- unintelligible --
26 D1: That's the guy that you said you'd seen him from in -- being in the neighborhood
27 before?
28 RM: Yeah, yeah. I don't know everybody's names --
D1: Right. But you've seen --
RM: -- all the time.
D1: -- him.

1 RM: Yeah. But you go over and do laundry and stuff like that, and you see them.
2 D1: So did you ever get to look down on Mission Boulevard? See what was going down
3 there? Or the a, the cops stopped you before you even got down there to the end of
4 the --
5 RM: We just turned around because the other guys had turned around, you know. There
6 was no re-- reason to go make the cops, you know, make us turn around too.
7 D1: Right.
8 RM: You know, there was no reason -- unintelligible -- you know, they don't want the
9 public here. So we did not go in that way. We did go out the back a, go around our
10 apartment and went a, down this alley behind our apartment --
11 D1: Uh-huh.
12 RM: -- to look. And a, when we looked there, of course, we saw a, the guy basically laying
13 on the -- on the --
14 D1: On the sidewalk?
15 RM: -- on the sidewalk. And the police around him.
16 D1: Had you ever seen that guy before?
17 RM: A, yeah. For the last month, maybe couple weeks. Something like that. Really had
18 never really -- before that I was doing -- had gotten out of school and everything, so I
19 was doing a lot cleaning and spring cleaning. And a, so I always saw him as I'm
20 traveling basically from my apartment to do -- to the Laundromat. Just right across
21 the way.
22 D1: Uh-huh.
23 RM: It's a parking lot. And a, he had just recently moved in to the neighborhood or
24 something because everybody who first comes in to the -- in the neighborhood they
25 always have problems with parking.
26 D1: Uh-huh.
27 RM: And he had a, this real pretty a, big land cruiser --
28 D1: Uh-huh.
RM: -- you know, which is actually a little extra wide, so he'd always come in and park,
and he'd always be taking like one and a half parking spaces, or he'd just be taking

1 other people's parking spaces. And so it's been one of those controversies going on
2 through -- through -- I don't know. You know, people upset, people -- and a --
3 D1: So when you say --
4 RM: -- so I talked to him now and then.
5 D1: When you say the "neighborhood," you referring to Queenstown Court here?
6 RM: Oh, yeah. I'm sorry. Yes.
7 D1: You're just referring to the --
8 RM: Just --
9 D1: Just you -- you folks right here in Queenstown?
10 RM: Just us -- unintelligible -- us folks and of the people that Sam's --a, market with -- has
11 -- unintelligible -- someone like that. I guess you could include them.
12 D1: Now where --
13 RM: Unintelligible.
14 D1: -- do you park? You -- you park over there in that lot where I'm parked at?
15 RM: [Personal data deleted] In fact, that was one of the conversations I had, because he
16 was looking for a parking spot. He wanted to use ours.
17 D1: When was that?
18 RM: Two weeks ago.
19 D1: Oh, two weeks ago.
20 RM: Unintelligible -- had a routine, and then a, straight comments. But other than that, I
21 really did not talk to him.
22 D1: Okay. How did he seem to you when you talked to him two weeks ago?
23 RM: Oh, well. He's a, seemed -- has seemed up and down. A --
24 D1: What do you mean "up and down"?
25 RM: Well, anybody that's -- I mean he has a real nice vehicle and everybody's giving him
26 grief and telling him to go park it on the street or something like that. He doesn't
27 want to do that, so he was angry a couple days. And then a, then I came by and he
28 was just a, washing his -- because I don't think he has a parking space out there.
D1: Hum.
RM: A, but he always was parking out there. And so basically he takes somebody's
parking spot -- (unintelligible) -- anyways he was out there washing his a -- his a

1 vehicle and a, I walked by. And he was doing a great job, made some straight --
2 unintelligible -- like that, and he was real happy. So, you know -- unintelligible --
3 everybody -- not everybody, lot of people first -- when they first come to live in a --in
4 the beach area, and there's all these little hassles that --

5 D1: Yeah.

6 RM: -- they're not used to.

7 D1: Yeah, right. I understand.

8 RM: And that -- that usually puts them on edge. They'll say, "Oh, how are you doing
9 today?" you know, and they'll turn around and -- unintelligible.

10 D1: Until you get used to the routine?

11 RM: You know. Until they get used to parking --

12 D1: Park -- parking's tough.

13 RM: Parking's the biggest problem.

14 D1: Uh-huh.

15 RM: A, you know. But, I mean there was another thing a, I was up -- up top. I was
16 basically -- I do a lot of work on my computer, and a, what was it? Oh, there's some -
17 - there was some guys I've never seen a, ripping down the -- down the walkway on
18 their -- their a, skateboards. And a, and just making a lot of noise, having bad
19 language, and I guess they almost a, a, hit a, lady and her kid --

20 D1: Uh-huh.

21 RM: -- and a, that guy went running out of his place --

22 D1: What guy?

23 RM: -- when -- a, the guy that died.

24 D1: The guy that was shot?

25 RM: Yeah. And a, I guess this was the maybe second time I really noticed that he was here,
26 and I guess he lived here instead of just parking his car in the neighborhood --

27 D1: Uh-huh.

28 RM: -- routine. He went running out of his place and a, confronted the skateboarders --
unintelligible -- and was telling them they should respect the -- the neighborhood and
watch for kids, and someone like that's not, you know --

D1: And when was that? You remember?

1 RM: Two, maybe three weeks ago.
2 D1: Two or three months ago?
3 RM: Weeks.
4 D1: Oh, weeks ago. Okay. So you never --
5 RM: Unintelligible.
6 D1: -- you ne-- you never actually saw the shooting occur. You just heard the officers yell
7 --
8 RM: A --
9 D1: -- "Drop the weapons," and then a very short time later you heard several gunshots.
10 RM: Yes.
11 D1: Okay.
12 RM: Unintelligible.
13 D1: How many times did you hear them yell, "Drop the weapon"? Do you know? Do you
14 remember?
15 RM: Yeah. Yeah, definitely. A, "Drop the weapon. Drop the weapon." If -- if I was
16 officer A, "Drop the weapon. Drop the weapon." And officer B, "Drop the weapon.
17 Drop the weapon."
18 D1: So you heard two different voices say it at least twice?
19 RM: At least twice.
20 D1: Okay.
21 RM: And it was definitely two different voices. A, because they sort of blended in, you
22 know -- unintelligible --
23 D1: Right.
24 RM: -- "Drop the weapon." And when officer B started saying, "Drop the weapon," a, and
25 it was real command style. I mean somebody yelled to "Drop the weapon. Drop the
26 weapon." It was real clear and distinct.
27 D1: Okay. Now is your computer -- when you look out your windows here, are there
28 screens on them or can you stick your head out the window and look down?
RM: No. There's screens.
D1: There is screens. So you just kind of looked as far as you could see?

1 RM: So I can only look as far I could see. So I couldn't -- like I can look, and I don't
2 really think I can look and -- Sam's. Definitely I can't look and see --unintelligible --
3 from that side of the -- unintelligible.
4 D1: Okay.
5 RM: Because we have a little -- a plant there -- a tree, you know. To see -- unintelligible --
6 I would have to knock around in the tree -- unintelligible --
7 D1: So your corn --
8 RM: Unintelligible.
9 D1: -- and everything down there?
10 RM: Yeah, that's my corn down there.
11 D1: Looked pretty good, actually.
12 RM: Yeah. It's not as good this year as last year but --
13 D1: Really?
14 RM: -- it's okay. Everybody's --
15 D1: Is there anything else you can think of, Ron?
16 RM: And that's all. So it -- it's not much.
17 D1: Well --
18 RM: I was telling the officers that night.
19 D1: Right. When do you think I might be able to talk with [Personal data deleted]?
20 Obviously I just want to ask her --
21 RM: Is she not here? [Personal data deleted]
22 D1: Okay. Okay. Anything else you can think of Ron that I may not have asked you?
23 RM: No. No. You know, I really had -- I didn't see really the incident and so on like that.
24 That's what I was telling the policemen.
25 D1: Right.
26 RM: I really didn't --
27 D1: Heard the shots and --
28 RM: The only thing was the --
D1: -- unintelligible -- give the warnings and --
RM: -- the warnings, the "Drop the weapon," and the shots. And saw both of the
policemen running down the courtyard. And because of that --

1 D1: Right. But you didn't see them chasing anybody. You just saw two policemen
2 running?
3 RM: I saw them running, yeah.
4 D1: Were they running together?
5 RM: Unintelligible -- yeah.
6 D1: Side by side? Or were they one in front of the other?
7 RM: No. That's the weird thing. They were running together, which is you -- you're
8 looking and -- because that's, I mean, it's wide enough but --
9 D1: Unintelligible.
10 RM: -- you don't see a lot of people running together, you know.
11 D1: Now these officers were wearing shorts, you know. Obviously, they work the beach
12 team out here in -- in Mission Beach. But when you saw them did you readi-- readily
13 recognize them as police officers?
14 RM: Yeah, I did.
15 D1: You did. And there was no problem saying, gee, I wonder who that is. But you
16 looked, and you could tell that they were uniformed police officers? [Personal data
17 deleted]
18 RM: So it wasn't just because of his -- I could see him just because they were in the dark
19 uniform. They come into the grow-light area -- unintelligible.
20 D1: Uh-huh.
21 RM: Unintelligible -- clearly. And I knew they were police.
22 D1: Okay. Any -- any questions for me?
23 RM: A, no.
24 D1: Okay. It is a, 7:40.
25 RM: [Personal data deleted]
26 D1: And so it -- it works real well for us. Anything else?
27 RM: No.
28 RM: [Personal data deleted]
D1: All right. Thanks, Ron, I appreciate it.
RM: Uh-huh.