
RAHIB, ISSAM MOUSA

Legend: DR: Detective Rydalch
IR: Issam Mousa Rahib
(Unintell): Unintelligible Conversation

START OF RECORDING

DR: This is Detective Rydalch, R-y-d-a-l-c-h, ID number's 3-7-8-7. Ah today's date is July 25th, 1999, and the time is 0100 hours. Ah, I'm at 3700 ah Mission Boulevard, and I'm interviewing . . .

IR: Issam Rahib.

DR: Okay. Mr. Rahib I'm gonna' ask you just some information. Do you have your identification with you?

IR: Yes.

DR: Great.

IR: [Personal data deleted]

DR: Okay. Um, what don't you just go ahead and tell me what happened.

IR: We were like, the helicopter was up top and we were watching the, the lights, how bright it was. And ah, all of a sudden, this guy was running and the, the two officers, they were behind him, and they're running and, then they came front of the store. You know they try to stop him, and ah then I walked inside right away. And this other guy was there. I said come on, go inside, like you know. And ah, then I went inside and I saw the officer ah, goin' like, you know, down, down. Well actually, I saw the stick in that ah, in the guy's hand, from the officer. So . . .

DR: S--s--saw a stick from the officer, what'd you mean?

IR: You know that, what you call it? The stick. That . . .

DR: Describe it to me.

IR: You know, ah a, stick with two hands and a little bit in the, in the, wh--what you call it, not wire. You know the stick it's ah, so I don't know, and I'm, like I'm goin' behind the counter to hide behind the freezer and I saw the stick with that then all of a sudden I heard the officers say, get down, get down or ah, yeah, get down. Then I

1 went, hid behind the freezer, like way down. And that's when the shots were fired. I
2 didn't see the shots fired.

3 DR: Okay, so when you saw the guy running, where were you?

4 IR: Okay we were like ah, outside at the end of the alley. We saw them running and they
5 were saying, stop, stop, so right away I ran inside the store. I knew it was police
6 officers behind the guy. At the time ah, right away I ran inside. So they kind'a
7 scuffle a little bit outside the store, and, you see where I'm standing there's a glass,
8 right. So, the guy, when ah, hah, goin' behind the glass so I go hide behind the
9 freezer like you know, just behind. And ah, then I see the guy with the stick walking
10 that way and then the police officer would go, you know, you know go, down, down.
11 You know.

11 DR: So when you say the freezer, I, I can see some glass on this side of the . . .

12 IR: This side . . .

13 DR: . . . of the main door.

14 IR: . . . all the way at the this, this way, yeah. The freezer at this end . . .

15 DR: All the way at this end of the door?

16 IR: Yes sir.

17 DR: Okay. All right and, and so that's where, that's where you were looking out the
18 window?

19 IR: I was like goin' to, I saw the guns, right away I ducked.

20 DR: Okay.

21 IR: I saw the guns they pulled out and they say you know, get down, I forgot what they
22 told him, like you know . . .

22 DR: Now when you first saw them, where were they?

23 IR: Ah, well actually they all kind'a, they were behind him, you know trying to stop him.
24 And ah, he got away, so he went back this way a little bit, and now there's, they, they
25 stood right there. And that's when they pulled the guns.

26 DR: But when you first saw 'em running . . .

27 IR: Comin' from the alley.

28 DR: And, and which alley we talkin' about?

IR: Ah (unintell), right there, right next to the building.

DR: On this side or the other side of the building?

1 IR: The other side of the store.
2 DR: Okay.
3 IR: Yes.
4 DR: Okay. And you were standing in the alley or, in front of the store?
5 IR: Well at first it was in the alley but as soon as they start running down we kind'a,
6 came in the store.
7 DR: Okay. All right.
8 IR: We got, got outta' the way. You know what I mean?
9 DR: And they were running toward you in the alley?
10 IR: Yes.
11 DR: Okay.
12 IR: Like from way up from ah, Strand Way, from the court, right there. So right away we
13 kind'a went in the store.
14 DR: And how did you know there were officers behind this guy?
15 IR: Ah because the helicopter was up there and there were police right up top ah on
16 Strand Way.
17 DR: Okay.
18 IR: You know? And they were telling him like stop, you know, something like that.
19 DR: And did you know the name of the person you were standing with outside?
20 IR: No. But I know the guy by face, you know?
21 DR: Just somebody you seen before?
22 IR: Yeah he comes into the store.
23 DR: All right. So, when they start running towards you, you move towards the front of the
24 store?
25 IR: Went in the store, right away . . .
26 DR: Okay.
27 IR: . . . when they start comin' down in the alley I went in, inside the store, right away.
28 And I told the other guy, go hide in the back like you know. We just wanna' get
outta' the way.
DR: And when you went in the store that's when you went over by the freezer, near this
corner, the corner closest to us?
IR: Yeah. Well, yeah. And then that's when I saw the stick and then right away I saw

1 the guns ah pulled out. That's when I ducked under the (unintell).
2 DR: Now when did you first see the stick?
3 IR: The stick, it's like, when I'm, they came after him, right?
4 DR: Uh huh.
5 IR: Then he came back, the, you know, back ah, south from the door like you know,
6 north, south. And I saw the stick. So I went behind the glass, like to go back, in the
7 back to hide, then I saw the guns through the glass. But I saw the stick through the
8 front door.
9 DR: Through the front door.
10 IR: Th--you know walking, just right away like, you know, standing there, at first we
11 were stand--then I saw the stick, then I went in the back, and I saw the guns and then
12 that's when I ducked.
13 DR: Okay and who had the stick when you first saw it?
14 IR: Ah at first the sticks, the officer had the st--oh yeah the officer had the stick at first.
15 Yeah as a matter of fact yeah he did.
16 DR: Okay so the officer had the stick, what was he doin' with 'em?
17 IR: Make, you know they try to run him down, I think they hit, he hit him once with it.
18 They're trying to hold him and you know to, they told him stop, stop. And all of a
19 sudden just like that he had the stick and that's when I went in, right away.
20 DR: And when you say he had the stick, who are you talkin' about?
21 IR: Ah, the guy, the guy who got shot.
22 DR: The guy who got shot. Okay can you describe him to me?
23 IR: Ah . . .
24 DR: What race was he?
25 IR: Black. Big guy.
26 DR: How tall do you think he was?
27 IR: Oh he's tall, he's six-two, six-three, somewhere, maybe more, I don't know.
28 DR: Okay.
IR: I mean roughly.
DR: Okay. Ah, how much do you think he weighed?
IR: Big. I don't know. I'm not good at that, tell you the truth . . .
DR: Uh huh.

1 IR: . . . honest but ah, I mean, he could'a been taller than what I thought (unintell) two
2 something, 220 maybe.

3 DR: 'Kay.

4 IR: But this is like, I mean, I never had to do that 'cause you know.

5 DR: Ah what about his build? What kind'a build did he have?

6 IR: He had solid.

7 DR: Okay.

8 IR: Yeah.

9 DR: Ah, how old was he, would you say?

10 IR: I don't know. Mid-thirties, forty.

11 DR: And what was he wearing?

12 IR: Black ah, black shirt.

13 DR: You see his pants?

14 IR: Mmm, think black but it's just boom, boom, like this . . .

15 DR: 'Kay.

16 IR: . . . you know what I mean?

17 DR: Okay.

18 IR: Real fast.

19 DR: You see his shoes at all?

20 IR: No.

21 DR: Okay. You see any facial hair on the guy?

22 IR: No sir. I didn't, I didn't look at him like . . .

23 DR: Okay.

24 IR: . . . no.

25 DR: Ever seen him before?

26 IR: Yes, I have.

27 DR: Okay. When have you seen him before?

28 IR: Ah in the last month or so, I seen him ah, around, couple of times. He came in the
store couple of times. (Unintell). He went ah, he was using the ATM machine across
the street then he came over. It didn't work over there, it worked at my place.

DR: Today?

IR: No, no. This is . . .

1 DR: Oh okay.
2 IR: . . . (unintell) in the last couple of months.
3 DR: Okay.
4 IR: I seen him a few times.
5 DR: Know his name?
6 IR: No.
7 DR: Has he been ah, by himself or with somebody when you've seen him?
8 IR: Usually by himself. Yes by himself actually.
9 DR: Do you know where he lives?
10 IR: No.
11 DR: He ever cause you any trouble or anything?
12 IR: No, not . . .
13 DR: 'Kay.
14 IR: . . . not with me.
15 DR: Okay. Um, so when you first go in the door ah, you see the officers outside with this
16 guy?
17 IR: It's like kind'a, after him, to stop him.
18 DR: Okay did you actually see 'em grab onto him?
19 IR: Ah not really. I kind of turned around and like you know, went inside. And, I mean
20 who's grabbin' on who?
21 DR: Yeah did you see, did you see how the officers contacted him or when they first made
22 contact with him or how they caught him? 'Cause they were running down the alley,
23 right?
24 IR: Yeah. I don't think they caught him though, I don't know. That's what I mean. No I
25 didn't see 'em. They were trying to catch him.
26 DR: Okay.
27 IR: Yeah. And he got away I think. That's why, well the only reason I'm telling you he
28 got away because I know they were after him to catch him, then all of a sudden I see
him coming back ah that way. You know what I mean? (Unintell) on the other side
with the stick.
DR: Okay so he, so wh--when you went in the door . . .
IR: Right . . .

1 DR: . . . where were they?
2 IR: They were like ah, right behind the glass door, on this side of the door, north of the
3 door.
4 DR: Okay so they were just north of the door.
5 IR: Yes.
6 DR: On the sidewalk?
7 IR: Yes.
8 DR: Okay.
9 IR: That's when I went in.
10 DR: Okay. And what were they doing when you went in?
11 IR: They wanna' capture him like, stop him . . .
12 DR: 'Kay.
13 IR: . . . hold him, they telling, you know, they trying to stop him.
14 DR: And, and what were they doing to try and stop him?
15 IR: Grabbin' him, ah, just like you know, I swear (unintell) I mean I went in, you know.
16 DR: Okay. All right. And what happened next?
17 IR: That's right when I, like you know, then I turned around I wanna' go behind the
18 counter, I saw him with the stick. And I looked through the window, the glass, and I
19 saw the guns, the officers with the guns and that's when I ducked.
20 DR: Okay. So you actually saw him with the stick when you were lookin' through the
21 door?
22 IR: Yes.
23 DR: Okay. And where was he when he had the stick?
24 IR: It's like, kind'a in front of the door of the, this way, ah south of the door (unintell) but
25 right in front of the door . . .
26 DR: All right.
27 IR: . . . he got away from them. You know what I mean? He's like about five, ten feet
28 now from them. I can't see the officers (unintell) 'cause there's a wall right there. So
have to be from the front of the, I mean from the door or the window.
DR: And when you say he was north of the door when you first went in, the officers were
with him as well, in about the same spot, or were they somewhere else?
IR: When they were after him from the beginning?

1 DR: Uh huh.

2 IR: Yeah, they were like ah, trying to, you know bring him down or something.

3 DR: Okay. Then you saw he got away with them . . .

4 IR: He got away. I didn't see how he got away, but I saw the stick in his hand.

5 DR: Okay. And that's when he went back south across the door, and he had the stick in
6 his hand?

7 IR: Yeah. Then after that, I couldn't see nothing, even if I wanted to.

8 DR: 'Kay. And when he had the stick in the hand you couldn't see the officers anymore?

9 IR: I couldn't see nothing after that. I did see when I'm goin' back, the guys are saying,
10 they telling him, like I keep saying, you know down, get, get down, get down on the
11 floor or something.

12 DR: And ah, how many officers were there?

13 IR: Two.

14 DR: 'Kay. Did you see both of them with their guns out or just one of 'em?

15 IR: I just saw, like little, a one gun, kind'a . . .

16 DR: 'Kay.

17 IR: . . . and I just, that's when I, when you know, duck back down.

18 DR: And what were they tellin' him?

19 IR: To get down, like you know (unintell) get down.

20 DR: Is that the words you heard, get down?

21 IR: You know what, that's what I'm trying to tell you, it's something like that.

22 DR: Okay. Okay.

23 IR: You know what I mean?

24 DR: That's fine.

25 IR: Get down, what, I don't know. If you tell me the words but I might remember it but,
26 it was, it means the same.

27 DR: And which way was the officer pointing his gun?

28 IR: 'Kay the officer was, I couldn't see the guy now, okay. I didn't, the officer I saw the,
o--like this, toward the telephone.

DR: Okay.

IR: And I don't even know where the guy was standing. But like I said, as soon as I saw
(unintell) . . .

1 DR: And where was the officer?
2 IR: Ah, right in the front of the truck, somewhere around there, at the end of the sidewalk,
3 kind of. You see what I mean?
4 DR: At the curb?
5 IR: The curb, yes.
6 DR: By the curb?
7 IR: Yeah.
8 DR: In front of the door or, or north of the door?
9 IR: North of the door a little bit.
10 DR: Okay. And when you saw the gun come out, what did you do next?
11 IR: I ducked. As soon as I, I didn't see the gun come out. I saw the officer with the gun,
12 through the glass . . .
13 DR: Uh huh.
14 IR: . . . and I went all the way back behind the freezer and I ducked.
15 DR: Okay. And then what happened?
16 IR: That's it. I didn't even go out to see the guy. I just stayed inside and turn my head
17 facing the other way.
18 DR: Did you hear any shots?
19 IR: Oh I heard the shots, yeah.
20 DR: Okay. How many shots did you hear?
21 IR: Ah, I don't know, six, seven, I don't know. I mean I wasn't counting (unintell).
22 DR: 'Kay. Okay and ah, nothing significant after that?
23 IR: I didn't even walk outside to see him laying on the ground.
24 DR: Okay. And so you been in the store up until now?
25 IR: Yes.
26 DR: Do you know why the officers were chasin' him?
27 IR: No.
28 DR: 'Kay. Now when you saw the officers with the sticks in their hands at first, where
were they when they had the sticks in their hands?
IR: That's, they came out from the alley, right af--right behind him.
DR: Uh huh.
IR: And that's when I saw them like, they went this way through the door. And I saw

1 them with the stick.

2 DR: Okay. So just as they crossed the door?

3 IR: Yes. Just as they crossed, yeah. Can show you inside there's a, wall in the middle

4 (unintell) the glass or the door what I can see through.

5 DR: And you just saw one of the officers with the sticks in his hand, or did you see both of

6 'em have sticks in their hand?

7 IR: Ah, I can't remember, tell you the truth. Probably both, I, I mean you know.

8 DR: That's fine.

9 IR: It wouldn't be hundred percent if I tell you that.

10 DR: Did you hear them say anything at all to this guy?

11 IR: No.

12 DR: Other than something like, get down . . .

13 IR: Yeah . . .

14 DR: . . . when they saw the gun, did you, before that did you hear 'em say anything

15 (unintell).

16 IR: No.

17 DR: Okay.

18 IR: No.

19 DR: Any idea for how long the struggle was goin' on out front?

20 IR: Oh, not long at all I mean. Like I said, as soon as walk in . . .

21 DR: Uh huh.

22 IR: . . . seconds probably.

23 DR: And from the time you saw the officer with his gun out, until you actually heard the

24 shots, how much time went by?

25 IR: Wasn't, wasn't that much, not it's not, I mean, seconds too.

26 DR: Okay.

27 IR: They yelled it out, couple of times actually, get down, get down, stop, I honestly

28 forgot what they said to him. But that's what exactly what it meant.

DR: Uh huh. Okay. And this happened about what time?

IR: I would say little after nine. Maybe nine, nine-thirty.

DR: Did you get a look at the officers at all? Were you able to distinguish them one from

 the other?

1 IR: Ah you know, not really but ah, one guy, after it all happened I saw him. But if you
2 to show me the other one, I might recognize him, I might not.

3 DR: Okay. But you saw one of 'em afterward.

4 IR: One of 'em, yeah. One of 'em actually came in and used the phone.

5 DR: Okay.

6 IR: And ah, but the other one, I wouldn't recognize him.

7 DR: Do you know which one had the gun out?

8 IR: I swear I don't.

9 DR: Okay.

10 IR: I ju--see like I show you from the thing, I saw the gun and that's when I go, whoa,
11 time to duck.

12 DR: All right. Well lemme' make sure I got this all right.

13 IR: Okay.

14 DR: Ah you and, and ah . . .

15 IR: This one guy . . .

16 DR: . . . one of the customers . . .

17 IR: Yes.

18 DR: . . . were standin' outside talking.

19 IR: Yes.

20 DR: Ah, how long had you been talking?

21 IR: Oh, well he was, ah maybe a minute.

22 DR: Okay.

23 IR: Yeah. Not, we just like, you know, hi, how you doin' and lookin' at the helicopter.
24 That's . . .

25 DR: Okay. And ah that's, and you knew there were police cars up on Strand Way?

26 IR: Yes. Yes.

27 DR: And you saw the helicopter and that's when you saw this guy running down the alley,
28 toward you . . .

IR: Toward us, yes.

DR: . . . with the officers behind him.

IR: Yes.

DR: Okay. When you saw them running towards you, you ran towards the store.

1 IR: Inside the store.

2 DR: Inside the store.

3 IR: Right away.

4 DR: Okay. Um, you saw him and the officers go by the door, ah and you at least one of

5 the officers with sticks in his hands.

6 IR: Behind him, behind him.

7 DR: Behind you?

8 IR: After him like.

9 DR: Okay.

10 IR: Yes.

11 DR: They were chasin' him tryin' to catch him?

12 IR: Yes sir.

13 DR: All right. Ah, at least one of the officers had sticks in his hand. Ah the next thing

14 you saw was ah, the black male with the sticks in his hand going back across the

15 doorway.

16 IR: Yes sir.

17 DR: You went back towards this corner of the store.

18 IR: Right.

19 DR: Through the window, you saw the officer with his gun out, standing over here, back

20 where that truck is on the curb line . . .

21 IR: Yes.

22 DR: . . . ah pointing the gun more or less towards the phone booth there.

23 IR: Yes sir.

24 DR: Ah you were unable to see the guy that they were pointing the gun at.

25 IR: No sir.

26 DR: Okay.

27 IR: I didn't even see where he was standing.

28 DR: All right. And then ah, just seconds later ah you heard some shots, you're not exactly

sure how many, six or seven shots.

IR: Somewhere around there, yeah.

DR: Okay. And you didn't go outside the store ah until after it's all over.

IR: After the ambulance picked him up actually.

1 DR: Okay.

2 IR: I didn't even look outside 'til the ambulance picked him up.

3 DR: Okay. Ah you described him to me, you said he'd been in the store a couple of times

4 . . .

5 IR: Yes he had.

6 DR: . . . (unintell) . . .

7 IR: The last couple of months I saw him (unintell) in the store a few times.

8 DR: At least one time he used the ATM machine but ah you don't remember . . .

9 IR: Yeah I remember he went across the street to use the ATM, and then he came by, he

10 said it's not workin'. I tried mine and it worked for him.

11 DR: Okay. All right. Anything else you can think of?

12 IR: No. This is ah, that's about everything.

13 DR: Okay. Very good. Thank you for your time. We'll conclude the interview. And it's

14 ah, 1, 0125 hours.

15 (END OF RECORDING)

16 (END OF TRANSCRIPTION)

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