

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE MANAGEMENT
OF POLICE INFORMANTS

Held in Melbourne, Victoria

on Wednesday, 21 August 2019

Led by Commissioner: The Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC

Also Present

Counsel Assisting:	Mr C. Winneke QC Mr A. Woods Ms M. Tittensor
Counsel for Victoria Police	Ms R. Enbom Ms K. Argiropoulos
Counsel for State of Victoria	Mr T. Goodwin
Counsel for Nicola Gobbo	Mr P. Collinson QC Mr R. Nathwani
Counsel for DPP/SPP	Ms A. Martin
Counsel for CDPP	Ms R. Avis
Counsel for Handlers	Mr G. Chettle Ms L. Theis
Counsel for Pasquale Barbaro	Mr C. Wareham
Counsel for Faruk Orman	Ms S. Wallace
Counsel for John Higgs	Ms C. Dwyer
Counsel for AFP	Ms I. Minnett

09:39:18 1 COMMISSIONER: Yes, I understand the appearances are
09:39:20 2 largely as yesterday. Mr Holt is not here today?
09:39:24 3
09:39:25 4 MS ENBOM: No he's not, Commissioner.
09:39:27 5
09:39:27 6 COMMISSIONER: Thanks Ms Enbom and Ms Argiropoulos, I note
09:39:31 7 your appearances. Mr Goodwin for the State, Ms Martin for
09:39:36 8 the time being for the DPP, Ms Avis for the Commonwealth
09:39:40 9 DPP and otherwise the appearances are the same as
09:39:43 10 yesterday. And we're in open session.
09:39:45 11
09:39:45 12 MR COLLINSON: If the Commission pleases.
09:39:47 13
09:39:48 14 COMMISSIONER: Yes. Thanks Mr Collinson.
09:39:51 15
09:39:52 16 <SANDY WHITE, recalled:
09:39:55 17
09:39:56 18 MR COLLINSON: Mr White, I'd like to turn now to the second
09:39:59 19 major topic that I wanted to raise with you and that
09:40:02 20 concerns the motives of Ms Gobbo in agreeing to become a
09:40:07 21 human source. Now, that's a matter that you were asked to
09:40:12 22 address by the Royal Commission in your statement and you
09:40:16 23 recall doing that, I take it?---Yes.
09:40:19 24
09:40:20 25 If that could be brought up, please, by the operator. It's
09:40:29 26 COM.0019.0004.0033. Page 33 of the statement. Mr White,
09:40:48 27 you have that page?---Could you refer me to the paragraph
09:40:53 28 number please, Mr Collinson?
09:40:55 29
09:40:55 30 Yes, it's paragraph 137, or at least it starts there?---I
09:41:02 31 have that.
09:41:02 32
09:41:07 33 To establish the themes that you address in this passage of
09:41:11 34 your statement, paragraph 137 in a way has two interlinked
09:41:20 35 themes which you proffer, at least in terms of what
09:41:24 36 Ms Gobbo said was her motivation. The first is she wanted
09:41:30 37 to get out of the relationship with the Mokbel group which
09:41:35 38 she had and, second, that she wanted to do the right thing
09:41:40 39 which I think had a relationship to the first matter. I
09:41:44 40 take it what you understood she meant by that was in the
09:41:50 41 broadest possible sense doing the right thing by putting
09:41:54 42 people who were guilty of very serious crimes in
09:42:00 43 gaol?---Yes.
09:42:01 44
09:42:03 45 And just to jump forward, you do raise towards the end of
09:42:09 46 this section of your statement, commencing around paragraph
09:42:14 47 153, another possibility which you describe, I think

09:42:23 1 fairly, as speculation by you and some of the handlers as
09:42:28 2 to whether her motivations for assisting police may have
09:42:33 3 been the result of a feeling of guilt resulting from
09:42:36 4 involvement in the incident that led to the murder of the
09:42:39 5 Hodsons. Do you recall that?---Yes.
09:42:41 6
09:42:47 7 While we're in this possibility, you I think put this
09:42:56 8 possibility forward in a heavily qualified fashion, do you
09:43:02 9 agree with that?---Yes, I do.
09:43:07 10
09:43:10 11 You say in paragraph 155, "It is usual that over the longer
09:43:16 12 relationships with human sources, source handlers will
09:43:19 13 detect the real reason behind motivation to assist police.
09:43:23 14 In Ms Gobbo's case she remained consistent in her
09:43:26 15 motivation and we were unable to positively establish any
09:43:30 16 hidden alternatives". By hidden alternative, I take it you
09:43:37 17 mean to include this speculative idea that a motivation
09:43:41 18 might have been some kind of feeling of guilt from
09:43:45 19 involvement in the murder of the Hodsons?---Yes. I think
09:43:58 20 at one point she said she had a guilty conscience about it
09:44:04 21 but I don't think it got any stronger than that.
09:44:07 22
09:44:07 23 We might well come across that statement in the ICRs, but
09:44:12 24 are you able to confirm that that observation by her would
09:44:16 25 have occurred more than a year after she started the human
09:44:20 26 source relationship with the police in September 2005?---It
09:44:24 27 was definitely in the latter half of the relationship.
09:44:28 28
09:44:38 29 Going back to paragraph 137, an indeed the following
09:44:42 30 paragraphs, you elaborate on what I think you've proffered
09:44:48 31 as your main theory, being that as you put it in paragraph
09:44:57 32 140, "Ms Gobbo believed that if the Mokbels in particular
09:45:01 33 were arrested and sent to gaol she could get out of their
09:45:05 34 clutches. There were several occasions where I had
09:45:07 35 discussions with her during which I told her this goal had
09:45:12 36 been met" and then you give an example. Then paragraph
09:45:15 37 142, "We learnt over the journey of our relationship with
09:45:18 38 Ms Gobbo that she was enmeshed in a web of organised crime
09:45:22 39 headed by the Mokbel cartel. The Mokbel brothers treated
09:45:26 40 Ms Gobbo as just another soldier to be ordered to do things
09:45:29 41 at their will and Ms Gobbo had a genuine concern for her
09:45:33 42 safety if she did not comply". Now, when you say enmeshed
09:45:41 43 in paragraph 142 in a web of organised crime I don't think
09:45:46 44 you mean to convey, do you, that Ms Gobbo was a
09:45:54 45 co-participant in crime with the members of the Mokbel
09:45:57 46 cartel?---No. I think she was being used.
09:46:03 47

09:46:06 1 If I could turn then to the transcript of the first
09:46:15 2 interview with Ms Gobbo on 16 September 2005. That's
09:46:24 3 VPL.0005.0051.0002. And I see it's brought up on the
09:46:34 4 screen. As you're aware, Mr White, there's thousands and
09:46:38 5 thousands of pages of transcript. I think this is the only
09:46:44 6 transcript I'm likely to take you to. I say that by way of
09:46:49 7 encouragement. Now, I go to this under the heading
09:46:55 8 "motives of Ms Gobbo" because although people don't always
09:47:01 9 state accurately their motives for doing things, one can
09:47:06 10 approach this transcript on the footing I think that
09:47:11 11 Ms Gobbo would never have expected in terms of what she
09:47:16 12 said to the police at this point that this information
09:47:19 13 would be exposed to the public, do you agree with
09:47:24 14 that?---Yes.

09:47:24 15
09:47:27 16 If I could go first, if I can go off the pages at the
09:47:33 17 bottom of the transcript, p.11. This is a slightly
09:47:37 18 different point but on that page you said - I was about to
09:47:46 19 say point 4 of the page. What I tend to do, Mr White, with
09:47:50 20 pages if it's useful is divide it up into tenths, so if I
09:47:56 21 say point 4 it means four tenths of the way down, do you
09:48:00 22 understand?---Yes.

09:48:00 23
09:48:01 24 At about point 4 you're recorded as saying, "I'll be
09:48:04 25 completely frank with you, if you didn't have that concern
09:48:07 26 and if you had total faith in the police then I think
09:48:10 27 you're probably fairly foolish because there's a bit of
09:48:10 28 history of things going wrong". Perhaps it's an easy shot,
09:48:15 29 I suppose, but I think in one sense that was a pretty
09:48:20 30 prescient observation of yours about what lay ahead in
09:48:24 31 terms of the relationship between Victoria Police and
09:48:28 32 Ms Gobbo?---It might seem prescient now but at the time it
09:48:34 33 was a reference to historical matters.

09:48:36 34
09:48:40 35 Going to p.12 at about .3, you're recorded as saying, "I'm
09:48:47 36 not going to sit here and say that bad things haven't
09:48:50 37 happened in the past, because you know as well as everybody
09:48:55 38 else that it has. We know that the person you want to talk
09:48:58 39 about has got the capacity to hurt people, significantly
09:49:01 40 hurt people and you're in a position of concern, I suppose,
09:49:08 41 and we're taking that seriously". It is the case, isn't
09:49:17 42 it, Mr White, that within the context of the desire of the
09:49:20 43 police I think to utilise Ms Gobbo as a human source, you
09:49:25 44 did everything you could to look after her safety over the
09:49:29 45 course of the relationship and you stated that in this
09:49:37 46 particular passage?---Yes, her safety was my primary
09:49:37 47 concern.

09:49:38 1
09:49:38 2 Yes. Well, I'm not sure I would agree with that in the
09:49:45 3 sense that if one were to elevate her safety to the
09:49:50 4 absolute primary concern, my suggestion to you is that the
09:49:55 5 safest course of action would have been to have nothing to
09:49:58 6 do with Ms Gobbo as a human source, what do you say?---If
09:50:05 7 you could see what was going to occur at the outset, how it
09:50:10 8 would ultimately pan out, then you're right.
09:50:13 9
09:50:14 10 Yes. I think what you mean to convey, don't you, is
09:50:19 11 against the background of a decision to use her as a human
09:50:24 12 source, within that context you elevated her safety to as
09:50:30 13 high a level as you could achieve?---Yes.
09:50:35 14
09:50:43 15 Then at p.15, about point 2, you ask Ms Gobbo to tell you
09:50:50 16 everything and the other people in the room that she knows
09:50:56 17 about Tony Mokbel. Do you see that?---Yes.
09:50:59 18
09:51:02 19 And Ms Gobbo starts to do that. If I could go, please, to
09:51:07 20 p.19. And I think at this point Ms Gobbo starts on some
09:51:13 21 passages that bear directly upon her motive. She says in
09:51:18 22 the first line, "The second thing that changed probably in
09:51:21 23 the last few months is that, not last few months, in" -
09:51:29 24 this is redacted, is it? Some parts of this passage are
09:51:43 25 redacted so I'll just try to avoid - I think I can do this
09:51:48 26 without disclosing inappropriate information but Ms Gobbo
09:51:53 27 talks in this section about a particular person who becomes
09:52:00 28 a witness against members of organised crime in Victoria,
09:52:06 29 correct?---Yes.
09:52:07 30
09:52:10 31 Glancing down the page there, I take it from the fact of
09:52:14 32 you being asked questions about this earlier that you know
09:52:17 33 who that witness is?---It's one of two people.
09:52:24 34
09:52:25 35 Yes. I think that's sufficient for present purposes.
09:52:31 36 Ms Gobbo then says at point 4, "I went through the most
09:52:35 37 significant period of paranoia in my life which resulted in
09:52:38 38 the stroke". Now there's lots of references to her stroke
09:52:42 39 in this first interview. Do you agree that she identifies
09:52:48 40 the stroke as something that caused a sea change in terms
09:52:56 41 of her attitude to her life and to criminal practice?---I
09:53:06 42 don't know that I'd call it a sea change. It was a
09:53:11 43 significant event and you're right, she did talk about it
09:53:15 44 on multiple occasions. I don't know whether I'd say it was
09:53:19 45 a sea change.
09:53:20 46
09:53:23 47 Sea change might be putting it too high you say?---Yes.

09:53:25 1
09:53:25 2 At point 6 of that page she says, "And I still live in fear
09:53:30 3 of that coming out because all it's going to take is for
09:53:32 4 some Supreme Court judge to release police diary notes
09:53:35 5 where it's me that they're meeting and it's me that they're
09:53:38 6 speaking to" and so on. In the last two lines, "But the
09:53:42 7 pressure that was brought on me then by crooks, as is don't
09:53:49 8 let this bloke take that course, convince him otherwise".
09:53:51 9 Then over the page at point 3, "And to date no one knows
09:53:54 10 that I'm the reason why [REDACTED]
09:53:58 11 [REDACTED]" and so on. And then at point 6 she refers to
09:54:04 12 the fact that the police had thought she was a stooge for
09:54:12 13 particular criminals, do you see that reference on
09:54:16 14 p.20?---Yes.
09:54:16 15
09:54:18 16 And in the last paragraph, as it turned out - yes.
09:54:28 17
09:54:29 18 MS ENBOM: Sorry to interrupt Mr Collinson, Commissioner.
09:54:32 19 Mr Collinson has inadvertently read out part of the
09:54:36 20 transcript that has been redacted, being the agreed
09:54:38 21 redactions that appear on the website. So if we could just
09:54:42 22 remove the words from the streaming. The words are -
09:54:52 23 there's reference to - - -
09:54:54 24
09:54:54 25 COMMISSIONER: On which page of the transcript?
09:54:57 26
09:55:02 27 MS ENBOM: Page 20, "He's presumably in [REDACTED]
09:55:06 28 [REDACTED]".
09:55:07 29
09:55:07 30 COMMISSIONER: Those words are to be removed from the
09:55:10 31 transcript, not streamed, and be no publication of those
09:55:14 32 words.
09:55:15 33
09:55:15 34 MS ENBOM: Thank you, Commissioner.
09:55:21 35
09:55:21 36 COMMISSIONER: Are you able to give Mr Collinson a shaded
09:55:24 37 copy? It's a bit like walking on eggs shells in this
09:55:31 38 hearing.
09:55:31 39
09:55:32 40 MR COLLINSON: Yes. Now on p.20 Ms Gobbo continues, "As it
09:55:37 41 turned out it took a long time for them to see the reality,
09:55:40 42 which is that I wasn't there for that point of view and I
09:55:44 43 live in fear now that that was still to be found out and
09:55:46 44 it's still an ongoing process because I know the police
09:55:50 45 protected me in a particular court in relation to
09:55:54 46 subpoenas". Now, that reference to police protecting
09:56:01 47 Ms Gobbo is a reference to, I think, Mr Bateson, is it

09:56:07 1 not?---I think it would have been.
09:56:10 2
09:56:11 3 Then over at p.21, point 2 of the page, "And a judge might
09:56:16 4 rule differently to a magistrate. If that happened I'm
09:56:20 5 fucked". So it is true, isn't it, that when you were
09:56:26 6 having this discussion with Ms Gobbo she actually has a
09:56:30 7 fear that she might be harmed, or even murdered, as a
09:56:37 8 result of the activity she described that she engaged in in
09:56:42 9 relation to that particular individual?---Yes.
09:56:45 10
09:56:45 11 And I think I rather challenged you yesterday on that but I
09:56:50 12 think I withdraw that, it is in fact a concern that she
09:56:56 13 expressed?---Yes.
09:56:57 14
09:56:58 15 Then at point 5 of the page she makes a reference to, in
09:57:02 16 the last line of that passage, "But things like, you know,
09:57:06 17 finding out where you live, sending crooks to your front
09:57:09 18 door to threaten to kill you". Now I took you to that
09:57:15 19 reference yesterday. I suggest that's a reference to
09:57:18 20 Mr Veniamin visiting her home in mid-2003, would you agree
09:57:22 21 with that?---Not having read this entire transcript or
09:57:29 22 what's said subsequently, but it could be.
09:57:32 23
09:57:32 24 Yes. And then I don't need to go into the details but in
09:57:35 25 the next paragraph she refers to her letterbox being ripped
09:57:40 26 off the hinges, see that?---Yes.
09:57:44 27
09:57:47 28 Then over on p.22 at point 5 of the page she refers to the
09:58:01 29 Drug Squad as generating a level of paranoia in her mind,
09:58:05 30 do you see that?---Yes.
09:58:06 31
09:58:07 32 And then at point 6 of the page, "The crooks also being a
09:58:13 33 massive level of paranoia". This is on p.22?---I see that.
09:58:24 34
09:58:25 35 Yes. Now, then over on p.23 she starts to tell the story
09:58:32 36 that I won't take you through in detail but it relates to
09:58:36 37 this person **Mr Bickley**, do you see where that starts
09:58:41 38 at point 2 of the page?---Yes.
09:58:44 39
09:58:45 40 And she tells the story of her recent involvement in
09:58:53 41 starting to act for him and she says at point 3 of the
09:58:58 42 page, "I don't know, for whatever reason he asked for me,
09:59:03 43 apparently he had my correct mobile number". Then down at
09:59:06 44 point 7 of the page, "I don't know him and I said he
09:59:10 45 doesn't have any priors and Paul", that's Paul Rowe, isn't
09:59:13 46 it?---Looking at previous paragraph yes, it is.
09:59:31 47

09:59:31 1 I know you weren't directly involved in these events but I
09:59:34 2 took you yesterday to Mr Rowe's statement where he walks
09:59:39 3 through these events that occurred on about 31 August
09:59:44 4 2005?---Yes.
09:59:45 5
09:59:45 6 Do you recall I took you to that?---Yes.
09:59:47 7
09:59:48 8 And she tells in that paragraph, she recites that
09:59:59 9 conversation where Mr Rowe said, "No, he's a clean skin.
10:00:03 10 And I thought okay, now there's two things you could have
10:00:06 11 said. One is that the bloke's just a crook who somehow
10:00:10 12 knows other crooks who would say here's her phone number or
10:00:14 13 that it's probably more appropriate is he's someone who
10:00:18 14 knows Mokbel, and Tony said to him, "If you're ever in
10:00:21 15 trouble' or blah, blah, blah, 'Call her, don't speak to
10:00:22 16 anyone else'". And over at p.24 she says at about point 3,
10:00:34 17 [REDACTED],
10:00:37 18 to prove a point, which has, because Purana assume that
10:00:42 19 this guy was, that I was a stooge when I went to see him",
10:00:46 20 do you see that?---Yes.
10:00:47 21
10:00:49 22 So there's many ironies in this story but one of them seems
10:00:56 23 to be the police had this view of Ms Gobbo that she was
10:00:59 24 acting in the interests of the Mokbel clan in acting for
10:01:04 25 these individuals but at least in relation to a number of
10:01:10 26 them she was showing signs of wanting to act in their best
10:01:15 27 interests, do you agree with that?---Yes.
10:01:20 28
10:01:22 29 By them I mean the individual concerned?---Yes.
10:01:25 30
10:01:26 31 Then at point 6 of the page, well I won't go into that in
10:01:32 32 detail, but she talks about in line 3, "I've dug my own
10:01:37 33 grave because what I should have done is if people knew
10:01:44 34 that", then it's blanked out, "I would have lived every day
10:01:50 35 in fear that it would be found out but I wouldn't do that",
10:01:52 36 and then down at the foot of the page she refers to getting
10:01:55 37 Mr Hargreaves in to act for Mr Bickley [REDACTED]. And then at
10:01:59 38 p.25, the next page at about point 3, she talks about a
10:02:04 39 conversation she has with Mr Bickley [REDACTED] and he identifies
10:02:09 40 Tony, being Tony Mokbel, as the reason why Bickley [REDACTED]
10:02:13 41 contacted Gobbo in the first place on his arrest. And then
10:02:18 42 over at p.26, point 6 of the page, there's discussion by
10:02:27 43 Ms Gobbo in her conversation with you where she says,
10:02:30 44 "Anyway Tony panicked, went into quite a state and, you
10:02:34 45 know, I don't know what, I didn't know what the connection
10:02:36 46 was then. Next thing there was a fight and a half between
10:02:40 47 either Solicitor 2" - perhaps I shouldn't have said that,

10:02:45 1 "Or Mr Hargreaves who's acting for this bloke". And then
10:02:50 2 she speaks of the bail application and then I think we can
10:02:55 3 go to p.29 where at point 6 on that page do you see she
10:03:06 4 says, "I rang up Paul"?---Yes.
10:03:10 5
10:03:11 6 "Who probably thought that I was trying to fish for
10:03:14 7 information or something and said I can't do this bail
10:03:17 8 application, I felt sick because you can't, you can't go
10:03:20 9 and vigorously cross-examine a police officer in your
10:03:24 10 client's interests if the person that the answers will come
10:03:26 11 out about, which would have been Mokbel, is someone you act
10:03:29 12 for, you just can't do it". In other words, Ms Gobbo was
10:03:35 13 directly perceiving the existence of a conflict she had in
10:03:39 14 acting for Mr Bickley do you agree?---Yes.
10:03:42 15
10:03:45 16 And then over on p.30 she describes the course of events
10:03:51 17 whereby the bail application was adjourned. And then going
10:04:04 18 to p.33 at point 6 of the page you make a comment at this
10:04:09 19 point, "Just go back a bit. Make sure I understand this.
10:04:15 20 You're not and I'm not as up to speed in relation to these
10:04:18 21 investigations as I could be. Your concern about
10:04:21 22 representing Mr Bickley and then you continue,
10:04:24 23 "Cross-examining police witnesses in relation to Mr Bickley's
10:04:27 24 involvement. He had a bail application", Ms Gobbo says and
10:04:30 25 you say, "Yeah, the information may come out about Tony".
10:04:34 26 She confirms that and, "You represent Tony" and so on. And
10:04:39 27 Ms Gobbo says at point 3 on p.34 that it's a big conflict.
10:04:44 28 So I take it you were asking these questions because you
10:04:47 29 didn't really have much background in the Bickley case at
10:04:51 30 this point?---That's right.
10:04:52 31
10:04:58 32 And then at p.35, point 2, Ms Gobbo says, "You can't, you
10:05:09 33 know, I don't want to be screamed at let alone God knows
10:05:14 34 what else by Tony because he hears later on that I put
10:05:18 35 things to a police officer in a bail application or I've
10:05:19 36 asked stupid questions and certain answers have come out.
10:05:22 37 But equally I'm not acting in the client's best interests
10:05:26 38 if I don't do that", that's the quandary Ms Gobbo perceived
10:05:31 39 that she had, isn't it?---Yes. What page are we on now?
10:05:35 40
10:05:35 41 Page 35. It's at point 2 of the page is the passage I read
10:05:45 42 out?---Yes.
10:05:46 43
10:05:49 44 Then you start giving some information about Mr Mokbel and
10:06:01 45 at p.55 at the top of the page, Ms Gobbo goes into some
10:06:20 46 quite distant history. She says, "Since I was a Crown
10:06:25 47 witness against him in 1998" and you ask, "You made a

10:06:32 1 statement against him?" And Ms Gobbo says, "Yeah" and you
10:06:35 2 ask, "What was that for?" And you describe at point 4 of
10:06:40 3 the page that you were a first year or second year
10:06:44 4 solicitor - sorry, Ms Gobbo describes that fact in 1997,
10:06:49 5 working for a particular solicitor, Horthy Mokbel was
10:06:54 6 charged. And down at about point 8 of that page this
10:06:59 7 person called Tony turns up and describes himself as, "I'm
10:07:04 8 Tony". And then she tells a story about giving evidence
10:07:11 9 actually against funnily enough, as a young solicitor, the
10:07:16 10 interests of Tony Mokbel. Do you have any recollection of
10:07:18 11 that?---No.
10:07:20 12
10:07:25 13 The reason I go to it is that when I get on to a closer
10:07:30 14 examination of her relationship with Tony Mokbel, one
10:07:36 15 striking feature of it that I'm going to raise with you,
10:07:39 16 and I don't know whether you have a view about it, is that
10:07:45 17 Ms Gobbo had a complex relationship with Mr Tony Mokbel
10:07:51 18 that involved elements of fear but it was also a close
10:07:57 19 relationship because of her, because of the fact that she'd
10:08:02 20 known him for so many years dating back to 1998, would you
10:08:06 21 agree with that?---I don't know obviously what occurred
10:08:19 22 between that point, 1998 that you've just taken me to, and
10:08:24 23 the point in time where she's pretty much under the control
10:08:28 24 of the Mokbels.
10:08:29 25
10:08:29 26 Yes?---I don't know if they had an ongoing long
10:08:32 27 relationship. In terms of closeness I don't think I can
10:08:35 28 comment on that.
10:08:36 29
10:08:36 30 Yes. The point I was going to come to is that in fact to
10:08:41 31 some degree there was a relationship of mutual dependency
10:08:46 32 in that Mr Tony Mokbel, even in the face of evidence that
10:08:52 33 emerged over the course of Ms Gobbo rolling particular
10:08:59 34 witnesses against the interests of the Mokbels, was in fact
10:09:04 35 stunned when, at the time of his extradition from Greece to
10:09:10 36 Melbourne to face charges, that Ms Gobbo said to him that
10:09:15 37 she wouldn't act for him, do you remember that?---That he
10:09:20 38 was stunned?
10:09:20 39
10:09:21 40 Yes?---No, I don't recall that.
10:09:23 41
10:09:23 42 We'll come to that. Then if I could take you to p.64,
10:09:38 43 actually 65. Ms Gobbo mentions Stuart Bateson in the first
10:09:48 44 line. Do you see that?---Yes.
10:09:49 45
10:09:50 46 Now I probably asked you this yesterday but just to remind
10:09:54 47 myself, you at this point hadn't had any recent

10:09:57 1 conversations with Mr Bateson concerning Ms Gobbo?---No.
10:10:02 2
10:10:06 3 And then down the foot of that page Ms Gobbo comes to -
10:10:14 4 perhaps I'll start at point 6. A position where she starts
10:10:19 5 to straw the threads together from some of these stories
10:10:22 6 she's been telling and she says, "I don't mind getting
10:10:25 7 involved. Look, I'm not here because I've got, you know,
10:10:28 8 I've got, I've committed some drug crime or I think that
10:10:31 9 I've got, I have to, I said this to Steve and I don't know
10:10:36 10 whether he actually believed me or not, but if I was
10:10:40 11 charged with something, because I'm in a different
10:10:42 12 position. I'm here because I've had enough, really I've
10:10:46 13 had enough. It's not about me saying that I need help
10:10:50 14 because of whatever, I've just want, I've had it", over the
10:10:55 15 page, "And I don't know, I don't know the way out". Do you
10:10:59 16 see that?---Yes.
10:11:00 17
10:11:00 18 Even with the passage of years of your later knowledge of
10:11:06 19 Ms Gobbo, I suggest to you that's a pretty fair description
10:11:10 20 of her motives for becoming an informer for the police in
10:11:17 21 September 2005, would you agree with that?---Yes.
10:11:20 22
10:11:23 23 I think it's also fair to say, isn't it, that she was in a
10:11:31 24 position where she really needed somebody to give her some
10:11:41 25 independent advice about how to solve the ethical problems
10:11:47 26 she perceived in acting for members of the Mokbel clan, do
10:11:51 27 you agree?---Well, I think Mr Winneke made that point
10:12:01 28 during the past few weeks, that he asked me specifically if
10:12:06 29 we suggested she go and get some advice in respect of a
10:12:10 30 lawyer, which we did do.
10:12:12 31
10:12:12 32 Yes. I appreciate hindsight looms large in respect of
10:12:18 33 this. But you weren't in a position to give her any
10:12:24 34 independent advice because your ambition with this meeting
10:12:27 35 was to secure Ms Gobbo's services as a human source,
10:12:31 36 provided she looked like she had useful information to
10:12:35 37 give?---That's right. Bearing in mind this is the first of
10:12:39 38 several meetings that form the overall assessment.
10:12:43 39
10:12:43 40 Yes. Then Ms Gobbo, if one goes to p.69 at point 4 of the
10:12:55 41 page, she says, "I think I got off track then. I would
10:13:07 42 like to go back to the way it was, which was no pressure,
10:13:10 43 no paranoia, not worried about what he thinks of me when I
10:13:14 44 get to court, or there are too many drug briefs. I can
10:13:18 45 tell you who most drug traffickers are. I've listened to
10:13:22 46 telephone intercepts", she says. She there seems to be
10:13:25 47 articulating a desire to get back to the way of life she

10:13:30 1 had at the Bar perhaps independent of acting for the Mokbel
10:13:35 2 clan, do you agree with that?---Yes.
10:13:37 3
10:13:41 4 And over the page at 70, she says at point 1 of the page,
10:13:47 5 "But have I had it with the law or have I had it with the
10:13:51 6 people who I'm acting for? I don't think it's the law, I
10:13:54 7 think it's the people". That's the same sort of point,
10:13:57 8 isn't it?---Yes.
10:13:58 9
10:13:58 10 Then at point 3 she talks about being appointed not as a
10:14:02 11 judge but as a magistrate. That's on p.70?---Yes.
10:14:13 12
10:14:14 13 And at point 7 she speaks of getting to a stage where she,
10:14:19 14 "Might have a business completely separate from the law,
10:14:22 15 stress free, that I derive an income from and scale right
10:14:25 16 back as a barrister". See that?---Yes.
10:14:31 17
10:14:32 18 Then over on p.72 we have I think a critical part of the
10:14:40 19 discussion. Now Mr Winneke asked you about it but if you
10:14:44 20 don't mind I'll ask you some points. Do you see at point 5
10:14:49 21 of the page you make an observation, "But I can tell you
10:14:54 22 that your relationship with Tony and the others only can
10:14:58 23 have one ending, well it can actually have two, but both of
10:15:03 24 them" and then you get interrupted by Ms Gobbo. Now can I
10:15:07 25 just clarify some things. When you said one ending there,
10:15:13 26 do you recall what you meant?---I don't recall but I'll
10:15:24 27 wait until we go through the rest of the transcript, I
10:15:28 28 won't guess.
10:15:29 29
10:15:29 30 Have a look down the page if you like and over to p.73, but
10:15:35 31 it's a discussion that Mr Winneke asked you about where you
10:15:39 32 start this discussion about one ending and then you say "it
10:15:44 33 can actually have two" and then Ms Gobbo interprets you in
10:15:48 34 a certain way and agrees with you and then over at the top
10:15:53 35 of p.73 she identifies those two endings as "number one
10:16:00 36 gaol, or number two death" and at the top of p.73 you say,
10:16:06 37 "Probably not in that order". So I'm really just curious,
10:16:10 38 winding back to the beginning of this particular
10:16:13 39 discussion, as to what you meant when you said it can only
10:16:16 40 have one ending. It seems that the options are death or
10:16:25 41 gaol, perhaps you don't remember?---I certainly don't
10:16:28 42 remember and I would have to look at the whole conversation
10:16:30 43 leading up to that point to try and get my head back into
10:16:34 44 that space.
10:16:35 45
10:16:35 46 Yes?---That's obviously her interpretation. I guess it's
10:16:39 47 what we must have been talking about.

10:16:41 1
10:16:43 2 Yes. It's all slightly odd because at the top of p.73 at
10:16:49 3 point 2 where Ms Gobbo identifies gaol and death you say,
10:16:54 4 "Probably not in that order". Although it's a little bit
10:17:00 5 hard to see how death could precede gaol?---I'm only
10:17:06 6 guessing now. I think they're mutually exclusive options.
10:17:10 7
10:17:10 8 Yes. Anyway, what I want to suggest to you is - in fact
10:17:22 9 what wasn't being articulated by you at this phase of the
10:17:29 10 discussion is that these are scenarios that you're
10:17:34 11 describing if Ms Gobbo doesn't become an informer,
10:17:39 12 correct?---Again, I would have - I really would like to see
10:17:46 13 the whole of the conversation in context.
10:17:48 14
10:17:49 15 Well - - - ?---That seems to be the case just taking these,
10:17:53 16 these sentences at face value.
10:17:55 17
10:17:55 18 I don't want to rush you in any way, Mr White, so perhaps
10:18:03 19 you can, you might have the opportunity to look at the
10:18:05 20 transcript during a break or something, but this seems to
10:18:09 21 be a sort of a, against the discussions that I've been
10:18:14 22 asking you questions about, this seems to be sort of a new
10:18:17 23 topic that's being talked about so I don't think there's
10:18:21 24 much prior to p.72 that would assist you in working out
10:18:25 25 what you were referring to. But I think it's plain, isn't
10:18:30 26 it, from, if you look at point 5 on p.72, where you say, "I
10:18:37 27 can tell you that your relationship with Tony and the
10:18:40 28 others only can have one ending", your premise is that
10:18:46 29 that's if she continues with what she's doing and doesn't
10:18:50 30 become a human source?---As I say, at face value that's
10:18:56 31 probably right but I think in that conversation she talked
10:18:59 32 a lot about being scared of what they would do to her, so
10:19:04 33 it's probably just - it's a continuation of that theme.
10:19:07 34
10:19:08 35 But isn't that the point, you're picking up on her fears
10:19:11 36 about being physically harmed by the Mokbels if they find
10:19:17 37 out about her role in relation to particular other
10:19:21 38 witnesses and you're wanting to summarise that by saying,
10:19:28 39 well if you keep going the way you're going it's only going
10:19:32 40 to have one ending, being your death or serious harm to
10:19:37 41 you?---Again, that's a possibility. I don't know what else
10:19:43 42 she said about the reason why she was scared of the
10:19:47 43 Mokbels, whether it was just in connection with the fear
10:19:50 44 she had that helping people make statements might become
10:19:54 45 known. I thought it was a bit broader than that.
10:19:57 46
10:19:57 47 I'll move on but I'll put it to you squarely, Mr White, and

10:20:01 1 see what you say. I'm really suggesting to you that when
10:20:05 2 you raised this issue of only having one ending, or
10:20:10 3 possibly two, you were wanting to say that really to
10:20:14 4 encourage Ms Gobbo to become a human source?---Again,
10:20:26 5 without looking at the whole context of the conversation, I
10:20:29 6 don't know that that's entirely accurate. If you look at
10:20:33 7 the next sentence she says, "I couldn't agree more because
10:20:36 8 look at anyone that's had this sort of relationship with
10:20:40 9 them". It's obviously a general theme that's been spoken
10:20:44 10 about. I don't think at that point in time, because this
10:20:47 11 is a very early in the assessment, so there'd been no
10:20:51 12 decision made to take her on as a source. This is really
10:20:55 13 just trying to find out what she could do potentially.
10:20:59 14
10:20:59 15 I understand all of that but I'm putting to you squarely
10:21:03 16 that your intent in raising this risk for her was to
10:21:07 17 encourage her to become a human source?---Well, I can't
10:21:13 18 give you a very direct answer in relation to that. I can't
10:21:18 19 tell you what I was thinking at the time.
10:21:21 20
10:21:21 21 Okay. And then on p.73 Ms Gobbo squarely comes out at
10:21:28 22 about point 3 with this idea of Mr Tony Mokbel being
10:21:35 23 arrested. She says, "Could be a, look ideally what would
10:21:41 24 be fantastic would be you arrest him. Ideally that would
10:21:44 25 be, I know it's a terrible, terrible thing to say to
10:21:49 26 anyone". So Ms Gobbo is raising with you that it would be
10:21:53 27 a good idea to see Tony Mokbel arrested, isn't she?---Yes.
10:21:57 28
10:22:01 29 And over on p.75 at about point 3 of the page she speaks
10:22:07 30 about a hypothetical scenario of Mr Mokbel being in gaol
10:22:11 31 and she says in line 3, "Things would change. God it would
10:22:16 32 be, it would relieve so much pressure off me because you're
10:22:20 33 only allowed to ring between 9 and 3.15", do you see that?
10:22:27 34 Top of p.75?---Yes.
10:22:31 35
10:22:34 36 So she's referring, if you look at that first line where it
10:22:39 37 talks about he'll be in Acacia, although he might still
10:22:47 38 call her at least he'd be limited to prison hours, do you
10:22:51 39 see that?---Yes.
10:22:52 40
10:22:53 41 And then at point 5 on p.75 Ms Gobbo continues, "This is
10:22:59 42 all knocking my health around. You see, the problem with,
10:23:02 43 and look, I've created this mess for myself, I think
10:23:05 44 because I need, I think I need to know about what's going
10:23:08 45 on" and a particular individual, I'm sure that's
10:23:13 46 redacted?---Yes.
10:23:13 47

10:23:14 1 She does say in that passage that she's created this mess
10:23:18 2 for herself, doesn't she?---Yes.
10:23:20 3
10:23:24 4 Do you recall that in the course of the relationship with
10:23:27 5 the handlers she comes to realise that it's been a terrible
10:23:37 6 mistake to embark upon this enterprise of trying to put the
10:23:41 7 Mokbels in gaol, at least from her point of
10:23:51 8 view?---Generally, yes, she makes comments about that
10:23:54 9 occasionally throughout the material.
10:23:56 10
10:23:56 11 One thing that struck me, and I don't know what your view
10:24:00 12 would be, is that she didn't really, apart from about one
10:24:06 13 passage that I came across, turn upon the handlers and
10:24:10 14 blame the handlers for getting her in the mess that she
10:24:16 15 found herself in towards the end of the human source police
10:24:24 16 relationship, do you agree with that?---I do.
10:24:26 17
10:24:30 18 Then there's further discussions at p.97, about point 3 of
10:24:42 19 the page. She there talks about her sister as one person
10:24:58 20 that she trusts in her life?---Yes.
10:25:08 21
10:25:09 22 Mr Jim Valos, a solicitor?---I see that.
10:25:16 23
10:25:16 24 And she then makes reference to Mr Stuart Bateson
10:25:22 25 again?---Yes.
10:25:23 26
10:25:25 27 Contextually it's an indication, isn't it, she has come to
10:25:30 28 develop a relationship with Stuart Bateson where she trusts
10:25:33 29 him to keep an eye on her interests, consistent with his
10:25:37 30 duties as a police officer?---Well, my recollection is she
10:25:42 31 had a lot of respect for Stuart Bateson.
10:25:44 32
10:25:46 33 And then at p.98, point 5 of the page, you say to her,
10:25:58 34 "Your reputation is, I'm getting the strong, that that's
10:26:02 35 something you're concerned about"?---I see that.
10:26:04 36
10:26:04 37 And then over at the top of p.99 you continue, "What would
10:26:09 38 actually have to occur for you to re-establish your
10:26:12 39 reputation" and Ms Gobbo asks, "What do you mean
10:26:17 40 re-establish?" You say, "Well if your reputation is" and
10:26:23 41 it's a bit unclear. Did you have in mind by using the
10:26:27 42 expression "re-establish your reputation" that you
10:26:32 43 foreshadowed in your own mind that if Ms Gobbo acted as a
10:26:36 44 human source that this would end up damaging her
10:26:42 45 reputation?---Well, once again I can't tell you what I had
10:26:47 46 in mind back then and I would have to see what the lead up
10:26:52 47 to this conversation was. It seems to suggest that she's

10:26:57 1 told us that she felt her reputation had been damaged
10:27:02 2 through her relationship with the Mokbels.
10:27:04 3
10:27:04 4 Yes. Well I think I took you to those passages, didn't I,
10:27:09 5 because she talks about the fact that the police regarded
10:27:12 6 her as a stooge, whereas in her own mind she in fact
10:27:19 7 wasn't?---That's right, yes.
10:27:20 8
10:27:21 9 Then p.101, Ms Gobbo says at point 3 a line that people
10:27:30 10 seem to think at this age, "I'm getting too old", she says
10:27:36 11 at 32, do you see that?---Yes.
10:27:38 12
10:27:39 13 Then she continues, "I'm getting too old, to be frank about
10:27:42 14 this to blokes I don't really know, I'm 32, I'm nearly 33,
10:27:47 15 what have I done with my life?" Then, "Seriously, what am
10:27:51 16 I doing? I've had a stroke. My day is every, at the
10:27:54 17 moment I get up at 6, 6 o'clock. I go to work by 7 or
10:27:56 18 quarter past 7. I just spend all day working, very rarely
10:28:00 19 do I go anywhere or do anything, to work all weekend for
10:28:05 20 what?" And I think you made reference to that in response
10:28:09 21 to questions from Mr Winneke, didn't you, that she seemed
10:28:12 22 to have a lifestyle that involved a lot of work and not
10:28:18 23 really many friendships?---She was a workaholic, there's no
10:28:25 24 doubt about that.
10:28:25 25
10:28:28 26 I mean her age would have been obvious to you and perhaps
10:28:32 27 known to you, but it was plainly told to you here. I want
10:28:38 28 to suggest to you that really 32, as much as one can
10:28:44 29 generalise, is a very young age to be making the kind of
10:28:50 30 decision that Ms Gobbo appeared to be in the course of
10:28:52 31 making on this day?---I can't - I don't understand your
10:29:06 32 proposition but to make this decision at that age she was -
10:29:13 33 I really don't know what the age has to do with it.
10:29:16 34
10:29:16 35 All right. Can I take you then to p.116. Do you see at
10:29:24 36 point 4 of the page Ms Gobbo says, "I just need some, this
10:29:30 37 I see as a way out of it all and not end up either in gaol
10:29:34 38 or dead", do you see that?---Yes.
10:29:36 39
10:29:37 40 So do you agree she's really picked up on your original
10:29:43 41 suggestion that one of two adverse events, gaol or death,
10:29:48 42 would be likely to happen to her if she just continued the
10:29:52 43 way she was?---Yes.
10:29:54 44
10:29:57 45 But that kind of analysis was a very one-sided analysis, I
10:30:03 46 suggest, of the alternatives you should be thinking about
10:30:07 47 in terms of continuing in her current manner of practice or

10:30:12 1 deciding to become a human source?---I'm sorry, could you
10:30:18 2 repeat that for me?
10:30:19 3
10:30:20 4 Yes. To say that if you continue just in the way you're
10:30:24 5 doing, that might lead to gaol or death, is merely one side
10:30:30 6 of the analysis if you're looking at the alternative, being
10:30:35 7 to become a human source, because one of the risks of
10:30:39 8 becoming a human source is that you might in fact have an
10:30:42 9 enhanced chance of being dead?---That's true. I'm not sure
10:30:52 10 what you're actually asking me.
10:30:54 11
10:30:54 12 Well, I'm really wanting to suggest to you that by raising
10:31:00 13 with her that if she continued the way she was going she'd
10:31:05 14 be in gaol or dead, you didn't really fairly put to her
10:31:11 15 that the consequence of becoming a source is that at least
10:31:17 16 the dead outcome might in fact be a greater possibility
10:31:21 17 from being a human source than if she just continued in her
10:31:25 18 current lifestyle?---Okay, so you're right, insofar as the
10:31:32 19 fact that I did not compare or contrast the likelihood of
10:31:39 20 dying by being a source or by continuing on the way she
10:31:43 21 was.
10:31:44 22
10:31:45 23 Yes. Now, at the foot of the page you continue, last line,
10:31:50 24 "Well you're obviously, so you know". Then over the page,
10:31:53 25 "There's a lot of people, not a lot, but there's a number
10:31:56 26 of people in the community that have been put in the exact
10:31:59 27 same position, by, by the Mokbels or people of similar
10:32:03 28 vein. This is what these people do. They use and abuse
10:32:06 29 and exploit. You've hit the nail on the head when you're
10:32:10 30 talking about people being lazy, stupid or greedy", do you
10:32:15 31 see that?---Yes.
10:32:16 32
10:32:17 33 Again, quite frankly I suggest to you you were saying that
10:32:19 34 to encourage Ms Gobbo to become a human source?---I think
10:32:26 35 that's - look, it's a possibility. I don't know at that
10:32:31 36 time whether she was going to become a human source or not
10:32:34 37 but I think this particular paragraph seems more to me like
10:32:38 38 a bit of a summary of the gist of the conversation we've
10:32:41 39 had.
10:32:42 40
10:32:42 41 I mean surely, Mr White, you wouldn't say to the
10:32:48 42 Commissioner, would you, when you went into this meeting
10:32:51 43 you were neutral as to whether Ms Gobbo should become a
10:32:54 44 source or not?---No.
10:32:56 45
10:32:58 46 You wanted that event to happen, provided you were
10:33:01 47 satisfied that she seemed credible, she wouldn't be a

10:33:04 1 double agent and she had useful information to give?---Yes.
10:33:08 2
10:33:09 3 So logically some of the things you said in this meeting
10:33:17 4 were to the end of encouraging her to become a human
10:33:21 5 source?---That's, that's likely, yes.
10:33:28 6
10:33:38 7 This meeting was concerned really only about the Mokbels,
10:33:43 8 wasn't it? I think I put that badly. There wasn't any
10:33:50 9 discussion about the Hodsons murder in this meeting, was
10:33:55 10 there?---Well, Mr Collinson, I'll have to take your word
10:34:02 11 for that because, as I said, I'm not sure what's in the
10:34:05 12 rest of the conversation.
10:34:06 13
10:34:06 14 Yes. Well I think you can take my word for that. You
10:34:13 15 certainly don't have any recollection of Ms Gobbo saying
10:34:17 16 anything about the murder of the Hodsons or Mr Paul Dale in
10:34:22 17 the course of this initial meeting, is that right?---No.
10:34:25 18
10:34:30 19 And equally, I suggest, you don't have any recollection of
10:34:33 20 Ms Gobbo mentioning the Hodsons or Mr Dale in any of the
10:34:38 21 early meetings, in late 2005 through to early 2006?---I
10:34:49 22 certainly don't have a recollection and, as I've indicated
10:34:53 23 before, I rely on the content of what's in the contact
10:34:57 24 reports and the transcripts and the diaries. It's clearly
10:35:02 25 the most accurate information.
10:35:04 26
10:35:04 27 I want to turn now then to the ICRs. Again, pursuing this
10:35:12 28 inquiry about the motives of Ms Gobbo. I understand,
10:35:37 29 Commissioner, that everyone else has dealt with the ICRs in
10:35:41 30 private session. Again, I'm anxious, as I infer the
10:35:48 31 Commission is, to do as much of this in public as possible
10:35:51 32 so I'm going to endeavour to be a little bit Delphic and
10:35:58 33 we'll see how we go and if it doesn't work we might have to
10:36:02 34 consider another course.
10:36:03 35
10:36:04 36 COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you.
10:36:04 37
10:36:05 38 MR COLLINSON: So if I could take you, Mr White, to p.12 in
10:36:14 39 ICR number 2. And to assist you with context, Mr White,
10:36:34 40 this is the second meeting with Ms Gobbo, attended by you.
10:36:45 41 It occurs on 20 and 21 September 2005 and you can see that
10:36:49 42 from p.7?---We're on ICR number 2?
10:36:58 43
10:36:58 44 Yes?---And p.7.
10:37:02 45
10:37:03 46 Page 7 identifies what date we're dealing with?---I'm
10:37:13 47 sorry, I've got the wrong - 2958 folder.

10:37:17 1
10:37:18 2 Sure?---Okay, I have that.
10:37:48 3
10:37:49 4 You're on p.7, are you, or what?---On the first page of ICR
10:37:56 5 number 2.
10:37:57 6
10:37:57 7 Right. You've got the same pagination as I do, don't you,
10:38:02 8 is it numbered 7 at the foot of the page?---Yes.
10:38:04 9
10:38:05 10 If you could go then to p.12. Again, using my methodology,
10:38:19 11 if one looks at about point 7 of the page you see the
10:38:28 12 heading "handler opinion/comment"?---Yes.
10:38:31 13
10:38:31 14 This directly addresses Ms Gobbo's motivation, doesn't it,
10:38:36 15 in this early stage, in becoming a human source?---Yes.
10:38:41 16
10:38:49 17 The statement there relevantly is, "Human source stated
10:38:53 18 motivations re wanting to change lifestyle and achieve
10:38:56 19 getting Mokbels out of Ms Gobbo's life. The area of
10:39:01 20 genuine concern to her". So I suppose that's not making
10:39:09 21 clear whether or not the handlers accept that stated
10:39:16 22 motivation, but that's a fair summary, isn't it, of the
10:39:22 23 description of Ms Gobbo's motivations which she certainly
10:39:27 24 gave at the 16 September meeting?---Yes.
10:39:30 25
10:39:36 26 Then if I could take you to p.21. I think I'll pass over
10:40:11 27 that one in public session. If I could take you to ICR 17,
10:40:22 28 p.138?---I have that.
10:40:47 29
10:40:48 30 You'll see the heading, "DSU matters"?---Yes.
10:40:52 31
10:40:54 32 Point 3. "Human source just wants Mokbel out of human
10:40:58 33 source life. States doesn't care about getting paid. Is
10:41:00 34 just sick of him in particular and them, that group in
10:41:04 35 general." See that?---Yes.
10:41:07 36
10:41:08 37 Now, that is reflecting an ICR for the period 28 January
10:41:16 38 2006 to 9 February 2006. That statement of motive is
10:41:23 39 consistent with what Ms Gobbo said at the first meeting in
10:41:27 40 September 2005?---Yes.
10:41:30 41
10:41:36 42 If I could take you to p.159. You can see, because you're
10:41:57 43 in hard copy, that this is 19 February 2006. Do you see at
10:42:03 44 about point 4 of the page on p.159 the words, "Motive of
10:42:08 45 source"?---Yes.
10:42:10 46
10:42:12 47 "Ease her conscience and do the right thing"?---Yes.

10:42:17 1
10:42:19 2 Can you see, I don't want you to say anything, but can you
10:42:22 3 see in the lines above what subject matter the source is
10:42:26 4 addressing?---Yes.
10:42:27 5
10:42:29 6 So that's consistent, isn't it, with her statement of
10:42:32 7 motivations as articulated at the September 2005
10:42:37 8 meeting?---Yes, I believe so.
10:42:48 9
10:42:49 10 Perhaps with a greater emphasis on the public service or
10:42:54 11 the public good notion of doing the right thing?---That's
10:43:03 12 correct. The part about easing her conscience, I don't
10:43:11 13 think that was mentioned in the first meeting.
14
10:43:16 15 Yes?---Well I'm not sure.
10:43:17 16
10:43:18 17 Yes. I don't think, though, just to be clear, that that
10:43:25 18 reference - let me ask you this question: when it says
10:43:31 19 there, "Motive of source, ease her conscience and do the
10:43:35 20 right thing", is that reflecting a conclusion by the
10:43:38 21 handler or a statement of Ms Gobbo, or isn't it possible to
10:43:42 22 tell?---It's not possible to tell without - this is coming
10:43:52 23 after a phone call so no, it's not possible to tell.
10:43:54 24
10:43:55 25 Contextually I suggest the reference to easing her
10:43:58 26 conscience, I don't think contextually one can link that
10:44:03 27 with anything to do with the Hodson murders or
10:44:08 28 Mr Dale?---At that point in time I think you're right. I
10:44:10 29 don't know that we discussed those matters.
10:44:12 30
10:44:17 31 By now we're in February 2006, so Ms Gobbo has been a
10:44:23 32 source for quite some months. Would you say that by now
10:44:30 33 you had come to trust Ms Gobbo as a source?---I'm not - I'm
10:44:52 34 not sure.
10:44:53 35
10:44:53 36 Perhaps you might say it's the job of the police never
10:44:58 37 really to wholly trust a source, is that what you might
10:45:03 38 say?---That's the - yes, that's a very good operating
10:45:10 39 principle.
10:45:10 40
10:45:12 41 Yes?---I don't think in relation to Ms Gobbo - I think we -
10:45:19 42 she was in a different category to most of our sources who
10:45:23 43 were serious criminal figures and there was an expectation
10:45:27 44 that they would definitely do the wrong thing. I don't
10:45:30 45 think we were quite in tune with that when it came to
10:45:33 46 Ms Gobbo.
10:45:33 47

10:45:34 1 I suggest that's an important distinction. I mean,
10:45:41 2 Mr Winneke took you to some documents suggesting that
10:45:46 3 Ms Gobbo later on charged fees for persons she said she
10:45:53 4 wouldn't act for and things like that, do you remember
10:45:55 5 those questions?---Yes, I do.
10:45:56 6
10:45:57 7 But generally I suggest that probably, or partly because of
10:46:08 8 Ms Gobbo's status as a barrister, and the intensive level
10:46:15 9 of communication with which she had with the handlers, you
10:46:19 10 would have had at the least a fairly high degree of
10:46:25 11 confidence, wouldn't you, about the accuracy of the
10:46:27 12 information she was giving to you by - - - ?---Yes.
10:46:32 13
10:46:32 14 - - - February 2006?---Yes, I think so.
10:46:34 15
10:46:39 16 I mean, Ms Gobbo was acting out of motivations which were
10:46:50 17 very unusual, weren't they, for a person becoming a human
10:47:01 18 source, as you understood?---Insofar as the motivation to
10:47:04 19 do the right thing is not an unusual motivation and
10:47:08 20 certainly as time goes by with source handlers that becomes
10:47:12 21 more apparent, but it's fair to say that with a lot of
10:47:19 22 sources, probably the vast majority, they're working to get
10:47:25 23 some advantage in the court system, they believe there's a
10:47:29 24 hammer hanging over their heads and that's initially their
10:47:33 25 motivation.
10:47:33 26
10:47:33 27 We do come later in the human source relationship to some
10:47:40 28 references to whether or not Ms Gobbo might get a reward of
10:47:44 29 some kind, you remember being taken to those by
10:47:49 30 Mr Winneke?---Yes.
10:47:50 31
10:47:52 32 But there's essentially no real reference to any kind of
10:48:00 33 financial reward, I think, that I can see, anywhere in the
10:48:08 34 early ICRs. Is that your general recollection, that - -
10:48:12 35 -?---Yes. Yes, that's right, she wasn't asking for one.
10:48:18 36
10:48:18 37 In the first year or so, maybe longer, we'll come to the
10:48:22 38 dates, Ms Gobbo is never suggesting that as a result of all
10:48:25 39 the good work she's doing she's going to get some kind of
10:48:30 40 financial advantage in the form of a reward?---That's
10:48:33 41 correct.
10:48:33 42
10:48:36 43 And so I don't want to minimise the ethical issues that
10:48:43 44 were generated by her undertaking the activities she did,
10:48:48 45 but parking those for a moment, her motives, as you
10:48:54 46 understood them and accepted them, were that she was
10:48:57 47 working on trying to put the Mokbels, and perhaps other

10:49:01 1 criminals, in gaol?---Yes.
10:49:04 2
10:49:09 3 All right. Now, if I could take you then to p.175. If I
10:49:49 4 could direct your attention - you'll have to be careful in
10:49:55 5 answering my questions please - to point 6 of the page. Do
10:49:59 6 you see a sentence beginning, "Source"?---Yes.
10:50:02 7
10:50:05 8 I think I can say or ask you that in this passage Ms Gobbo
10:50:13 9 seems to be raising impliedly whether the police should
10:50:20 10 make available tickets to her for a particular concert?---I
10:50:27 11 see that.
10:50:27 12
10:50:29 13 Does that ring a bell with you, that from time to time
10:50:32 14 Ms Gobbo perhaps partly humorously, but perhaps sometimes
10:50:39 15 with more seriousness, seemed to be suggesting from time to
10:50:43 16 time that police could help her out with concert
10:50:48 17 tickets?---Yes, and it was done, well from my recollection
10:50:55 18 she was, she could be quite, what's the word, maybe cheeky.
10:51:03 19 It would be raised humorously, as you suggested.
10:51:07 20
10:51:08 21 Is it generally your recollection that these were tongue in
10:51:10 22 cheek type requests by Ms Gobbo?---Yes. I can't think,
10:51:20 23 there would be a better word for this, but she could be
10:51:24 24 quite a shit stirrer.
10:51:27 25
10:51:28 26 Yes. That draws attention, I suggest, to the fact that
10:51:33 27 really for most of this period her mind-set was not in the
10:51:37 28 realm of thinking, "I'm doing this to generate substantial
10:51:42 29 rewards for myself"?---That's accurate.
10:51:46 30
10:51:51 31 Then if I could take you, please, to ICR 34, p.320, at
10:52:16 32 point 3 of the page do you see the heading, "DSU
10:52:22 33 issue"?---Yes.
10:52:22 34
10:52:25 35 And you'll see that we're now around 6 June 2006. You can
10:52:34 36 see that from the previous page?---Yes.
10:52:37 37
10:52:39 38 And if you look at the previous page, without identifying
10:52:45 39 anybody, you'll see that there's reference to a particular
10:52:50 40 person around point 5 of the page?---Point 5 of the page on
10:52:59 41 p.319?
10:53:00 42
10:53:00 43 That's right?---There's two people mentioned there.
10:53:06 44
10:53:07 45 Yes. Under 10.10 am?---Yes.
10:53:12 46
10:53:13 47 See that?---Yes.

10:53:14 1
10:53:17 2 That particular person is in gaol at this time?---At that
10:53:23 3 time?
10:53:26 4
10:53:26 5 Yes?---Yes.
10:53:27 6
10:53:29 7 Going back to p.320, you'll see that it says, "Source on
10:53:37 8 the verge of tears today"?---Yes.
10:53:40 9
10:53:41 10 "She changed her attitude on 24th July 2004 when she had
10:53:45 11 her stroke. Has decided to do good things. Made a
10:53:49 12 conscious decision to help, enough was enough." Now are
10:53:55 13 you able to - I can do this in private session if you like,
10:53:59 14 are you able to draw an inference that her reason for being
10:54:04 15 in tears at that point was her role in putting a particular
10:54:09 16 person in gaol?---I think so. I think she felt guilty
10:54:22 17 about that individual.
10:54:23 18
10:54:23 19 Yes. And she then seeks to rationalise what she's done,
10:54:31 20 doesn't she, in this passage on p.320 where she speaks of
10:54:37 21 the stroke and her decision to do good things and so
10:54:47 22 on?---I'm not sure if she's rationalising there. I
10:54:56 23 obviously wasn't party to that conversation.
10:54:57 24
10:54:57 25 Yes, all right. Can I take you then please to p.376, which
10:55:03 26 is ICR 39. And we're now around late July 2006. Do you
10:55:23 27 see around point 2 of the page, "HS says"?---Yes.
10:55:31 28
10:55:32 29 So I'll continue, "HS says after meeting the other night,
10:55:35 30 has been thinking about commend re ten years down the
10:55:41 31 track". Commend means commendation, doesn't it?---Yes,
10:55:49 32 possibly.
10:55:49 33
10:55:49 34 Ms Gobbo is raising with the handler, isn't she, with this
10:55:55 35 observation that perhaps she might get some kind of
10:56:01 36 commendation from Victoria Police at some distant time for
10:56:07 37 all of the work she's been undertaking as a
10:56:13 38 source?---Possibly.
10:56:13 39
10:56:15 40 Well that would be the only thing she could be referring
10:56:19 41 to, isn't it, in this part of the ICR?---It's possible.
10:56:27 42 Once again, I wasn't party to this conversation.
10:56:30 43
10:56:30 44 Yes?---And the ten years down the track, that seems, that
10:56:36 45 doesn't seem very logical to me.
10:56:38 46
10:56:39 47 Well I think she might be saying when perhaps her

10:56:44 1 activities have died down in terms of their significance
10:56:48 2 and there's some opportunity for the police to do it
10:56:52 3 without drawing undue to attention to her?---Possibly.
10:56:57 4
10:56:58 5 No suggestion there of any financial reward, is
10:57:01 6 there?---No.
10:57:01 7
10:57:07 8 If I could then ask you to go to p.547. Do you see the
10:57:34 9 heading "welfare" about point 7 of the page?---Yes.
10:57:38 10
10:57:39 11 And our date now is around 9 November 2006?---Yes.
10:57:45 12
10:57:46 13 And she says she needs - she's recorded as saying to the
10:57:52 14 handler she, "Needs a holiday, unable to take a break.
10:57:56 15 Discussed her disappointment in the money that it has cost
10:58:00 16 to be human source". Do you recall her raising that at
10:58:07 17 all, that issue of the fact that being a human source had
10:58:11 18 effectively cost her fees might otherwise have earned as a
10:58:16 19 barrister in acting for members of the criminal
10:58:19 20 community?---Yes, she raised it a couple of times.
10:58:22 21
10:58:24 22 I think at one stage she put a figure of more than a
10:58:28 23 million dollars or a couple of million dollars on those
10:58:32 24 lost fees, didn't she?---I can't recall that specifically.
10:58:36 25 But as I said I'm aware she raised it a couple of times.
10:58:40 26
10:58:40 27 Then in the next dot point Ms Gobbo is recorded as saying
10:58:44 28 she had told SDU that she did not want compensation or
10:58:47 29 reimbursement at the beginning, never anticipated that it
10:58:51 30 would continue for so long and be so costly. So she, I'm
10:58:57 31 not sure that I've seen an express statement by Ms Gobbo
10:59:03 32 that she did not want compensation or reimbursement at the
10:59:07 33 beginning, but is it your general recollection that she
10:59:10 34 didn't raise a desire for that kind of return at the
10:59:13 35 beginning of the relationship?---That's absolutely right.
10:59:21 36
10:59:21 37 I mean, I'm leaving to one side, I think I might be - just
10:59:27 38 excuse me, Mr White. I'm permitted to say that from time
10:59:37 39 to time she was [REDACTED]
10:59:41 40 [REDACTED] wasn't she?---I think so.
10:59:45 41
10:59:46 42 But that's really just rats and mice money in the scheme of
10:59:54 43 things, isn't it?---Yes, she - you're right, I never
10:59:58 44 thought it was about money for her.
11:00:00 45
11:00:04 46 She's having really a bit of a moan I think, isn't she,
11:00:13 47 we're now about a year into the relationship. She never

11:00:18 1 anticipated it would continue for so long and be so costly
11:00:22 2 to her. Probably it's fair to say those complaints started
11:00:26 3 to increase slowly over the ensuing couple of years?---Yes.
11:00:30 4
11:00:30 5 If you could go then please to p.578. I can tell you,
11:00:48 6 Mr White, this is 7 December 2006. Do you see point 3 of
11:00:52 7 the page there being, "SDU issue"?---Yes.
11:00:57 8
11:01:00 9 It says, "Source worn out. Wants to hear DDI O'Brien say
11:01:08 10 thank you to her"?---Yes.
11:01:12 11
11:01:13 12 Do you recall her saying that to you at any stage, that
11:01:18 13 she'd like to get a bit of a thank you back from Purana
11:01:21 14 about - - - ?---Yes.
11:01:23 15
11:01:24 16 - - - the work she's doing?---Yes.
11:01:25 17
11:01:26 18 Again, that's a pretty modest request from Ms Gobbo and not
11:01:33 19 consistent with a desire for any kind of financial reward,
11:01:36 20 is it?---Sorry, it is consistent with the fact that she was
11:01:44 21 not after money, that's right.
11:01:45 22
11:01:49 23 And then p.623, which is ICR 64. 1 February 2007?---Yes.
11:02:07 24
11:02:08 25 At about point 6 of the page you see the heading, "SDU
11:02:12 26 issue"?---Yes.
11:02:14 27
11:02:15 28 And it continues and I'll not mention the name, "General
11:02:21 29 conversation about source's motivation and how she wants to
11:02:25 30 be the best source and nothing is good enough unless it
11:02:29 31 meets her high expectations and all those around her should
11:02:33 32 be the same". And then she's asked if she's spoken to a
11:02:41 33 particular psychiatrist about the source and the response
11:02:47 34 is, "Advise yes but regarding the accommodation
11:02:51 35 suitability". Now, by now we're starting to see - well
11:02:58 36 perhaps it's from earlier as well - but signs that
11:03:03 37 psychologically Ms Gobbo has just thrown in her lot with
11:03:08 38 all of the objectives of the police in terms of putting the
11:03:15 39 Mokbel clan and perhaps other members of the criminal
11:03:17 40 community in gaol?---So at this point in time I think the
11:03:25 41 Mokbels are in gaol.
11:03:27 42
11:03:27 43 Yes. I think not all of them are, are they? I think some -
11:03:34 44 was Horthy in gaol at this point? Anyway we can - - - ?---I
11:03:40 45 can't, I can't be sure, but this is quite late, this is 07.
11:03:46 46
11:03:46 47 Do you remember Ms Gobbo articulating this idea, that she

11:03:51 1 wanted to be the best source ever?---I do.
11:03:58 2
11:03:58 3 And - - - ?---And - sorry.
11:04:03 4
11:04:04 5 You continue?---I do remember this and it was pretty
11:04:09 6 consistent with Ms Gobbo's general sort of ego. She had
11:04:25 7 quite a high ego. So she had, she did have a healthy ego
11:04:29 8 and she would often talk in terms like this.
11:04:32 9
11:04:33 10 COMMISSIONER: Just in terms of that entry, it does say
11:04:35 11 psychiatrist but in fact the person mentioned was a
11:04:38 12 psychologist I think, is that correct?---That's right,
11:04:41 13 Commissioner.
11:04:41 14
11:04:42 15 Thank you.
11:04:42 16
11:04:46 17 MR COLLINSON: Did you have a concern about Ms Gobbo
11:04:54 18 wanting to have this ambition of being the best source?---I
11:05:04 19 can't recall whether I had a concern about it.
11:05:13 20
11:05:13 21 And then at p.633, another ICR. You'll see at the top of
11:05:26 22 the page it's suggested that you should handle her for a
11:05:35 23 month. "All source wants is thanks, respect and
11:05:39 24 appreciation, a thank you from Jim O'Brien. Source is
11:05:42 25 striving for 100 per cent level of trust" by you. Again,
11:05:48 26 there seems to be this repetition of a desire for a direct
11:05:55 27 thank you from Purana, correct?---Yes.
11:05:59 28
11:06:00 29 And eventually something is produced, she's given a small
11:06:04 30 gift, isn't she, not long after this?---Yes.
11:06:09 31
11:06:12 32 But there's a number of these references to Ms Gobbo
11:06:16 33 wanting to achieve trust from you. Do you recall that as a
11:06:22 34 theme she articulated from time to time?---I don't recall
11:06:31 35 specifically anything about her trust level but my
11:06:37 36 relationship with her was quite different from the
11:06:41 37 handlers, who had the day-to-day contact with her. So I
11:06:45 38 think as I said to Mr Winneke, my role was to be in a
11:06:49 39 position of authority in the relationship.
11:06:53 40
11:06:53 41 You recall on some occasions where some arrests were made
11:06:59 42 that Ms Gobbo got very angry that she hadn't been warned of
11:07:05 43 the impending arrests?---Yes.
11:07:08 44
11:07:08 45 And didn't that lead to complaints from her that SDU were
11:07:14 46 not trusting her enough?---Yes.
11:07:16 47

11:07:17 1 And her need for trust there is of course not put more
11:07:22 2 generally about SDU but it's a specific level of trust she
11:07:27 3 seeks from you, isn't it?---Well I think the references
11:07:33 4 you're talking about as far as not telling her about
11:07:36 5 arrests before they happened or not telling her about
11:07:40 6 certain police methodologies, she would have known that I
11:07:43 7 was the one that was behind her not knowing those things.
11:07:49 8
11:07:49 9 Yes. Then if you could go, please, to p.643. We are now
11:08:10 10 in or around 19 February 2007 and do you see the heading
11:08:19 11 "welfare" at the top of the page?---Yes.
11:08:22 12
11:08:26 13 Commencing with the third-last dot point it says, "Concerns
11:08:31 14 regarding the upcoming committal of Milad Mokbel". Now, it
11:08:40 15 continues, "Ms Gobbo considering leaving the country at
11:08:44 16 this time. Ms Gobbo believes that she has done a complete
11:08:47 17 circle and is no better off than when she started". It
11:08:52 18 says stated but that must be started. These are the
11:08:57 19 intimations that start to creep in, aren't they, that
11:09:01 20 Ms Gobbo realises that the plan that she became party to
11:09:07 21 with the police back in September 2005 of putting the
11:09:11 22 Mokbels in gaol hasn't really made her better off after
11:09:19 23 all?---Yes.
11:09:24 24
11:09:24 25 And one of the key reasons for this, I suggest, is that
11:09:32 26 Ms Gobbo fears that her role in relation to a particular
11:09:41 27 witness, if I could keep using that expression, hopefully
11:09:45 28 you know which pseudonym I'm referring to?---Yes.
11:09:48 29
11:09:48 30 In having a particular witness give evidence against the
11:09:51 31 Mokbels, is inevitably going to come to the attention of
11:09:58 32 the Mokbels?---Yes.
11:10:00 33
11:10:03 34 And she comes to realise, doesn't she, that the mere fact
11:10:06 35 that the Mokbels might be in gaol doesn't necessarily mean
11:10:10 36 that she can't be murdered?---Yes, I think so.
11:10:15 37
11:10:18 38 If I could take you then, please, to p.688. ICR 69, 11
11:10:48 39 March 2007. Under the heading "welfare", last two dot
11:10:54 40 points, you see it says, "General discussion regarding 3838
11:10:58 41 loss of income, lack of compensation from SDU and the lack
11:11:02 42 of rewards for being involved with SDU. 3838 concedes that
11:11:07 43 she has never asked for a reward or even reimbursement for
11:11:13 44 her involvement as a human source". See that?---Yes.
11:11:17 45
11:11:17 46 So here Ms Gobbo seems to be starting to air the notion of
11:11:23 47 a reward but conceding that she's somewhat disabled from

11:11:29 1 pressing that case too hard because it wasn't something she
11:11:33 2 asked for at the beginning of the relationship, do you
11:11:44 3 agree with that?---Yes.
11:11:45 4
11:11:47 5 And do you have a recollection of Ms Gobbo raising this in
11:11:49 6 meetings you had with her around this time?---I don't
11:11:55 7 recall it but it's consistent with my belief that for her
11:11:59 8 it was never about money.
11:12:00 9
11:12:03 10 787, if you could go to p.787, ICR 74?---Just bear with me,
11:12:21 11 Mr Collinson, it's a separate folder.
11:12:23 12
11:12:24 13 Yes?---Okay, I have that.
11:12:59 14
11:13:00 15 Under the heading "welfare" you'll see that, "Ms Gobbo", in
11:13:06 16 the first - this is at the top of the page, "Indicated that
11:13:09 17 she would like the SDU handler to arrange a meeting this
11:13:13 18 weekend to discuss the ending to the relationship between
11:13:16 19 SDU and 3838. 3838 has been suffering a great deal of
11:13:21 20 stress following the Horty arrest". That was something
11:13:27 21 that had occurred I think not long before this particular
11:13:35 22 entry, the arrest of Horty. Do you recollect that his
11:13:39 23 arrest came along a little later than the arrest of
11:13:45 24 Milad?---Yes.
11:13:45 25
11:13:48 26 "3838 describes the situation as emotionally draining.
11:13:52 27 Regrets getting involved with police in the first instance.
11:13:55 28 Never expected that the cost or impact would be so great
11:13:59 29 personally. General conversation regarding the system and
11:14:02 30 the feeling that 3838 is having." So this is Ms Gobbo
11:14:09 31 raising the relationship as coming to an end and I think,
11:14:14 32 to be fair to SDU, SDU were happy to accommodate that,
11:14:23 33 weren't they, if it could be achieved, but consistent with
11:14:26 34 the duty of care obligations of SDU to look after the life
11:14:33 35 of Ms Gobbo given the work she'd undertaken up to this
11:14:39 36 point?---Yes.
11:14:40 37
11:14:42 38 But although Ms Gobbo raises terminating the relationship
11:14:50 39 off and on, it appears that she's not able to bring herself
11:14:56 40 to do that, is she?---She's not able to do it?
11:15:14 41
11:15:15 42 Psychologically - - - ?---I'm not sure.
11:15:18 43
11:15:19 44 She seems to have become so dependent upon the relationship
11:15:23 45 with the handlers as a crutch for her own welfare that she
11:15:32 46 just wants to keep on going being tasked by SDU to
11:15:37 47 undertake or pursue connections with particular criminals,

11:15:42 1 doesn't she, even though she talks about ending the
11:15:45 2 relationship at the same time?---Yes, she does, and there
11:15:52 3 was a couple of occasions where we talked about the fact
11:15:56 4 that we were just baby-sitting and we didn't want any
11:16:00 5 intel, there was no taskings, but she would then come up
11:16:04 6 with something that we felt we couldn't ignore, which would
11:16:08 7 then start it off again.

11:16:10 8
11:16:10 9 Equally, however, I'm not sure it can be said that SDU
11:16:15 10 desired that strongly to give up the relationship with
11:16:18 11 Ms Gobbo, did it, because even though one sees entries that
11:16:23 12 decisions are made that Ms Gobbo not be tasked in the
11:16:26 13 future, one then finds that in fact she has been?---Well,
11:16:37 14 no - and I stand to be corrected by what's in the record,
11:16:43 15 and you realise that I haven't had the opportunity to look
11:16:46 16 through all the ICRs, but my general recollection was that
11:16:50 17 both Mr Biggin and myself were quite keen to find an exit
11:16:56 18 strategy for Ms Gobbo and that we would decide that she was
11:17:01 19 not to be tasked and then ultimately that wouldn't stop her
11:17:05 20 providing intelligence, which as you can see from the
11:17:08 21 record it was all documented. What would happen, or what
11:17:13 22 happened on a couple of occasions is she provided
11:17:15 23 intelligence that we couldn't ignore.

11:17:18 24
11:17:19 25 Yes?---And then that would lead to taskings.

11:17:27 26
11:17:28 27 Perhaps we'll come back to that because that's not directly
11:17:31 28 what I'm concerned with with these questions at the moment.
11:17:34 29 If you go, please, to p.789. This is ICR 74. You'll see
11:17:49 30 an entry at about point 4 of the page, "3838 opened
11:17:56 31 conversation with the fact that she has an all time high in
11:17:58 32 her resentment towards police as a result of the flow-on
11:18:02 33 effect of the arrest of Horthy"?---Yes.

11:18:06 34
11:18:10 35 Are you able to recollect without disclosing confidential
11:18:14 36 information why she was so resentful at this point, to do
11:18:18 37 with the arrest of Horthy?---I'm only guessing that it would
11:18:24 38 be, she'd be thinking about the consequences of her being
11:18:28 39 compromised arising out of that.

11:18:31 40
11:18:31 41 Yes. If you could go please to p.792. Under, "SDU issues"
11:18:43 42 you'll see it says that 3838, and this is about 16 April
11:18:53 43 2007, so about a year and a half in, "3838 requested a
11:18:59 44 meeting to discuss the following. 3838 very emotional and
11:19:05 45 resentful towards police, including SDU. 3838 believes
11:19:10 46 that she is not appreciated by Purana Task Force". And
11:19:15 47 then I'll skip the next point. "3838 never considered

11:19:19 1 these consequences at the beginning of the relationship.
11:19:24 2 3838 is not happy with the current system of handling
11:19:28 3 informers. 3838 stated that she simply needed someone to
11:19:31 4 say thank you in response to somebody asking, 'What would
11:19:35 5 make 3838 happy at this point in time'. So it's fair to
11:19:41 6 say that Ms Gobbo is becoming difficult to handle around
11:19:45 7 this time from the point of view of the SDU
11:19:53 8 handlers?---Probably. I think also what was happening at
11:19:55 9 this time is she was getting threats. If you look a couple
11:20:00 10 of lines down there's a reference to an operation.
11:20:04 11
11:20:04 12 Yes?---That was an operation around the threats she'd been
11:20:11 13 receiving.
11:20:11 14
11:20:11 15 Yes. In fact I don't know whether this is right or not,
11:20:16 16 it's really just a question, but the fact that an operation
11:20:20 17 was set up specifically for her welfare, is that any
11:20:25 18 indication of the number of police resources that are
11:20:31 19 dedicated to a particular, to particular police activity,
11:20:38 20 that it's designated as a particular operation
11:20:42 21 description?---No, that's, that's pretty much just how the
11:20:47 22 Crime Department operated with a new investigation.
11:20:51 23
11:20:51 24 Yes. And then at p.803 in ICR 75, this is 20 April 2007,
11:21:11 25 about point 6 on the page, do you see the heading "proceeds
11:21:15 26 of crime"?---Yes.
11:21:18 27
11:21:21 28 "3838 upset that she has not received a cent yet Purana had
11:21:28 29 seized so much", I think it is intended to read, "In assets
11:21:31 30 under the confiscation of proceeds of crime"?---Yes.
11:21:36 31
11:21:36 32 At this time Ms Gobbo seems to, in an indirect way, be
11:21:42 33 making a complaint that all this money seems to be being
11:21:46 34 gathered from proceeds of crime applications by the police
11:21:50 35 but she's just not getting a cent out of all of this. So
11:21:56 36 to some degree a financial angle is creeping in?---Yes, but
11:22:03 37 as we said previously, she, she would raise some of these
11:22:09 38 comments as tongue in cheek.
11:22:10 39
11:22:11 40 Yes. So you wouldn't interpret that as her really
11:22:15 41 seriously suggesting financial reward at this time?---I
11:22:21 42 don't have a recollection or a belief that she ever asked
11:22:24 43 for a financial reward.
11:22:26 44
11:22:26 45 Yes. And then p.822, ICR 77. I can pass over this pretty
11:22:42 46 quickly but this is a meeting, if you look at the middle of
11:22:47 47 the page, that occurs at a particular golf club attended by

11:22:50 1 Mr O'Brien where Ms Gobbo receives a gift in appreciation
11:22:57 2 of the efforts made?---Yes.
11:22:59 3
11:23:03 4 I've forgotten what the gift was, I know Mr Winneke asked
11:23:07 5 you - - -
11:23:07 6
11:23:07 7 COMMISSIONER: A pen, wasn't it?
11:23:09 8
11:23:09 9 WITNESS: It was a pen.
11:23:11 10
11:23:12 11 MR COLLINSON: I think he asked you whether it was engraved
11:23:14 12 or not and I'm not sure whether you had a recollection
11:23:22 13 about it. Apparently it wasn't, is that right?---I can't
11:23:29 14 recall but it would be highly unlikely.
11:23:29 15
11:23:30 16 Was Ms Gobbo happy to be given that recognition in terms of
11:23:34 17 an attendance by Mr O'Brien and this gift?---Yes.
11:23:37 18
11:23:39 19 So her demands on her side for all of the assistance she'd
11:23:46 20 given the police, they're really pretty modest, aren't
11:23:51 21 they?---Yes.
11:23:52 22
11:23:55 23 Then - - -
11:23:59 24
11:23:59 25 COMMISSIONER: So your recollection is she was pleased
11:24:02 26 about the dinner and the pen, is that right?---I'm sorry,
11:24:05 27 Commissioner?
11:24:05 28
11:24:06 29 Your recollection is that she was pleased about the dinner
11:24:08 30 and the pen?---Yes. She was more pleased about the fact
11:24:13 31 that Jim O'Brien had come to personally thank her for help
11:24:17 32 she had provided.
11:24:19 33
11:24:20 34 MR COLLINSON: Then if you go to p.848, ICR 80?---848?
11:24:31 35
11:24:31 36 Yes. Sorry, you're on that page?---Yes.
11:25:02 37
11:25:03 38 And you'll see - well, from the preceding pages - first of
11:25:13 39 all the date here is 20 May 2007. A lot of the meeting is
11:25:21 40 discussion about events concerning Mr Dale. Do you see
11:25:26 41 that from p.844, a lot of discussion about that?---Yes.
11:25:29 42
11:25:32 43 Back on 848, after some references to Milad Mokbel and
11:25:39 44 Horthy Mokbel and Tony Bayeh, it says under the heading, "HS
11:25:53 45 wants to give evidence against anyone", "Will participate
11:25:58 46 in the [REDACTED] depending on the" - I'm
11:26:02 47 sorry, I shouldn't have said that, "A particular program

11:26:05 1 depending on the person who will be giving evidence. Human
11:26:09 2 source is in fear of the Mokbels", et cetera, "And is
11:26:12 3 thinking that it may have been better to give statement
11:26:15 4 from the beginning rather than the informer role. Giving
11:26:18 5 evidence would destroy her practice". Do you know who she
11:26:25 6 was contemplating giving evidence against - no, I don't
11:26:35 7 think she's contemplating it in this passage, is she,
11:26:39 8 giving evidence herself, is she? Maybe she is, the third
11:26:48 9 dot point - - - ?---Doesn't make sense.
11:26:52 10
11:26:52 11 - - - might suggest that. But do you know whether this
11:26:58 12 related to the prospect - we know she didn't wear a
11:27:05 13 recording device in respect of Mr Dale until December of
11:27:09 14 the following year, so this is a long way from that. Do
11:27:17 15 you have any knowledge as to what this relates to, if she's
11:27:21 16 referring to giving evidence against someone?---No.
11:27:26 17
11:27:30 18 Anyway, if we think of motives and so on and consequences,
11:27:37 19 it seems to be dawning now, isn't it, on Ms Gobbo that the
11:27:44 20 consequence of all her activities is there's a high risk
11:27:51 21 that she's going to have to go into a particular program in
11:27:57 22 order to protect herself?---Yes.
11:28:02 23
11:28:15 24 Did it cross your mind back on 16 September 2005 that if
11:28:22 25 Ms Gobbo helped you and the police, that it was highly
11:28:30 26 likely she'd have to go into a protective program one
11:28:35 27 day?---No, it wouldn't have.
11:28:37 28
11:28:47 29 When in the course of the relationship she undertook a role
11:28:51 30 as a legal actor assisting in persuading certain
11:28:58 31 individuals to cooperate with the police, you must have
11:29:01 32 started to realise then that she would be at risk of having
11:29:05 33 to go into such a program?---I'm not sure exactly when it
11:29:16 34 occurred to me that she might end up in that program.
11:29:22 35
11:29:27 36 Was there a point that you can identify when you thought
11:29:30 37 that that was probably inevitable for Ms Gobbo?---Well, it
11:29:37 38 was definitely going to be inevitable when I was directed
11:29:41 39 to encourage her to be a witness in relation to Paul Dale.
11:29:45 40
11:29:46 41 Sure?---Prior to that I think it's probably fair to say it
11:29:54 42 was a day-to-day proposition if she had have been
11:29:59 43 compromised through any of the multitude of ways there were
11:30:07 44 starting to gather.
45
11:30:08 46 Yes?---Then it would have had to be something, I think, to
11:30:12 47 be spoken about.

11:30:12 1
11:30:13 2 Can I take you to p.902, which is ICR 83.
11:30:18 3
11:30:18 4 COMMISSIONER: We might take the midmorning break I think.
11:30:21 5
11:30:21 6 MR COLLINSON: Of course.
11:30:21 7
11:30:21 8 COMMISSIONER: We'll have a ten minute break.
11:30:23 9
11:30:54 10 (Short adjournment.)
11
11:49:47 12 COMMISSIONER: Mr Collinson.
11:49:49 13
11:49:51 14 MR COLLINSON: Hopefully, Mr White, you're on p.902 of the
11:49:56 15 ICRs?---Yes.
16
11:50:12 17 Just to contextualise this a little. If we go back to
11:50:20 18 p.899, I simply ask you to note that there is some
11:50:28 19 discussion here about Mr Dale, do you see that?---Yes.
20
11:50:39 21 And that, I presume, reflects a discussion she's had with
11:50:43 22 one of the handlers, or is this a - no, I think this is
11:50:48 23 actually - if one goes back to 895, it's part of a
11:50:53 24 discussion that you've had with Ms Gobbo at a meeting you
11:50:57 25 attended on 15 June 2007, do you agree with that?---Yes.
26
11:51:13 27 So turning back to 902, it would seem then that what we're
11:51:23 28 looking at under the heading "Welfare" is a discussion that
11:51:28 29 you're part of on that date?---Yes.
30
11:51:42 31 By this stage it would seem from the first dot point under
11:51:47 32 the heading "Welfare" that you're expressing concern about
11:51:52 33 Ms Gobbo and how she's coping with stress?---Yes.
34
11:52:01 35 And about six dot points down do you see the reference, "HS
11:52:08 36 states that it is not police fault that she is where she is
11:52:11 37 now"?---Yes.
38
11:52:14 39 And I touched on that a little while ago but that's
11:52:18 40 consistent, isn't it, with the general stance she took that
11:52:24 41 - although I hear your description of her as a drama queen
11:52:35 42 and so on - she never really seemed to switch to a position
11:52:39 43 of blaming the police for her original decision to become
11:52:45 44 an informer?---No, that's right.
45
11:52:51 46 At about point 7 of the page it begins, "HS thinks that
11:52:57 47 this will mainly end when the Milad issue is over". And

11:53:06 1 she's asked a question, "We could get out of her life which
11:53:11 2 would be less stress for a start and she could ring re
11:53:14 3 welfare". HS says, "No, I'm 100 per cent or not
11:53:20 4 half-hearted. HS motivations is she wanted Mokbels out of
11:53:24 5 her life. We are almost there". Again, that tends to - am
11:53:34 6 I right to suggest, Mr White, that your real view is that
11:53:40 7 Ms Gobbo's motivation was to put the Mokbels in
11:53:52 8 gaol?---Yes.
9

11:54:06 10 The next dot point says, "HS said wants to hear from [REDACTED]
11:54:11 11 that getting Tony back in her life is wrong. HS is told
11:54:19 12 this very clearly, she appreciates this". Was this around
11:54:24 13 the time that Mr Mokbel - yes, I think Mr Mokbel had been
11:54:28 14 located, so to speak, in Greece and he'd started a process
11:54:34 15 of ringing Ms Gobbo fairly constantly, hadn't he, to
11:54:40 16 discuss all sorts of issues, but including his legal
11:54:44 17 position?---He was contacting her. I don't know about
11:54:49 18 constantly.
19

11:54:50 20 Yes.
11:54:54 21

11:54:54 22 MS ENBOM: Commissioner, I'm sorry to interrupt. If I
11:54:57 23 could just refer you, Commissioner, to the transcript at
11:55:01 24 line 10 if you have that. There's a name there that needs
11:55:04 25 to be removed.
26

11:55:05 27 COMMISSIONER: A name was said, was it?
11:55:08 28

11:55:09 29 MS ENBOM: Yes.
30

11:55:10 31 COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right. I don't have it on my
11:55:12 32 screen.
11:55:13 33

11:55:14 34 MS ENBOM: The name of an SDU person.
35

11:55:16 36 COMMISSIONER: Can you see that at line 10? Can you remove
11:55:20 37 that, thank you.
11:55:23 38

11:55:23 39 MR COLLINSON: I was complimented at the break,
11:55:26 40 Commissioner, about my performance in terms of lack of
11:55:31 41 errors of that kind and immediately I dropped the ball.
42

11:55:33 43 COMMISSIONER: Must have gone to your head, Mr Collinson.
11:55:35 44

11:55:36 45 MS ENBOM: I wasn't trying to get into his head.
11:55:39 46

11:55:39 47 MR COLLINSON: And over the page at 903, Mr White, you'll

11:55:43 1 see about point 2 of the page it says, "Talk re issue of
11:55:51 2 compensation. She may have asked for this at the start but
11:55:56 3 then she agrees that it's not about the money". Does that
11:55:59 4 seem to reflect a misconception by Ms Gobbo that she might
11:56:02 5 have asked for compensation at the start?---I suspect this
11:56:06 6 is more likely to be a reference to the start of the
11:56:10 7 conversation at that meeting.
8
11:56:11 9 Yes, I see. Yes, I see. Thank you. Then if we could go,
11:56:18 10 please, to p.930, ICR 85?---I'm sorry, could I have the
11:56:37 11 page number again, please?
12
11:56:40 13 Yes, 930?---I have that.
14
11:56:56 15 Again, this is at a time when Ms Gobbo is struggling
11:57:02 16 psychologically. You'll see the discussion at the top of
11:57:06 17 that page about a particular psychologist?---Yes.
18
11:57:10 19 Ms Gobbo, whether justifiably or not, was not very
11:57:16 20 impressed with that particular psychologist?---Yes.
21
11:57:21 22 At about point 3 there you see the reference, "Every now
11:57:25 23 and then I just need a pat on the back for doing a good
11:57:29 24 job"?---Yes.
25
11:57:30 26 And then if I could take you to 940. At the foot of the
11:57:51 27 page there's some discussion with a handler about motive.
11:58:03 28 "The reason I spoke to VicPol", Ms Gobbo says, "in the
11:58:07 29 first place was because she could not cope with all the
11:58:11 30 unfairness going on. Her conscience got the better of her
11:58:14 31 and she had to tell someone who could do something". Do
11:58:17 32 you see that?---Yes.
33
11:58:22 34 That's the second limb, if you like, of the motive that
11:58:29 35 you've described in that paragraph of your witness
11:58:31 36 statement?---Yes.
37
11:58:36 38 Then if I could go to 1049, ICR 92. This is 23 July 2007.
11:59:01 39 You'll see at about point 7 of the page there's some
11:59:07 40 general talk that the handler is having and in the last
11:59:13 41 four dot points Ms Gobbo says, "Talks about her memory of
11:59:17 42 the day she had the stroke. She remembers passing out and
11:59:20 43 waking up tubes all over her and not being able to talk as
11:59:23 44 her face had collapsed. 'This celebration is all about my
11:59:27 45 reformed lifestyle.' It led to Ms Gobbo talking to Stuart
11:59:31 46 Bateson and then to us", do you see that?---Yes.
47

11:59:37 1 That's making a link, I suggest, between her relationship
11:59:43 2 with Mr Bateson that he describes in his statement and her
11:59:49 3 eventual decision to meet with SDU seemingly, isn't
11:59:57 4 it?---Yes.
5
11:59:59 6 It's almost as if, if I might say, Mr Bateson was a halfway
12:00:04 7 house on Ms Gobbo's journey towards becoming an informer,
12:00:11 8 the relationship she developed with him. I suppose you're
12:00:18 9 not in a position to comment on that because you don't know
12:00:23 10 really directly what that relationship was?---That's right.
11
12:00:25 12 But can you recall her mentioning that yourself, the fact
12:00:30 13 that Mr Bateson played a role in her thinking in deciding
12:00:37 14 to become an informer?---No. No, but I do as I said
12:00:47 15 earlier - I do know that she had a lot of respect for
12:00:49 16 Bateson. And whether that factored into her overall
12:00:53 17 thinking with regards to the police, I'm not sure.
18
12:00:56 19 Could you then go to ICR 95, p.1110. I've dropped in here
12:01:30 20 on her, the developing questions that are asked of Ms Gobbo
12:01:38 21 about her relationship with Mr Dale. It gets underway
12:01:43 22 earlier but you'll see this discussion is 17 August
12:01:51 23 2007?---Yes.
24
12:01:53 25 Under the heading "Paul Dale" you'll see the reference,
12:01:59 26 "Maybe Fitzgerald thinks that I was some sort of go-between
12:02:03 27 for Carl Williams and Dale but she did not know about this
12:02:08 28 relationship between Carl and Paul until 2004. They
12:02:14 29 haven't got up to 2004 yet in the OPI hearing so she has
12:02:18 30 not properly talked about this yet". Do you see that
12:02:21 31 reference?---Yes.
32
12:02:26 33 I'll ask you some questions at another time more focused on
12:02:31 34 the Dale issues directly. But this is nearly coming on for
12:02:42 35 two years into the informer relationship between SDU and
12:02:48 36 Ms Gobbo, you can see that?---Yes.
37
12:02:54 38 You can see that Ms Gobbo is starting to speculate as to
12:03:01 39 whether or not Mr Fitzgerald at OPI has some view about her
12:03:08 40 relationship with Mr Williams and Mr Dale?---Yes.
41
12:03:15 42 That she hasn't been fully honest about with Mr Fitzgerald?
12:03:30 43 Do you see higher up the page - - - ?---Yes, I see that.
44
12:03:35 45 Point 6 of the page, you see the reference, "Talk about
12:03:39 46 Fitzgerald and why he seems so sure I am lying"?---Yes.
47

12:03:43 1 I'm really looking at this through the lens of motive for
12:03:47 2 Ms Gobbo in becoming an informer. This seems to be - it
12:03:53 3 may not be the absolute earliest but it's one of the
12:03:57 4 earliest times when Ms Gobbo seems to express concern about
12:04:04 5 inquiries into her relationship with Williams and Dale.
12:04:13 6 But given its location in August 2007, almost two years
12:04:19 7 before the relationship commenced, there's nothing, I'd
12:04:25 8 suggest, in this reference to support a conclusion that
12:04:32 9 something to do with that involvement was an original
12:04:36 10 motivating consideration for Ms Gobbo back in September
12:04:40 11 2005, do you agree with that?---I'm not sure I'm
12:04:51 12 understanding the question. So - - -
13

12:04:54 14 Well, I mean it's possible theoretically that way back in
12:04:58 15 September 2005 Ms Gobbo foresaw the possibility of some
12:05:06 16 kind of problem arising out of her involvement with the use
12:05:11 17 of phones or knowing more about the relationship between
12:05:16 18 Mr Dale and Mr Williams than perhaps she'd disclosed and
12:05:21 19 that somehow the subsequent murder of the Hodsons caused
12:05:27 20 her to have feelings of guilt so that she should really do
12:05:33 21 something to help the police. I mean it's conceivable that
12:05:40 22 that could be so in a theoretical sense, isn't it?---Yes.
23

12:05:45 24 But if that were so it just seems surprising, I suggest,
12:05:54 25 that there's no mention - well let me go back. Certainly
12:05:59 26 in all of the discussions that you have with Ms Gobbo about
12:06:03 27 Mr Dale and the Hodson murders and so on, she never once
12:06:10 28 suggested that feelings of guilt about that motivated her
12:06:15 29 to become an informer back in September 2005, do you agree
12:06:23 30 with that?---I can recall her saying that she - and I stand
12:06:32 31 to be corrected, I can't take you to the actual passage but
12:06:36 32 I thought Mr Winneke touched on it, that she had a guilty
12:06:40 33 conscience about connecting I think Dale and Mokbel or Dale
12:06:43 34 and Williams, I can't remember exactly how that went.
35

12:06:46 36 Yes?---Whether that was - and that's why in my statement I
12:06:51 37 just say that's speculation as to whether that was actually
12:06:56 38 a motivation.
39

12:06:57 40 Yes?---She never told me that was a motivation for doing
12:07:01 41 what she did.
42

12:07:03 43 Yes. I mean let's assume for the purposes of argument that
12:07:07 44 at some point she has this guilty conscience about her
12:07:12 45 relationship between Dale and Williams. My point is she
12:07:17 46 never connected that to her decision to become an informer,
12:07:21 47 did she, in any discussion you had with her?---No.

1

12:07:25 2 And indeed, trying to grapple with this argument or theory,
12:07:32 3 let's say she had this concern hypothetically in September
12:07:36 4 2005, even though all of the discussion is about the
12:07:39 5 Mokbels, if it led to problems for her down the track, the
12:07:48 6 fact that she was an informer wouldn't protect her in any
12:07:51 7 way from having to face up to those problems, would
12:07:57 8 it?---Well, if I was to play devil's advocate it wouldn't
12:08:04 9 hurt because she had an extensive record of helping the
12:08:08 10 police if she was to subsequently be charged with some
12:08:13 11 involvement in that Hodson, Dale, Williams business.

12

12:08:17 13 Is that how it works, is it? I mean let's say she - - -
12:08:22 14 ?---I'm not saying this actually occurred.

15

12:08:24 16 I know?---I'm speculating.

17

12:08:27 18 Yes, of course. There's two types of involvement one could
12:08:32 19 hypothesise about Ms Gobbo in this regard. The first is
12:08:36 20 that she unintentionally acted as a go-between between
12:08:40 21 Williams and Dale without knowing anything about what their
12:08:43 22 plans were. A rather more extreme theory is that she had
12:08:47 23 some kind of intimation that they were planning a murder of
12:08:51 24 the Hodsons. That's the two possibilities, isn't
12:08:59 25 it?---Yes.

26

12:09:02 27 It's really only the second, isn't it, that would give rise
12:09:06 28 to a real problem for Ms Gobbo, that is that she had some
12:09:10 29 kind of awareness that her assisting in communications
12:09:15 30 between Mr Dale and Mr Williams was for the purpose of
12:09:21 31 murdering the Hodsons?---That would be the worst-case
12:09:30 32 scenario but what is the question in relation to that
12:09:33 33 point?

34

12:09:33 35 I'm really trying to identify that's where her problem
12:09:37 36 would lie, isn't it, is if it was shown that she had some
12:09:43 37 kind of awareness that the intent of the communications
12:09:45 38 between Williams and Dale that she might have had an
12:09:49 39 involvement in, was to plan the murder of the
12:09:51 40 Hodsons?---Yes.

41

12:09:52 42 Now, my point to you is, and correct me for my naïveté if
12:09:57 43 I'm wrong, a decision to become an informer in September
12:10:00 44 2005 wouldn't protect you, would it, from being prosecuted
12:10:04 45 by the police if the evidence disclosed that you had in
12:10:09 46 fact that kind of involvement, in other words, involvement
12:10:12 47 in those communications that would give rise to criminal

12:10:16 1 liability on the part of Ms Gobbo?---It certainly wouldn't
12:10:22 2 protect you but it might ameliorate the outcome if you were
12:10:30 3 to be charged.
4
12:10:30 5 Would it ameliorate the outcome in terms of sentence, would
12:10:34 6 it?---I would think so.
7
12:10:35 8 That you'd get a lower sentence because in unrelated
12:10:39 9 matters you've assisted the police, is that how it
12:10:45 10 works?---This is a hypothetical - - -
11
12:10:47 12 Yes?--- - - - I don't think this occurred but it certainly
12:10:51 13 would. She'd be like any other informer and the assistance
12:10:54 14 that she's provided to the police and the community by
12:10:57 15 having serious criminals locked up could form the basis for
12:11:00 16 a reward application.
17
12:11:02 18 Yes, but I'm talking about a context where she's been
12:11:05 19 criminally charged for being some kind of accessory in the
12:11:10 20 murders of the Hodsons by reason of her participation in
12:11:13 21 communications between Williams and Dale, you understand
12:11:17 22 what I'm putting?---I think I do. It wouldn't change the
12:11:23 23 level of guilt.
24
12:11:23 25 No. So, you know, if that kind of case were proved, I mean
12:11:29 26 you tell that perhaps she'd get some kind of discount, but
12:11:34 27 she'd be at risk of a gaol sentence, wouldn't she,
12:11:37 28 nonetheless notwithstanding an earlier role as a human
12:11:42 29 source?---That would depend very much on what she was
12:11:45 30 charged with and the depth of involvement and that would be
12:11:48 31 contrasted against what a rewards committee might decide
12:11:52 32 was the outcome. So I can't really give you a definitive
12:11:55 33 answer on that.
34
12:11:56 35 I'm not really talking about rewards here. I'm talking
12:12:00 36 about a hypothesis that Ms Gobbo is criminally charged with
12:12:04 37 being an accessory in the murder of the Hodsons, do you
12:12:08 38 understand that hypothesis?---Yes.
39
12:12:09 40 By reason of her, it being shown or charged against her
12:12:13 41 that she had some kind of knowledge that the communications
12:12:18 42 between Williams and Dale were to do with the impending or
12:12:23 43 planned murder of the Hodsons, do you see?---I understand
12:12:25 44 the hypothesis.
45
12:12:29 46 Yes. If you swing back to September 2005 and you
12:12:34 47 hypothesise that Ms Gobbo was worried about that, my

12:12:38 1 proposition to you is it seems a very odd motivation to
12:12:41 2 become a human source because the protection you would get
12:12:43 3 from undertaking that role in the context of a charge of
12:12:47 4 such criminal involvement would be very limited?---It
12:12:57 5 certainly wouldn't protect you from being charged and it
12:13:04 6 wouldn't reduce the level of criminality before the court.
12:13:07 7 All I'm simply saying is hypothetically if somebody's in
12:13:14 8 that position where they thought they were going to get
12:13:17 9 charged down the track, it wouldn't be a bad move to assist
12:13:20 10 the police and build up some credit with the police that
12:13:23 11 could be later used as some sort of letter of assistance
12:13:31 12 before the court for the sentence. It's very much a
12:13:34 13 hypothetical.
14
12:13:38 15 This is a hypothetical, I take it, that you've had
12:13:42 16 discussions with some of the handlers about in, what,
12:13:46 17 recent times or some years ago?---In relation to wondering
12:13:52 18 whether she could have been involved in that?
19
12:13:54 20 In trying to work out what her motivations were for
12:13:58 21 becoming a source in September 2005, whether it originated
12:14:04 22 in a concern that she might assist herself in some way were
12:14:09 23 she ever to be criminally charged in the context of the
12:14:12 24 murder of the Hodsons?---I don't think we ever thought of
12:14:16 25 it that deeply. I certainly don't have any recollection of
12:14:19 26 thinking she's only doing this so that she can be in the
12:14:24 27 good books with the police if she gets charged.
28
12:14:27 29 But what I'm really trying to identify is do you remember
12:14:32 30 any discussions at all with your fellow handlers about that
12:14:36 31 being a motive for Ms Gobbo becoming a human source?---I
12:14:44 32 can't recall but, as I say, it did cross our minds some way
12:14:52 33 down the track whether she had a guilty conscience about
12:14:56 34 that. But I never believed that that was - there was no
12:14:59 35 information to suggest that was part of her motivation for
12:15:02 36 becoming a source.
37
12:15:02 38 Yes. Because it's perfectly possible she could entertain a
12:15:11 39 guilty conscience about assisting communications between
12:15:16 40 Williams and Dale without it having anything to do with her
12:15:22 41 motive to become a source back in September 2005?---I think
12:15:28 42 that's what she ultimately said.
43
12:15:30 44 The guilty conscience, the hypothetical guilty conscience
12:15:36 45 can exist, that's one fact. But it's a different
12:15:39 46 proposition, isn't it, to suggest that that was a
12:15:41 47 motivation for her to become a source, or putting it

12:15:44 1 another way, the fact of having such a guilty conscience
12:15:47 2 isn't to suggest it was necessarily a motive for Ms Gobbo
12:15:51 3 in deciding to become a source?---Well as I said, there was
12:16:06 4 no information I was in possession of that led me to think
12:16:09 5 that that was her motivation.
6
12:16:11 7 Yes?---And I think if you're - I'm not sure that I'm
12:16:17 8 actually addressing your question, but we only ever
12:16:20 9 speculated that could have been a motivation for her
12:16:22 10 assisting the police. Maybe she felt guilty about that and
12:16:26 11 felt that she had to do some good. To my recollection it
12:16:29 12 wasn't delved into in any great depth.
13
12:16:34 14 If you had had a suspicion or even a speculative thought
12:16:39 15 that that was even a partial motivation for her becoming a
12:16:45 16 source, don't you think you would have slyly perhaps
12:16:54 17 touched upon it in questioning of Ms Gobbo at some
12:16:59 18 point?---I think we did have discussions about it at some
12:17:03 19 point.
20
12:17:03 21 I mean with Ms Gobbo?---Yeah, I think we did talk to
12:17:07 22 Ms Gobbo about it at length at some point towards the end
12:17:11 23 of the relationship.
24
12:17:12 25 What I'm really trying to say, did you ever suggest to her,
12:17:17 26 "Ah, that's why you became a source back in September
12:17:20 27 2005", or, "Did you become a source back in September 2005
12:17:24 28 because you had a guilty conscience about potential
12:17:26 29 involvement in the murder of the Hodsons?" Did you put
12:17:28 30 that to her?---No, no.
31
12:17:32 32 Doesn't that suggest, Mr White, it wasn't really a serious
12:17:36 33 thought that you entertained?---Probably.
34
12:17:45 35 If we could go, please, to p.1125. Actually we can just
12:17:59 36 pass, I'm going to skip a few here. 1153, I think we can
12:18:05 37 go to that one.
38
12:18:10 39 COMMISSIONER: It's 1153, was it?
12:18:13 40
12:18:13 41 MR COLLINSON: Yes, ICR 97.
42
12:18:15 43 COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
12:18:17 44
12:18:26 45 MR COLLINSON: This is a contact with a handler on 27
12:18:33 46 August 2007. If we look at about point 5 of the page we
12:18:40 47 again see, don't we, beginning with the words, "HS original

12:18:45 1 motivation was to get away from all these people/criminals.
12:18:51 2 She thought by talking to police she could get them all
12:18:55 3 locked up, Mokbels especially". That's certainly
12:18:58 4 consistent with her motive as described by her to you back
12:19:02 5 in September 2005?---Yes.
6
12:19:08 7 Really the way - and the motive she continued to articulate
12:19:13 8 consistently throughout the whole of this three year, three
12:19:19 9 and a quarter year relationship with SDU?---Yes.
10
12:19:25 11 I won't, I'll be careful with the next dot point, but she
12:19:29 12 now expresses this regret in the next one, doesn't she,
12:19:34 13 that she still can't get away from these people even in
12:19:37 14 gaol?---Yes.
15
12:19:43 16 And refers to being in a catch-22 position in that to still
12:19:49 17 talk to police she has to stay close to these people which
12:19:53 18 compounds her feelings of depression?---Yes.
19
12:20:01 20 We'll perhaps come to this in closed session but one of the
12:20:06 21 situations that arose for Ms Gobbo, I suggest, is that
12:20:10 22 having persuaded certain persons to cooperate with police
12:20:16 23 and agree to give evidence against the Mokbels, given that
12:20:22 24 they were themselves criminals, she could never be sure,
12:20:29 25 unless she stayed in close contact with them looking after
12:20:34 26 their welfare, that they might not one day disclose her
12:20:39 27 role in giving them that advice to the Mokbels, do you
12:20:44 28 remember that?---She stayed close to people out of gaol
12:20:56 29 particularly because she was obviously concerned about the
12:20:59 30 fact that people might be talking about her working with or
12:21:03 31 assisting the police.
32
12:21:04 33 Yes. I think I'm putting to you a variant on that which is
12:21:11 34 that some of the people she advised to cooperate with the
12:21:17 35 police ended up being in gaol, correct?---Yes.
36
12:21:24 37 And she felt obliged, I suggest, to maintain a close
12:21:31 38 relationship with these people because if she didn't keep
12:21:37 39 them happy she could never be sure that one day they might
12:21:41 40 not just disclose to the Mokbels her role in advising them
12:21:48 41 to cooperate with police?---Yes, that's right.
42
12:21:52 43 So she was driven, I suggest, to keep up this close
12:21:57 44 personal connection even though most of the time she was
12:22:02 45 reluctant to do so?---I'm not sure about the reluctant to
12:22:13 46 do so but she was certainly driven to do it and it was a
12:22:17 47 logical explanation as to why she did it.

1

12:22:21 2 Yes. I think I'll take you to some passages eventually
12:22:26 3 that reveal that reluctance. If I could take you then
12:22:32 4 please to p.1286. This is perhaps a passage where Ms Gobbo
12:22:59 5 is venting, to use an expression I think you've used from
12:23:07 6 time to time in your statements. Do you see under "Health"
12:23:10 7 she says to the handler, "Talking about her feelings of
12:23:13 8 being used by people, free time advice by crooks all for
12:23:17 9 nothing. Her feelings of being used by police also. Told
12:23:20 10 her no. Began talking about how we support her but she
12:23:25 11 does not want to hear it. She just wants to vent her
12:23:28 12 anger. Just listen. In order help human source rest, get
12:23:34 13 away, recoup. She needs to be supported by money. She
12:23:38 14 cannot just let her practice go because she will not get
12:23:40 15 paid. HS hinting she wants reward money from police", do
12:23:45 16 you see that?---Yes.

17

12:23:46 18 Look, it's just another brick in the wall, isn't it, of the
12:23:54 19 items of evidence that point to these issues of rewards and
12:24:02 20 so on being touched on, sometimes humorously, sometimes
12:24:07 21 when she's upset, but I think the tenor of your evidence
12:24:11 22 is, isn't it, that you're confident that it wasn't one of
12:24:15 23 her motivations at the beginning?---That's right.

24

12:24:18 25 Or indeed during the informer relationship because by now
12:24:21 26 we're in October 2007 and I'm not sure I'd agree with you
12:24:28 27 about her being a total baby-sitter role but certainly the
12:24:31 28 larger part of her activities as a human source over the
12:24:36 29 relevant period have been completed by now, haven't
12:24:41 30 they?---I think so.

31

12:24:46 32 Then 1292. I'm sorry, it actually - 1291. Last dot point.
12:25:06 33 "Discussion with handler. Reassured her that she has
12:25:08 34 nearly achieved her objective in getting all of these
12:25:12 35 people out of her life, which will make it better than what
12:25:17 36 it was before she came to us. Talk about the need to end
12:25:20 37 this relationship and allow to go, get on with a normal
12:25:23 38 life. Talk about what normal life could mean to her now.
12:25:27 39 She agrees it is time to move on but too many issues yet in
12:25:31 40 her life. Observed that if she does not start moving out
12:25:35 41 of these criminal circles the issues will never end. She
12:25:40 42 is aiming for when all the Mokbel trials are finished she
12:25:42 43 will be able to move on then". Again, that's tying her
12:25:46 44 motivation, isn't it, squarely to the putting of the
12:25:48 45 Mokbels in gaol?---Yes.

46

12:25:53 47 Then 1354, ICR 107. Do you see at about point 2 the

12:26:31 1 heading "SDU management"?---Yes.
12:26:34 2
12:26:34 3 "HS also complains that for years now she has been involved
12:26:40 4 with these people for no money. She claims because she did
12:26:44 5 not want us to think bad of her. This she claims has cost
12:26:49 6 her money over the years. She wants to talk about the
12:26:51 7 issue on Monday also." I take it that's a forthcoming
12:26:55 8 meeting with you and other handlers, isn't it?---Probably.
9
12:26:58 10 "She states that she knows she has mental issues over all
12:27:01 11 this and still seeing these criminals all the time. She
12:27:04 12 comments that she needs a good psych." Again, something of
12:27:10 13 a venting session where she's complaining about the money
12:27:18 14 that it's cost her in undertaking this role. 1436. ICR
12:27:43 15 112, 21 November 2007. At about point 7, "She always says
12:27:51 16 that it hurts re talk about money but really it is never
12:27:55 17 about the money, always about the goal, to do what she is
12:27:58 18 doing for us and get these criminals locked up". Again,
12:28:03 19 that pretty well reflects your view of her motivations,
12:28:07 20 doesn't it?---Yes.
21
12:28:16 22 If I could take you to the - I'm not sure what we call it,
12:28:40 23 the other volume of ICRs where she had the new name, or
12:28:47 24 number. This is ICR 12, is the first one, p.140. I won't
12:29:39 25 read them out. Do you see the dot points towards the top
12:29:47 26 of 140?---Yes.
27
12:29:55 28 The last five or so, if you have a quick read of those, I
12:30:02 29 suggest they're consistent with what I've been putting to
12:30:05 30 you is Ms Gobbo's motivations for becoming a human
12:30:13 31 source?---Yes.
32
12:30:19 33 If I could take you to p.324, ICR 20. At about point 3 on
12:30:40 34 the page do you see the heading "Tony Mokbel"?---Yes.
12:30:43 35
12:30:43 36 "One of the driving things why she came to us in the first
12:30:46 37 place is the controlling way Tony had over her. She
12:30:50 38 understands she has to break free from this and the only
12:30:54 39 way is to give in to him and have nothing more to do with
12:31:01 40 him"?---Sorry, it's not "give in to him".
41
12:31:05 42 COMMISSIONER: "Give it to him."
12:31:07 43
12:31:07 44 MR COLLINSON: Give it to him. Yes, give what to him?
45
12:31:10 46 COMMISSIONER: Perhaps the information from the police I
12:31:12 47 suppose. "Give it to him", as in - - -

12:31:19 1
12:31:20 2 MR COLLINSON: This is at a time when Mr Mokbel is wanting
12:31:26 3 her to act for him. If you go to p.323, back a page. Do
12:31:36 4 you see the heading "Talk about SDU instructions"?---Yes.
5
12:31:42 6 There's a suggestion there that she "go see him
12:31:46 7 face-to-face at Custody Centre tomorrow to give him the
12:31:49 8 spiel"?---Yes.
9
12:31:53 10 That was a suggestion I think that originated with
12:32:02 11 Ms Gobbo, wasn't it, and to get the timing of this right,
12:32:06 12 this is after Mr Mokbel has been extradited back to
12:32:10 13 Melbourne, isn't it?---Yes.
14
12:32:17 15 You didn't necessarily want to agree with this but I
12:32:20 16 suggest to you that over the period leading up to that
12:32:25 17 Mr Mokbel was repeatedly putting pressure on her to assist
12:32:29 18 him with his legal defence. You'd recollect that in a
12:32:36 19 general way, wouldn't you?---Yes.
20
12:32:40 21 She keeps at least telling you that she's telling him that
12:32:45 22 she can't act for various reasons, isn't she?---Yes.
23
12:32:50 24 But Mokbel's proving for Ms Gobbo a very difficult person
12:32:58 25 to shake off in this regard, isn't he?---Yes.
26
12:33:06 27 So this leads to Ms Gobbo's suggestion to visit him in the
12:33:10 28 Custody Centre and really give it to him face-to-face as to
12:33:14 29 why she can't act for him, do you agree?---That's right.
30
12:33:17 31 So when we go back to 324, when she says "give it to him",
12:33:35 32 I think she's referring, isn't she, to give him the spiel
12:33:39 33 as to why she can't act for him?---Yes, that's right.
34
12:33:48 35 One thing she's worried about, as one can see, one of the
12:33:52 36 myriad threats to her life that are floating around at this
12:33:57 37 point is that Tony Mokbel's not going to like this and
12:34:02 38 you'll see from the fourth dot point she comments, "HS says
12:34:07 39 Tony is not going to like it and will eventually turn on
12:34:11 40 her", do you see that?---I see that, yes.
41
12:34:19 42 Anyway, again this passage is consistent with her repeated
12:34:27 43 description of her motives for becoming an informer, isn't
12:34:29 44 it?---Yes.
45
12:34:37 46 Then perhaps the last reference, p.501, ICR 29. At the top
12:35:04 47 of the page it's recorded in a conversation with a handler,

12:35:16 1 "Ms Gobbo keeps mentioning a hypothetical civil litigation
12:35:20 2 against Victoria Police and how large it would be and the
12:35:22 3 damage and effects it would have on the legal system. RS
12:35:27 4 laughs about this in a humorous way. RS will have no
12:35:38 5 reservations in doing this if RS is compromised and not
12:35:42 6 killed". That last comment, is that a comment by the
12:35:44 7 handler or is that reflective of what Ms Gobbo said?---Now
12:35:56 8 you put it that way I'm not sure.
9
12:35:59 10 Anyway, this threat of civil litigation, as Mr Winneke
12:36:07 11 asked you about and perhaps you're aware anyway, it
12:36:10 12 eventually manifested itself some years later when Ms Gobbo
12:36:18 13 commenced a civil claim against the State of Victoria,
12:36:22 14 you're aware of that; aren't you?---Yes.
15
12:36:26 16 But this is the only reference we've been able to find,
12:36:30 17 Mr White, in the ICRs to Ms Gobbo, if you like, threatening
12:36:39 18 civil litigation against Victoria Police. Do you have any
12:36:42 19 recollection of her making any suggestion about that kind
12:36:47 20 of claim?---No.
21
12:36:56 22 You'll see it seems to be recorded, "RS laughs about this
12:37:01 23 in a humorous way"?---I see that.
24
12:37:06 25 I think that accords with your summation of her style,
12:37:12 26 doesn't it, that she'd often be a little cheeky and make
12:37:18 27 jokes about things, perhaps with a veiled threat, I don't
12:37:24 28 know, but seemingly as part of an attempt at humour?---Yes.
29
12:37:55 30 Just to summarise on motive. My suggestion to you is that
12:38:03 31 in fact your witness statement summarises pretty accurately
12:38:20 32 what Ms Gobbo's motives were. I won't take you back to it,
12:38:29 33 but the essence of it was she wanted to get out of the
12:38:33 34 relationship with the Mokbel group and she wanted to do the
12:38:36 35 right thing. I've taken you to a lot of documentary
12:38:41 36 references from the ICRs. Does that remain your view as to
12:38:46 37 her motivation for becoming a human source?---Yes.
38
12:38:51 39 Is it fair to say that you're sceptical of an idea that she
12:39:00 40 was motivated by a feeling of guilt through some kind of
12:39:05 41 involvement in the murder of the Hodsons, at least as a
12:39:08 42 motive to become a source?---Yes.
43
12:39:14 44 Is it also correct to say that Ms Gobbo was never motivated
12:39:22 45 by the prospect of financial reward in deciding to become a
12:39:29 46 source and continuing in that role?---Yes.
47

12:39:48 1 I want to turn to another subject matter after which I
12:39:52 2 think we'll have to go into private hearing. I want to
12:40:00 3 take you through some references which are directed to the
12:40:12 4 topic "Psychological dependency of Ms Gobbo on her
12:40:18 5 relationship with the DSU". If I could ask you for this
12:40:27 6 exercise to go back into the main set of ICRs and if you
12:40:35 7 could go, please, to p.398?---I have that.
8
12:41:24 9 You have that page. Do you see point 5 of the page there's
12:41:28 10 a heading "DSU issue - source anticipating a lunch to
12:41:36 11 celebrate one year of helping police"?---Yes.
12
12:41:39 13 This is one of a number of suggestions, isn't it, by
12:41:44 14 Ms Gobbo of having a social relationship with the SDU
12:41:53 15 members arising out of her work as an informer?---An
12:42:04 16 example of a social aspect to the relationship, is that
12:42:09 17 your question?
18
12:42:11 19 Yes. Ms Gobbo was always seeking out, I suggest, a social
12:42:15 20 relationship with the SDU members, wasn't she, and looking
12:42:19 21 for excuses to have one?---I'm not sure I would say that
12:42:25 22 but she was one of these people that is very much into
12:42:31 23 anniversaries of things. This is a classic example.
24
12:42:37 25 Yes. I certainly don't fall in that category, it's my
12:42:41 26 birthday today, Mr White, and I had been reminded of it by
12:42:45 27 my wife this morning by email?---Happy birthday,
12:42:50 28 Mr Collinson.
29
12:42:51 30 I won't give you the number.
31
12:42:57 32 COMMISSIONER: Better ways to be spending it I'm sure,
12:43:00 33 Mr Collinson.
34
12:43:01 35 MR COLLINSON: Yes, indeed. It won't be a nice lunch for
12:43:04 36 me. Did you end up having a lunch with the handlers,
12:43:10 37 between the handlers and Ms Gobbo?---Not that I can recall
12:43:17 38 but if there was it's going to be in the contact reports.
39
12:43:20 40 Yes. If one looks over at p.401, which is ICR 42, about
12:43:31 41 point 6 of the page, do you see under "DSU issue" it says,
12:43:42 42 "Reminded me re promised lunch on 15 September"?---Yes.
43
12:43:47 44 That implies that someone amongst the handlers suggested
12:43:52 45 there would be a lunch, do you agree with that?---Yes.
46
12:44:01 47 Can you remember ever having a lunch with Ms Gobbo?---No.

1

12:44:07 2 Do you know whether any of the handlers had a lunch with
12:44:10 3 Ms Gobbo?---No, I don't know. I just want to repeat that
12:44:18 4 if it occurred it will be in the contact reports.

5

12:44:22 6 I mean is it the case that SDU would have preferred not to
12:44:29 7 have a lunch with Ms Gobbo because it poses obvious risks
12:44:37 8 of exposure of her relationship with SDU or can you have it
12:44:43 9 in a private dining room somewhere?---It probably could
12:44:47 10 have been organised but of course every meeting has
12:44:50 11 potential risks in compromising her. But we weren't
12:44:54 12 seeking to have a social relationship with Ms Gobbo.

13

12:44:58 14 Yes. Although contrarily she was seeking to have a social
12:45:03 15 relationship with SDU, wasn't she?---I'm not sure whether
12:45:10 16 this amounts to a desire by her to have a social
12:45:12 17 relationship with us.

18

12:45:16 19 Yes?---More to the point, this is what she did with dates.

20

12:45:20 21 Yes. It was in her nature, wasn't it, to want to develop
12:45:29 22 close personal relationships with people with whom she
12:45:32 23 dealt, isn't that just her personality?---I think that's
12:45:40 24 probably a fair statement.

25

12:45:46 26 If you could go please, to page - no, I've taken you to
12:45:50 27 that one. Page 708, ICR 70. You'll see at point 7 of the
12:46:17 28 page, this is on 15 March 2007, "3838 commented that today
12:46:23 29 was the 18th month anniversary for the HS and SDU
12:46:30 30 relationship", do you see that?---Yes.

31

12:46:37 32 Were anniversaries - from the tenor of your answers I get
12:46:41 33 the impression you don't have a recollection of
12:46:44 34 anniversaries of the relationship being traditionally
12:46:48 35 celebrated with a lunch or something like that?---No.

36

12:46:55 37 But you do recollect that Ms Gobbo would always raise the
12:47:00 38 arrival of anniversaries and remind the handlers of
12:47:06 39 it?---Yes. Not just in relation to obviously the two that
12:47:13 40 you pointed to me relate to the relationship at the time
12:47:16 41 but there was a whole range of things. It was her stroke
12:47:19 42 and all sorts of things.

43

12:47:21 44 Yes. If you could go, please, to p.993. I think that
12:47:44 45 might be in the next volume. This is ICR 88. You'll see
12:48:14 46 at that page about point 3 of the page in a discussion with
12:48:18 47 a handler, "General talk by HS about trust and how

12:48:23 1 important it is. She claims she would never breach our
12:48:26 2 trust or go behind your back because all the trust she has
12:48:31 3 built up over the past 20 plus months would be lost. She
12:48:35 4 states she would never forgive herself". I think I asked
12:48:39 5 you some questions about her emphasis on gaining the trust
12:48:44 6 of SDU and/or you. I'm not sure you had a clear
12:48:51 7 recollection of it. Does this assist a recollection that
12:48:56 8 she was always raising this issue of not breaching
12:49:11 9 trust?---This is consistent with my beliefs about her and
12:49:13 10 her - but she did obviously at different times raise this
12:49:18 11 issue of whether we trusted her or I trusted her, you know,
12:49:24 12 on more than one occasion.
13
12:49:25 14 Yes. She wanted your trust, didn't she, so that she could
12:49:35 15 feel respected for her work in assisting the SDU?---Well,
12:49:48 16 I'm not sure that's the reason why. That's one possible
12:49:50 17 reason.
18
12:49:54 19 Can you think of another one?---No.
20
12:50:07 21 My general thematic suggestion to you, Mr White, is that in
12:50:16 22 the course of time she developed an attitude that she
12:50:27 23 wanted to earn the respect and approval of what she was
12:50:33 24 doing by the SDU handlers, do you agree with that?---Yes.
25
12:50:46 26 Could you go, please, to p.1121. Do you see at the - this
12:51:12 27 is ICR 95 - do you see at the foot of the page there's
12:51:17 28 reference to speed cameras? This is about point 8?---Yes.
29
12:51:28 30 It says, "Talk about speed cameras and how she is confident
12:51:32 31 that she avoids them by slowing down at the overpasses.
12:51:36 32 She says she is careful because she does not want to get
12:51:39 33 that look of disappointment from you if she gets fined".
12:51:45 34 Is it the case that Ms Gobbo had an ongoing problem of
12:51:50 35 speeding, either to meetings with SDU or generally?---My
12:51:58 36 recollection is that she was a lead foot.
37
12:52:06 38 She obviously though felt that she just didn't want to
12:52:09 39 disappoint you on this issue, among others, if she could
12:52:13 40 avoid it?---Yes, that's what that's suggesting.
41
12:52:23 42 If I could take you to - - -
43
12:52:25 44 COMMISSIONER: Before you leave that entry. Then it has,
12:52:28 45 "(Subtle reference to OPI matter also)", do you understand
12:52:35 46 what that is a reference to?---No, I don't Commissioner.
47

12:52:38 1 Thank you.
12:52:39 2
12:52:39 3 MR COLLINSON: If I could take you to the other volume with
12:52:51 4 the other ID number and in particular p.35, which is ICR 3.
12:53:27 5 This is many years into the relationship now. You can see
12:53:30 6 this is an entry for 8 February 2008?---Yes.
7
12:53:39 8 If one looks at about point 3 of the page the handler has
12:53:43 9 received a call from Ms Gobbo. It seems she's been
12:53:55 10 involved in a car crash but it says under "General
12:54:01 11 conversation from Ms Gobbo about unfairness of new handler
12:54:06 12 to deal with emotions of Ms Gobbo and two and a half years
12:54:09 13 of issues. Ms Gobbo wants to hear from controller", that's
12:54:13 14 you, "that he cares and acknowledges the good work that
12:54:16 15 Ms Gobbo does. Ms Gobbo told that you expect high output
12:54:23 16 from everyone as he performs at a high end level and does
12:54:27 17 not thank anyone for anything". What does that dot point
12:54:33 18 mean, if you can interpret it?---Well I think that means
12:54:42 19 that particular handler doesn't think that I thought that I
12:54:45 20 thanked him for his work for a start.
21
12:54:49 22 It's surprising that he would put in an ICR then, isn't
12:54:56 23 it?---Hoping I'd read it.
24
12:54:59 25 COMMISSIONER: It might be a clever tactic?---It might be.
12:55:02 26 I don't know whether he was using that as some sort of
12:55:08 27 explanation that on my part I thanked her for her efforts
28 or - - -
29
12:55:15 30 MR COLLINSON: Yes?---I certainly don't see myself in that
12:55:19 31 light.
32
12:55:20 33 Yes, it's an odd strategy. This particular handler is
12:55:23 34 identified on p.33. Am I right to say he was a temporary
12:55:29 35 handler or have I got that wrong?---No, he wasn't temporary
12:55:33 36 but he came along late in the relationship with Ms Gobbo.
37
12:55:37 38 She wasn't particularly happy with him I think; is that
12:55:41 39 right?---I don't think she liked him.
40
12:55:47 41 COMMISSIONER: That's Officer Wolf.
12:55:49 42
12:55:50 43 MR COLLINSON: Yes, thank you, Commissioner. Then it
12:55:52 44 continues on p.35, "Ms Gobbo told that everyone
12:55:55 45 acknowledges and appreciates this. Ms Gobbo told by
12:55:58 46 handler had done a fantastic job. Ms Gobbo states that who
12:56:03 47 will care for Ms Gobbo in 20 years as there'll be worries

12:56:06 1 for that length of time", and so on. I'm sorry, I need to
12:56:22 2 take you back to the earlier set of folders just for a few
12:56:29 3 other references. In particular p.396. This is ICR 41.
12:57:20 4 It's possible Mr Winneke took you to this but do you see at
12:57:24 5 the end there's a comment that's been made by one of the
12:57:26 6 handlers, it's in red type at the top of the page?---Yes.
7
12:57:34 8 It says, "DSU issue. Source wants to know if any other
12:57:39 9 person has helped as much as she has and if anyone comes
12:57:42 10 close she needs to be told so she can try harder. Source
12:57:47 11 advised that she has a comfortable lead. You advised
12:57:53 12 possible warning sign". Now I don't know whether this
12:57:58 13 triggers any memory bell with you but are you able to
12:58:02 14 explain why that statement by Ms Gobbo generated the
12:58:10 15 decision by the handler to advise you that it was a
12:58:13 16 possible warning sign?
17
12:58:20 18 COMMISSIONER: Or did you advise it was a possible warning
12:58:22 19 sign? How do you read that entry?
12:58:25 20
12:58:25 21 MR COLLINSON: Yes?---I really can't say at this point in
12:58:31 22 time.
23
12:58:38 24 It's somewhat sad, isn't it, to see Ms Gobbo in a state
12:58:45 25 whereby she has to sort of say or feels she should say that
12:58:50 26 she wants to be told so she can do better as an
12:59:02 27 informer?---Well this is consistent with the previous
12:59:04 28 comment, and I can't recall who asked this question but she
12:59:11 29 did have - she had a very large ego and this is certainly
12:59:19 30 consistent with her wanting to be told she's the best.
31
12:59:24 32 Yes. But the reference to someone raising whether it's a
12:59:34 33 warning sign suggests something potentially problematic
12:59:38 34 though, doesn't it, rather than just overconfidence on
12:59:42 35 Ms Gobbo's part?---Well at this point in time I'm not sure
12:59:51 36 what the meaning of that was. Is it that she's trying too
12:59:59 37 hard or might try too hard? I don't know. I'm only
13:00:06 38 guessing.
39
13:00:17 40 I'll ask this question and maybe counsel from Victoria
13:00:21 41 Police might object. Does this reflect a level of
13:00:26 42 psychological dependance that's unusual for a source that
13:00:32 43 you had experience of handling, or was it just
13:00:40 44 common?---No, it's not common to ask if they're the best.
13:00:50 45 In terms of the psychological thinking behind that, I can't
13:00:53 46 comment on that. But it's not usual that a source will
13:00:57 47 say, "Am I" - what's she saying here, "Has anyone else

13:01:03 1 helped as much as she can?" She obviously wants feedback
13:01:07 2 about the fact that she's doing a good job.
3
13:01:11 4 Yes?---That in itself, not to the extent here, but it's not
13:01:20 5 uncommon for sources to want to know they've done a good
13:01:23 6 job.
7
13:01:24 8 Yes. If I could take you now, please, this may involve you
13:01:29 9 changing volumes, I don't know, to ICR 86, p.955. This is
13:02:19 10 on 29 June 2007 and you'll see that the discussion I want
13:02:25 11 to take you to relates to Mr Rob Karam, do you see that at
13:02:32 12 the top of the page?---Yes.
13
13:02:39 14 It says under "SDU management", "HS starts fishing for
13:02:46 15 particular updates", do you see that?---Yes.
16
13:02:48 17 And the handler doesn't confirm anything with her. She
13:02:53 18 expresses frustration at that?---Yes.
19
13:02:58 20 It's pretty obvious that this would be standard practice,
13:03:03 21 wouldn't it, for SDU, it's a one-way flow of information,
13:03:09 22 isn't it, from an informer to the police that I suppose
13:03:14 23 there's going to be cases where the police have to provide
13:03:17 24 some kind of information to facilitate the informer doing
13:03:20 25 something, but generally the police try to structure it
13:03:24 26 such that informers really aren't told anything?---Yes.
27
13:03:30 28 But this causes Ms Gobbo or caused Ms Gobbo a lot of
13:03:35 29 frustration, didn't it, over the course of the
13:03:38 30 relationship?---Yes.
31
13:03:42 32 If we look down at about point 6 of the page, "Ms Gobbo
13:03:50 33 makes a big issue out of perceived lack of trust by us with
13:03:55 34 her. All comes about as she's not being told updates by me
13:03:59 35 about what is happening in the investigation. Ms Gobbo
13:04:02 36 then starts crying". Really it's probably the case that
13:04:09 37 Ms Gobbo is being pretty unreasonable about this, isn't it?
13:04:16 38 I mean the subject matter she wants updating about, it just
13:04:20 39 wouldn't be appropriate to pass back to an informer?---So
13:04:31 40 is it unreasonable? I don't know that it was unreasonable.
13:04:34 41 She obviously saw it as a trust issue, which was more
13:04:38 42 important in her mind than our processes.
43
13:04:42 44 Yes. She wanted, I don't know whether I can say more than
13:04:48 45 anyone else, but obviously as one of her important
13:04:52 46 objectives, didn't she, to get into a position where SDU
13:04:59 47 had trust of her and her actions and her commitment to the

13:05:07 1 tasks that she was assisting in working on?---I'm not sure
13:05:15 2 what the question is.
3
13:05:16 4 No, fair enough. Why do you think she kept on saying she
13:05:22 5 wanted to be trusted by SDU?---I guess she figured she was
13:05:32 6 providing all the information and it was a one-way street.
13:05:36 7 She probably felt that she'd done more than her fair share
13:05:42 8 and these seemingly small items like not telling her little
13:05:48 9 bits of information obviously made her think that she was
13:05:51 10 trusting us with her actions, but we weren't trusting her,
13:05:55 11 even on the little things.
12
13:05:58 13 It plainly supports what I think I put to you yesterday,
13:06:02 14 that she wanted to be thought of by SDU as a member of the
13:06:07 15 same team, do you agree with that?---I don't know whether
13:06:16 16 she - I don't think I'd go that far as to her thinking
13:06:21 17 she's part of the same team. I guess it's - you know, the
13:06:28 18 whole thing is - I suppose you could say it's a type of
13:06:34 19 team work between the police and an informer.
20
13:06:38 21 Yes?---I don't know, you would have to - obviously she's
13:06:42 22 got - she would know best what she was feeling about that.
23
13:06:46 24 Does it not - I mean do you resist the characterisation of
13:06:50 25 the situation, doesn't it seem a fair characterisation to
13:06:53 26 you that she by her comments like this seemed to be wanting
13:06:59 27 to be part of a team with SDU and the police?---No, I'm not
13:07:07 28 resisting that. I'm just not sure what her thinking was
13:07:11 29 about it. Clearly she could never be part of the team and
13:07:15 30 the inner workings of the SDU.
31
13:07:18 32 Logically that's so but I mean logically she should never
13:07:23 33 have expected, I suggest to you, to get information passed
13:07:29 34 back to her from SDU, because that's - you indicated at the
13:07:32 35 very beginning of the relationship that that's not ever how
13:07:35 36 the informer/SDU relationship would work?---That's right,
13:07:41 37 but she's certainly not the first informer to say to me
13:07:46 38 that they see it as a trust issue where they're providing
13:07:53 39 all the information and we're getting all the results.
13:07:57 40 It's a one-sided relationship. She certainly wasn't
13:08:02 41 Robinson Crusoe in that respect.
42
13:08:05 43 Could you go to p.959, please. I think I've jumped over a
13:08:16 44 number of pages where she's continued in the course of a
13:08:21 45 lot of telephone calls to press this issue of trust. Do
13:08:25 46 you see she says at the top of 959, second dot point -
13:08:32 47 well, perhaps start at the top of the page - "She could

13:08:35 1 walk away now feeling proud of her achievements. She says
13:08:39 2 it isn't time to go yet. She has ambitions of being the
13:08:43 3 best human source VicPol have ever had and no one will be
13:08:47 4 able to beat her. Explained the dangers of thinking like
13:08:51 5 this and this is an unnecessary ambition to have". Can you
13:09:02 6 ever remember any other human source saying they wanted to
13:09:05 7 be the best human source that Victoria Police have ever
13:09:10 8 had?---No.
9
13:09:15 10 Without going into unnecessary detail, is it fair to say
13:09:19 11 that the source relationship with Ms Gobbo was longer than
13:09:24 12 most cases?---Yes.
13
13:09:30 14 Unlike other criminals who are often human sources,
13:09:36 15 Ms Gobbo of course was a barrister so she probably saw
13:09:40 16 herself in quite a different situation to typical human
13:09:46 17 sources, do you think that's fair?---Yes.
18
13:09:51 19 Perhaps that's why she felt eligible to be trusted by
13:09:58 20 Victoria Police because she was a professional, a
13:10:05 21 barrister, unethically as it happens assisting police, but
13:10:10 22 nonetheless having the status of a barrister. Do you think
13:10:13 23 that influenced - I think I probably asked you this - but
13:10:17 24 do you think that influenced her attitude to this trust
13:10:21 25 issue with you?---Well I don't - I don't know but that
13:10:30 26 possibly could have been a factor, that she wasn't your
13:10:35 27 general run of the mill criminal informer. She was a
13:10:38 28 decent person. So maybe she felt she had more entitlement
13:10:41 29 to that.
30
13:10:42 31 Yes. Nonetheless SDU did maintain a posture of really only
13:10:52 32 telling her what they needed to know. I think there was
13:10:57 33 one occasion where Ms Gobbo was warned of an impending
13:11:04 34 arrest. Do you have any recollection or is that just
13:11:07 35 nothing that occurs to you at the moment?---I have a vague
13:11:10 36 recollection, that's right.
37
13:11:13 38 But again we have this statement "explained the dangers of
13:11:24 39 thinking like this". I mean perhaps it's obvious what the
13:11:27 40 dangers are but what would you understand the dangers are
13:11:30 41 of Ms Gobbo thinking like this?---Well once again that's
13:11:41 42 not my comment but I don't think - well, what I think I
13:11:46 43 should say is it's not ideal to have informers wanting to,
13:11:56 44 if you like, enjoy the whole process and, you know, want to
13:12:02 45 continue on with the process. We didn't want to continue
13:12:05 46 on with this relationship any more than we had to.
47

13:12:09 1 Yes?---I'm imagining that that's what Mr Fox was thinking.
2
13:12:16 3 Yes. Can I ask you to go - - - ?---Not that he wants
13:12:21 4 to - - -
5
13:12:22 6 Sorry, I interrupted?---I think you'll see in my statement
13:12:25 7 that often times informers, they don't want to be an
13:12:30 8 informer at the outset and then they start to enjoy,
13:12:34 9 bizarrely enjoy the relationship when they get results.
10
13:12:37 11 Yes. Could you go please to p.1059. I won't - this is ICR
13:13:04 12 92. I won't read out any of these at any length but do you
13:13:09 13 see at about point 2 of the page she refers to the fact
13:13:16 14 that she's lost a lot of friends who have just got sick of
13:13:21 15 inviting her out and she never turns up?---Yes.
16
13:13:24 17 That's consistent with your evidence I think that she
13:13:29 18 seemed to be a workaholic who, when she wasn't working,
13:13:34 19 spent just about all of her social time with
13:13:40 20 criminals?---Yes.
21
13:13:43 22 To be fair, she spent an incredible amount of time with
13:13:50 23 criminals during the informer relationship because she was
13:13:56 24 encouraged to do so by assuming the role of an
13:14:02 25 informer?---Yes.
26
13:14:06 27 I think we saw, I don't think it would be confidential, but
13:14:10 28 that document that Mr Winneke showed you, a review at the
13:14:16 29 end of this exercise. It seemed to suggest there were
13:14:19 30 about 164 people that she'd provided intelligence on over
13:14:23 31 the course of this three and a quarter years. Do you
13:14:33 32 remember that?---Yes.
33
13:14:35 34 I take it that that's an incredibly wide range of people.
13:14:41 35 I just take it there wasn't any other informer you've ever
13:14:45 36 had that has addressed such a wide inclusive number of
13:14:52 37 people in the criminal classes, in terms of the - - -
13:14:55 38 ?---No, but there was no other informer we had that ran for
13:14:58 39 that length of time either.
40
13:15:00 41 Yes. Just at the foot of p.1059 there's some personal
13:15:04 42 information about Ms Gobbo that she's ringing up the
13:15:11 43 handler on what's said to be a special day in her life and
13:15:21 44 I think it might be - yes, if one looks at the previous
13:15:25 45 page it's one of the anniversaries of Ms Gobbo having that
13:15:31 46 stroke back on 24 July 2004. Do you see that at the foot
13:15:40 47 of 1058, the reference to her stroke?---Yes.

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13:15:47 2 Just briefly, on 1059 the handler seems to be making the
13:15:54 3 observation that she's obviously a bit lonely because she
13:15:56 4 doesn't seem to have anyone to talk to other than the
13:16:00 5 handler on this particular anniversary?---Yes.

13:16:06 7 I think that's time, Commissioner.

13:16:09 9 COMMISSIONER: It is indeed. We'll adjourn until 2
13:16:12 10 o'clock, thank you.

13:16:14 11
13:16:14 12 <(THE WITNESS WITHDREW)

13:16:15 13
13:17:42 14 LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

13:17:42 1 UPON RESUMING AT 2.04 PM:
14:04:29 2
14:04:29 3 COMMISSIONER: Yes Mr Collinson.
14:04:30 4
14:04:31 5 <SANDY WHITE, recalled:
14:04:37 6
14:04:38 7 MR COLLINSON: Mr White, if you could go, please, to p.1071
14:04:49 8 in ICR 92. I just want to explore another aspect of your
14:05:09 9 relationship with Ms Gobbo through SDU and the time at
14:05:15 10 which Ms Gobbo ceased to be tasked and matters like that.
14:05:20 11 At p.1071 there's a discussion with one of the handlers on
14:05:28 12 27 July 2007. This seems to be at a time when Ms Gobbo was
14:05:37 13 planning a trip to Bali where she used to go frequently for
14:05:41 14 holidays, didn't she?---Yes.
14:05:44 15
14:05:47 16 I think leading up to this she's been suggesting that maybe
14:05:52 17 the relationship should come to an end. Do you see about
14:05:56 18 point 7 of the page it says, "Again reiterate that we would
14:06:01 19 like this to end amicably on our joint terms, not being
14:06:06 20 forced to end or ending on a bad note where there is
14:06:09 21 resentment for the rest of her life" and she agreed?---Yes.
14:06:13 22
14:06:14 23 If we could go back a few pages. At p.1065 you'll see that
14:06:27 24 on 26 July 2007 there's an entry at about point 7 of the
14:06:37 25 page, "Told her I had dropped off a token, something for
14:06:41 26 her Bali trip". See that?---Yes.
14:06:44 27
14:06:44 28 Then at 1067, I don't think I'll - it seems to be
14:06:52 29 confidential, what it is the gift was, but you can see at
14:06:56 30 point 1 of the page what the gift was and she was very
14:07:00 31 happy about that?---Yes.
14:07:02 32
14:07:03 33 Again, this is an example, isn't it, of pretty modest
14:07:08 34 financial rewards being given by Victoria Police to
14:07:13 35 Ms Gobbo?---Yes.
14:07:17 36
14:07:19 37 And then if you could go - - - ?---It's not really - - -
14:07:23 38
14:07:23 39 Sorry, you go ahead?---Not really in the context of a
14:07:26 40 reward.
14:07:28 41
14:07:28 42 No, it was more just a going away present, wasn't
14:07:34 43 it?---Yes.
14:07:34 44
14:07:36 45 Could you go, please, to p.1100.
14:07:49 46
14:07:50 47 COMMISSIONER: On that note, Mr Collinson, these aren't

14:07:54 1 agreed redactions at this point, they're just claimed
14:07:58 2 redactions.
14:07:59 3
14:07:59 4 MR COLLINSON: I'm grateful for that, Commissioner. I'm
14:08:01 5 taking the view that you can read what it is and I usually
14:08:05 6 don't need to say so and enter on to that debate. At the
14:08:09 7 top of p.1100, Mr White, we are now in August 2007 and
14:08:18 8 Ms Gobbo seems to wax and wane, doesn't she, about this
14:08:23 9 idea of terminating her informer role. You see the second
14:08:27 10 dot point says, "HS asks if she is keeping me busy enough.
14:08:32 11 She worries that if she doesn't keep giving good info then
14:08:37 12 we may not see her as valuable any more. Told her she is
14:08:41 13 doing enough, told not to inject herself into things and
14:08:47 14 risk safety", see that?---Yes.
14:08:50 15
14:08:50 16 Was this a problem generally, that if anything Ms Gobbo
14:08:55 17 took undue risks, I think, in the social interactions she
14:09:02 18 had with the criminals? I mean I've seen a number of
14:09:05 19 entries where she seemed to call the handler from the
14:09:09 20 bathroom in the course of one of these social interactions.
14:09:13 21 Do you recall a number of those?---Yes.
14:09:18 22
14:09:19 23 And I think there was another occasion where, let's say a
14:09:25 24 [REDACTED] she was using was actually grabbed by a
14:09:31 25 criminal and he was checking what its contents were, do you
14:09:38 26 recall that?---No. I think I know what you mean in the
14:09:48 27 reference to [REDACTED] but I can't recall one of the
14:09:52 28 criminals actually getting possession of it.
14:09:56 29
14:09:56 30 And then if I could take you to 1103. Again, further, if
14:10:06 31 one looks under the heading of "SDU management", Ms Gobbo
14:10:10 32 complains that she has got no tasks to do. She wants
14:10:15 33 something to do to keep active. And - sorry, are you on
14:10:22 34 that page?---Yes.
14:10:24 35
14:10:24 36 About point 2 there?---Yes.
14:10:26 37
14:10:28 38 Here we've got a reference to the two year anniversary
14:10:31 39 being a month away, do you see that in the fourth dot point
14:10:35 40 in that section?---Yes.
14:10:36 41
14:10:38 42 And do you agree that although Ms Gobbo suggested she
14:10:45 43 should stop the informer relationship, in reality she
14:10:50 44 didn't seem to want to do that?---Yes, she did vacillate
14:10:59 45 between the two points of view.
14:11:00 46
14:11:01 47 And it's fair to say, isn't it, she must have done so

14:11:06 1 because it gave her a sense of self worth to be engaging in
14:11:12 2 this activity assisting the police?---I don't know if it
14:11:19 3 gave her a sense of self worth but she obviously felt she
14:11:23 4 was doing something good.

14:11:26 5
14:11:27 6 If you could go, please, to p.1211. I won't give any
14:11:45 7 unnecessary detail here but it would - do you agree that -
14:11:52 8 now this is dated 12 September 2007 and you don't need to
14:11:58 9 say what the particular tasking is, but you can see from
14:12:04 10 that page, can't you, that in fact Ms Gobbo has been given
14:12:11 11 a new tasking as at 12 September 2007?---Yes.

14:12:16 12
14:12:17 13 And we can verify that, can't we, because if one looks at
14:12:21 14 the previous page, 1210, the form has a box to indicate
14:12:29 15 whether an informer has been tasked or not?---Yes.

14:12:32 16
14:12:34 17 It's also fair to say though, isn't it, that although in
14:12:38 18 many instances Ms Gobbo is not shown in many of these ICRs
14:12:45 19 or some of them to be tasked in relation to a particular
14:12:49 20 person, in a sense she was always generally tasked, wasn't
14:12:55 21 she, to continue these social connections with the criminal
14:12:59 22 community?---Not always. As I said there was a couple of
14:13:04 23 occasions where we specifically told her we weren't tasking
14:13:08 24 her with anything and we didn't want anything and those
14:13:11 25 were baby-sitting periods that I've referred to.

14:13:13 26
14:13:14 27 Yes. But sometimes I think the position of SDU seemed to
14:13:22 28 be, "Well, Nicola, you're not tasked specifically to pursue
14:13:28 29 a particular matter but if you gather intelligence based
14:13:35 30 upon one of your social interactions, we'll certainly
14:13:39 31 listen to it", is that a fair description of SDU's approach
14:13:45 32 with Ms Gobbo?---Generally, but she was specifically told,
14:13:50 33 "We don't want anything, don't try and find out anything,
14:13:54 34 if you get anything we're not going to action it",
14:13:58 35 especially as the relationship progressed because I'm
14:14:01 36 pretty certain we told her that actioning any intelligence
14:14:05 37 she got could potentially just compromise her because she
14:14:09 38 would be the common denominator between some of the
14:14:13 39 criminals.

14:14:14 40
14:14:14 41 Yes. That was a risk for Ms Gobbo from inception, wasn't
14:14:18 42 it, that she might be fingered as the source of some
14:14:24 43 information that was acted upon by the police?---It's an
14:14:31 44 issue for any source, the longer you have them, the greater
14:14:36 45 that risk becomes.

14:14:37 46
14:14:38 47 Yes?---And she was no different in that respect except

14:14:41 1 obviously it went much longer and there was a higher risk
14:14:46 2 of it.
14:14:46 3
14:14:47 4 I've seen some references in the ICRs, and we'll probably
14:14:51 5 come to them, where it seems the handler seems to be saying
14:14:53 6 to Ms Gobbo, "You're not tasked to do anything but we will
14:15:00 7 at least review the intelligence that you provide. We may
14:15:05 8 or may not act upon it". Can you remember that being
14:15:09 9 adopted as the - - - ?---I think - - -
14:15:12 10
14:15:14 11 - - - stance of SDU?---There might have been an occasion
14:15:18 12 where that was right, but there's also an occasion or
14:15:22 13 occasions where she was specifically told that even if she
14:15:25 14 got it we weren't going to use it.
14:15:27 15
14:15:27 16 Yes. I mean Mr Gatto, for example, towards the end of the
14:15:33 17 relationship she struck up a connection with him, didn't
14:15:37 18 she?---Yes.
19
14:15:38 20 (Fire testing announcement at remote location.)
14:15:38 21
14:16:00 22 COMMISSIONER: We might just mute you I think for the
14:16:03 23 moment?---Okay Commissioner.
14:16:05 24
14:16:05 25 Would you let us know when they've finished the
14:16:09 26 testing?---Yes.
14:16:09 27
14:16:09 28 I think that might be the best course. We've finished.
14:17:26 29 Can you un-mute it, please. Is it over now,
14:17:43 30 Mr White?---I'm not sure, they haven't advised us yet.
14:17:47 31
14:17:47 32 Okay. Should we take our chances, Mr Collinson?
14:17:53 33
14:17:53 34 MR COLLINSON: Yes, of course.
14:17:54 35
14:17:54 36 COMMISSIONER: Yes.
14:17:54 37
14:17:56 38 MR COLLINSON: In relation to Mr Gatto, my interpretation
14:18:02 39 of some of the ICRs is that it was being suggested to
14:18:08 40 Ms Gobbo that she wasn't tasked in respect of Mr Gatto but
14:18:16 41 in relation to information she might obtain about him or
14:18:23 42 his crew, SDU would consider the information and make a
14:18:29 43 decision about whether it might be used. Is that
14:18:34 44 consistent or inconsistent with your recollection?---I
14:18:39 45 think that's consistent.
14:18:40 46
14:18:44 47 If I could take you back a page or two to p.1222. Again,

14:18:56 1 this is September, specifically 16 September 2007 we're in
14:19:04 2 this wind down phase. Do you see about point 8 of the page
14:19:08 3 in the fourth-last dot point Ms Gobbo says or is reported
14:19:15 4 as saying, "She brings up that she could get in with Gatto
14:19:19 5 or Paul Dale straight away if we wanted. General
14:19:25 6 discussion re this and how confident this is she can
14:19:27 7 achieve it"?---Yes.
14:19:29 8
14:19:35 9 This again, I think, do you agree that reflected some
14:19:42 10 reluctance Ms Gobbo had about giving up her activities as a
14:19:46 11 human source?---Probably.
14:19:50 12
14:19:53 13 Then p.1224 about point 7 of the page, this is the
14:20:09 14 following day, do you see there's a dot point, "She seeks
14:20:15 15 direction on what targets we want her to concentrate on.
14:20:19 16 Told none. We want to reduce her involvement in all these
14:20:23 17 criminal cells. We generally are not acting on the intel
14:20:27 18 she is providing except in extreme circumstances so there
14:20:31 19 is no need to tell us any more. HS not happy with this,
14:20:35 20 she wants a list of people we are interested in so she can
14:20:38 21 concentrate on them. Told this will not happen". That
14:20:42 22 accords with your recollection that SDU was trying to
14:20:46 23 really get into a baby-sitting role with Ms Gobbo at this
14:20:51 24 time?---Yes.
14:20:53 25
14:20:54 26 But she wasn't really keen on that, was she?---No.
14:21:06 27
14:21:07 28 Over at 1225, about point 7 of the page, similar sort of
14:21:12 29 theme, "She cannot come to grips with us not wanting to
14:21:16 30 hear information about those people any more. Explained
14:21:18 31 that she cannot go on forever giving us information as we
14:21:22 32 have discussed in the past the dangers of long-term
14:21:26 33 informers. It has to end some time and we believe a
14:21:30 34 gradual reduction is best. Long discussion re these points
14:21:31 35 going over and over the same issues. It's basically
14:21:34 36 Ms Gobbo coming to terms with the fact that we are
14:21:38 37 seriously talking about an end and that she can now see it
14:21:42 38 is coming closer and she has to come to terms with this.
14:21:45 39 Went through her fears that it does not mean we are
14:21:49 40 abandoning her or we don't appreciate her or similar". So
14:21:53 41 that probably fairly summarises her position, doesn't it,
14:21:57 42 that she felt she needed to keep acting as a human source
14:22:03 43 in order to feel not abandoned by SDU?---I think so.
14:22:10 44
14:22:17 45 If I could take you to p.1229. There's a heading at about
14:22:29 46 point 7, "Exit scale down strategy. HS asked whether she
14:22:35 47 has started deleting the 50 names from her address book as

14:22:39 1 part of a new strategy to step back from all these people.
14:22:39 2 HS says she can't do that because she wants to keep their
14:22:42 3 numbers to know when they are ringing so she does not have
14:22:45 4 to answer the phone". What did you think of that - I don't
14:22:50 5 know whether you recall reading that but what did you think
14:22:54 6 of that excuse for her not deleting the numbers?---Well,
14:23:00 7 I've got no recollection of this piece of information.
14:23:06 8
14:23:11 9 If you go to 1236. About point 2 of the page you'll see
14:23:23 10 that with the handler on this occasion Ms Gobbo has - if
14:23:32 11 you're on that page?---Yes.
14:23:34 12
14:23:34 13 Had a general discussion about her financial situation, how
14:23:38 14 she struggles with mortgages and other costs and then yet
14:23:41 15 drug dealers are earning tax free money and flaunting it.
14:23:46 16 Then some discussion about her unhappiness with personal
14:23:49 17 relationships with men in the following paragraphs?---Yes.
14:23:55 18
14:23:59 19 Then, if I could take you to 1318. This is October 2007.
14:24:18 20 Top of the page, talking to a handler, "General talk re her
14:24:23 21 fears of the threats she has received. She needs direction
14:24:26 22 on what to tell me. This is doing her head in on what may
14:24:30 23 be relevant and what is not. Ms Gobbo told if she feels it
14:24:34 24 is important then she needs to tell me. She will not be
14:24:37 25 tasked into anyone as previously discussed". And then if I
14:25:00 26 could take you to 1328 at point 5 of the page. This is 29
14:25:24 27 October 2007. It says, "General talk re when Ms Gobbo
14:25:32 28 turned informer back in late 2005. Talk re timing of" - -
29
30
14:25:56 31 (Fire testing announcement at remote location.)
32
14:26:03 33 COMMISSIONER: All right, we'll try and continue I think,
14:26:05 34 Mr Collinson. No? We're having some difficulty making
14:26:11 35 some sense of what's being said on the loud speaker there.
14:26:18 36 Yes, it's a fire test but usually they don't have such a
14:26:23 37 long gap in between the bits of it.
14:26:25 38
14:26:25 39 MR COLLINSON: It's apparently muted at their end I'm
14:26:28 40 hearing, Commissioner. Can you hear me, Mr White?---I can
14:26:35 41 hear you, yes. Sorry, I muted you whilst the loud speaker
14:26:40 42 was on, it's incredibly loud here.
14:26:43 43
14:26:43 44 COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you. Do we think it's over
14:26:45 45 now?---I'm not 100 per cent certain, Commissioner.
14:26:48 46
14:26:48 47 Okay, we'll keep going.

14:26:50 1
14:26:54 2 MR COLLINSON: I was on p.1328. It says, I think I was
14:26:59 3 saying, "Talk re timing of you speaking to her. It was
14:27:03 4 virtually straight away. It was a big decision to make and
14:27:06 5 by you seeing her straight away did not give her time to
14:27:11 6 second-guess her decision. General talk about how
14:27:16 7 effective this was and the way she was feeling at the
14:27:19 8 time". That's about the closest Ms Gobbo comes, I suggest,
14:27:24 9 Mr White, to suggesting, but without I think a great deal
14:27:33 10 of force or complaint, that really she might have been a
14:27:40 11 little bit rushed into her decision in September 2005, do
14:27:46 12 you agree with that?---That's the first time she's even
14:27:51 13 remotely suggested it that I can recall.
14:27:55 14
14:27:57 15 This is a conversation that is occurring with one of your
14:28:01 16 handlers. So she is not saying this to you, is she?---No.
14:28:05 17
14:28:10 18 I would be surprised if she ever said anything like that to
14:28:14 19 you given the particular relationship you had with her. Do
14:28:17 20 you have any recollection of her saying to you that she
14:28:21 21 really had felt a bit rushed with her decision in September
14:28:25 22 2005?---No. No. This doesn't actually make sense because
14:28:34 23 at the time I met her in September 05 she had no idea, I
14:28:39 24 don't think, where I fitted into the scheme of things in
14:28:43 25 terms of having some authority. She wasn't introduced to
14:28:47 26 us by way of rank or anything like that so I'm not sure
14:28:51 27 what this actually means.
14:28:52 28
14:28:55 29 She would have inferred, wouldn't she, at 16 September 2005
14:28:59 30 meeting that you were in a position of responsibility in
14:29:03 31 relation to this prospective human source role?---I think
14:29:11 32 she - well, I think she would have inferred that from the
14:29:14 33 fact that, as you pointed out earlier, she was told she
14:29:18 34 would be introduced to some specialists.
14:29:21 35
14:29:21 36 Yes?---But she wouldn't have, I don't see how she could
14:29:26 37 have seen me as being any different from Officer Smith, for
14:29:30 38 example.
14:29:30 39
14:29:38 40 I think it's fair to say though, you did most of the
14:29:41 41 talking on the part of the police at the 16 September
14:29:44 42 meeting, didn't you? You really led the discussion for the
14:29:50 43 police?---If that's what the transcript shows then that
14:29:54 44 would be right. I think there was a lot of listening. I'd
14:29:57 45 be surprised if we told her too much about us.
14:30:00 46
14:30:01 47 Were you in point of fact the most senior person

14:30:03 1 there?---Yes.
14:30:04 2
14:30:06 3 It wouldn't have taken too much, would it, for Ms Gobbo to
14:30:10 4 have perceived that?---Well again, I'd have to have a look
14:30:19 5 at the transcript. She may have even been told that by the
14:30:24 6 others, I don't know.
14:30:25 7
14:30:25 8 Yes. Anyway, just continuing this, all the circumstances
14:30:30 9 of the time made her think what she was doing and - the
14:30:37 10 person's name there - then you cemented her position that
14:30:41 11 she was doing the right thing. I put to you some
14:30:46 12 suggestions that some of the comments you made about
14:30:54 13 whether Ms Gobbo should become a source or not were really
14:31:00 14 attempting to encourage her to do so and I think you really
14:31:05 15 agreed with those, didn't you?---Yes.
14:31:11 16
14:31:13 17 And then it says in the last dot point, "General talk about
14:31:16 18 how long the debriefs were with you and someone else at
14:31:20 19 first to get down everything she knew". So is that
14:31:26 20 referring to the early meetings with the SDU handlers,
14:31:30 21 including you, that went on for a very long time?---Yes, I
14:31:35 22 think so.
14:31:35 23
14:31:36 24 In fact I think I picked up from the second of those
14:31:40 25 meetings, Mr White, that she received at least one
14:31:44 26 telephone call from the criminal community and on that
14:31:50 27 occasion one from Mr Mokbel at the very moment she was
14:31:54 28 talking to the handlers at that second meeting. Do you
14:31:57 29 have that recollection?---Not 100 per cent sure but I think
14:32:03 30 that might be right.
14:32:04 31
14:32:07 32 I think - - -
33
14:32:13 34 (Fire testing announcement at remote location.)
14:32:13 35
14:32:18 36 COMMISSIONER: This isn't a deliberate tactic on your part
14:32:22 37 is it, Ms Enbom?
14:32:23 38
14:32:23 39 MS ENBOM: I assure you it's not.
14:32:28 40
14:32:29 41 MR COLLINSON: Now - - -
14:32:29 42
14:32:29 43 COMMISSIONER: I think he's muted it and he'll un-mute it
14:32:33 44 once the dreadful noise has stopped.
14:32:36 45
14:32:36 46 MR COLLINSON: I see. He can't hear us. But we can't hear
14:32:39 47 him.

14:32:39 1
14:32:43 2 COMMISSIONER: No, neither of us can hear each other. As
14:32:46 3 soon as he is confident it has stopped he'll - if you want
14:32:54 4 to sit down for a minute you're most welcome. I think he's
14:32:55 5 un-muting it now. Is it un-muted now?---I'm back,
14:32:59 6 Commissioner.
14:32:59 7
14:32:59 8 Thank you?---They keep repeating the same message over and
14:33:03 9 over so this could continue.
14:33:06 10
14:33:06 11 It's like water torture, Mr White?---Yes.
14:33:09 12
14:33:10 13 Yes Mr Collinson.
14:33:10 14
14:33:14 15 MR COLLINSON: I think I'm putting this to you, Mr White,
14:33:17 16 with the full benefit of hindsight. I'm not wanting to
14:33:23 17 suggest that you acted improperly at this 16 September
14:33:28 18 meeting, but using hindsight and knowing what you found out
14:33:34 19 about Ms Gobbo thereafter, I think there's some force in
14:33:41 20 her observation there, don't you think, in the first dot
14:33:45 21 point, that she was making a very big decision and she
14:33:50 22 didn't really have time to second-guess that
14:33:57 23 decision?---No, I don't think I would agree with that. She
14:34:03 24 had obviously spoken to Mansell and Rowe some week or two
14:34:08 25 weeks earlier, so she obviously was considering what was
14:34:14 26 going to happen before we even came across her and then, as
14:34:17 27 I said, we, I think even the third or maybe even the fourth
14:34:22 28 meeting we were still talking to her about this is an
14:34:25 29 assessment process. So I think to say that she's made a
14:34:29 30 very quick decision, I don't think I would agree with that.
14:34:35 31
14:34:36 32 Yes. It nonetheless was an incredibly serious decision to
14:34:44 33 make, wasn't it?---Yes.
14:34:46 34
14:34:48 35 I think you knew that she had made this decision without
14:34:54 36 the benefit of speaking to anybody to advise her?---Yes.
14:34:59 37
14:35:04 38 Can you turn, please, to p.1363. If one looks at point 6
14:35:20 39 of the page, again in the first dot point we have Ms Gobbo
14:35:27 40 wanting clarification for taskings and she's been advised
14:35:32 41 that no taskings will occur. In the third dot point she
14:35:37 42 asks for something to do. You advise want nothing from
14:35:44 43 her. Really at this time SDU is trying to fend off further
14:35:48 44 assistance from Ms Gobbo I think it's fair to say, isn't
14:35:51 45 it?---Yes.
14:35:51 46
14:35:54 47 And then 1394. This is 12 November 2007. At the foot of

14:36:11 1 the page, the last two dot points concerning Mr Dale,
14:36:18 2 "Ms Gobbo wondering if she will be tasked into him and at
14:36:21 3 what level of suspicion do police think he is involved.
14:36:25 4 Ms Gobbo told she will not be tasked. What happens
14:36:28 5 naturally with Paul Dale is best". Now, as events unfold
14:36:36 6 in relation to Mr Dale, indeed if one turns back to p.1388
14:36:46 7 you'll see that Ms Gobbo reports that on 11 November 2007
14:36:52 8 Mr Dale has called her seemingly - - -?---I'm sorry, I
14:36:58 9 missed the page number, Mr Collinson.
14:36:59 10
14:37:00 11 Yes. Page 1388. It's in the same ICR?---Yes.
14:37:08 12
14:37:09 13 He seems to want to call her at very late times of the
14:37:14 14 night. One call is 1.15 am, the other is 11.45 pm and
14:37:21 15 there's some discussion about tasking into Mr Dale. The
14:37:35 16 tasking - - - ?---Sorry, Mr Collinson, the fire alarm is
14:37:39 17 about to go off.
14:37:40 18
14:37:40 19 I see.
14:37:42 20
14:37:42 21 COMMISSIONER: All right. Is it just a test, is it to be
14:37:59 22 just a test?---I hope so. I'm wondering if they're doing
14:38:20 23 it floor by floor.
24
14:42:50 25 (Fire testing announcement at remote location.)
14:42:50 26
14:42:50 27 COMMISSIONER: Finished is it?---I think we might as well
14:42:53 28 try and continue, Commissioner. I think we'll probably get
14:42:57 29 a call to evacuate in a second but we could be waiting
14:43:01 30 forever.
14:43:02 31
14:43:02 32 Okay, thank you.
14:43:03 33
14:43:04 34 MR COLLINSON: Mr White, I was on p.1388?---Yes.
14:43:10 35
14:43:11 36 And I was drawing your attention to a report from Ms Gobbo
14:43:16 37 that Mr Dale had contacted her at those times shown about
14:43:24 38 point 3 of the page. Do you see those?---Yes.
14:43:26 39
14:43:28 40 It's got a heading, the tasking box is ticked on that page.
14:43:33 41 You see it says "yes"?---Yes.
14:43:35 42
14:43:36 43 And then about point 4 of the page there's a heading
14:43:41 44 "tasking" and there's discussion that appears to have taken
14:43:49 45 place about tasking Ms Gobbo into Mr Dale, do you see
14:43:53 46 that?---Yes.
14:43:54 47

14:43:57 1 Then it says, "Action: Confirmed tasking of Ms Gobbo to
14:44:06 2 controller and Gav Ryan, Petra Task Force", do you see
14:44:12 3 that?---Yes.
14:44:13 4
14:44:14 5 It would appear then that Petra has approved the tasking of
14:44:20 6 Ms Gobbo in relation to Mr Dale?---That's what appears to
14:44:26 7 be the case.
14:44:26 8
14:44:27 9 And I'm just wanting to reconcile that with p.1394 where I
14:44:34 10 was asking you some questions earlier at the foot of the
14:44:38 11 page where it seems to say she will not be tasked. "What
14:44:43 12 happens naturally with Paul Dale is best." Are you able to
14:44:48 13 explain what that means? Perhaps going over the page to
14:45:01 14 1395 might assist?---I'd only be guessing that she possibly
14:45:15 15 went and saw Paul Dale when he rang her and that then after
14:45:25 16 that she was told that we weren't going to take it any
14:45:29 17 further. I'm speculating, I don't know.
14:45:36 18
14:45:36 19 Yes. Let's just take it in little bits. Am I right to say
14:45:40 20 1388 means that Ms Gobbo was in fact tasked into Mr Dale on
14:45:49 21 or about 11 November 2007?---I think so, yes. She was
14:45:58 22 certainly given the approval for a catch up according to
14:46:04 23 that dot point there.
14:46:05 24
14:46:05 25 Yes. Then over the page at 1389, which I hadn't taken you
14:46:11 26 to yet, you can see that at point 3 of the page Ms Gobbo
14:46:18 27 has spoken to Mr Dale?---Yes.
14:46:23 28
14:46:25 29 And there's a recitation of some things and then the last
14:46:30 30 dot point says, "Therefore probably will not catch up but
14:46:35 31 agree that the call probably served its purpose and she
14:46:37 32 could now ring him back whenever she wants, which is good".
14:46:41 33 And that was disseminated by the handler to Mr Ryan of
14:46:47 34 Petra, yes?---Yes.
14:46:50 35
14:46:52 36 So then there doesn't seem to be anything else that
14:46:59 37 interrupts or concerns, rather, Mr Dale until 1394 and it
14:47:11 38 would seem that the view has been taken that
14:47:18 39 notwithstanding a decision to task her, or perhaps she's
14:47:22 40 performed the tasking, I don't know, by speaking to
14:47:25 41 Mr Dale, but then it seems to be the position that she
14:47:28 42 shouldn't take it any further and instead it's just left to
14:47:32 43 see what happens naturally with Mr Dale, is that the view
14:47:35 44 that the handler was expressing to Ms Gobbo?---That seems
14:47:42 45 to be correct.
14:47:42 46
14:47:48 47 Anyway, Ms Gobbo, if one goes to 1398, again at this stage

14:48:00 1 Ms Gobbo is spending a lot of time with Mr Gatto, isn't
14:48:05 2 she?---Yes.
14:48:06 3
14:48:11 4 At the foot of that page it says, "Ms Gobbo believes that
14:48:15 5 the sky's the limit with him now, she believes she has well
14:48:19 6 and truly gained his trust. She states what an amazing
14:48:24 7 golden opportunity for us (police)", see that?---Yes.
14:48:27 8
14:48:28 9 She was proffering, wasn't she, the prospect of her
14:48:35 10 undertaking a similar connection as she did with the
14:48:37 11 Mokbels with Mr Gatto and his crew at this time?---Yes, I
14:48:52 12 think so.
14:48:52 13
14:48:59 14 Now there's a lot of references to Mr Gatto and perhaps
14:49:01 15 I'll return to it, but was this something in which SDU had
14:49:07 16 any kind of interest?---I can't recall. I think, I'm not
14:49:18 17 sure where Mr Gatto stood in relation to his murder charges
14:49:21 18 at this point in time. He might have been acquitted.
14:49:26 19
14:49:26 20 Yes?---I'm not sure.
14:49:29 21
14:49:30 22 If I can take you to 1414. This is 16 November 2007. At
14:49:47 23 about point 7 of the page some more discussion about
14:49:51 24 Mr Gatto. "Ms Gobbo states she can see that this is going
14:49:58 25 in a direction where she will get some very, very good
14:50:01 26 information that we will not be able to act on". And then
14:50:07 27 the handler - - - ?---I'm sorry, on - - -
14:50:11 28
14:50:12 29 Page - - - ?---I haven't found the reference.
14:50:14 30
14:50:14 31 You have the reference?---No, not yet.
14:50:17 32
14:50:17 33 Okay, it's p.1414?---Yes, I've got that.
14:50:32 34
14:50:32 35 It's about point 7 of the page where Ms Gobbo is recorded
14:50:37 36 as saying, "She can see that this is going in a direction
14:50:40 37 where she will get some very, very good information that we
14:50:44 38 will not be able to act on". The handler says, "Told her
14:50:48 39 as you said, that we would rather have the info and not act
14:50:52 40 on it, than not have the info". Isn't that consistent with
14:50:58 41 what I put to you a little while ago that Mr Gatto is an
14:51:05 42 example of a relationship that Ms Gobbo had at this time
14:51:08 43 where although Ms Gobbo was not tasked into Mr Gatto, she
14:51:18 44 is not being discouraged, I suggest, by SDU from pursuing
14:51:25 45 the relationship so as to obtain information and it can
14:51:30 46 then reside with SDU and they'll decide whether to use it
14:51:33 47 or not?---That particular sentence is clearly consistent

14:51:38 1 with that view. I'm not sure whether there's other
14:51:43 2 material in there where she's told we just don't want it.
14:51:47 3 That was my general recollection. I'm going off again.
4
14:52:13 5 (Fire testing announcement at remote location.)
14:52:13 6
14:52:14 7 COMMISSIONER: Yes. If you like we could have a five
14:53:21 8 minute break and then we can go hopefully through when it
14:53:27 9 stops to 4.30. Yes, we'll just have a short adjournment
14:53:46 10 until the witness comes back.
14:53:49 11
14:54:05 12 (Short adjournment.)
15:13:01 13
15:13:01 14 COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr White, you can hear us?---Yes,
15:13:05 15 Commissioner.
15:13:05 16
15:13:05 17 Yes, all right, I hope we have a better run now. Yes
15:13:10 18 Mr Collinson.
15:13:11 19
15:13:11 20 MR COLLINSON: If the Commissioner pleases. Mr White,
15:13:14 21 could you go, please, to page - I was asking you some
15:13:20 22 questions before the break about this question what was
15:13:26 23 SDU's attitude to Ms Gobbo pursuing a relationship, a
15:13:34 24 social relationship with Mr Gatto with a view to gathering
15:13:39 25 information and I showed you one reference. Could I take
15:13:44 26 you, please, to p.1432 where there's more on this?---Yes.
15:14:17 27
15:14:18 28 You'll see the heading about point 8 of the page, "SDU
15:14:23 29 management"?---Yes.
15:14:24 30
15:14:25 31 And it says, "Talk about her feeling of needing to continue
15:14:29 32 to get the big fish. Told her she should not have these
15:14:33 33 feelings and should be thinking about finishing this
15:14:36 34 relationship when she can. Gobbo told she is not tasked to
15:14:40 35 Gatto, not obliged to do so and does not have to. She
15:14:45 36 understands this but has a feeling of need to finish things
15:14:45 37 whilst she is still talking to us. Asked what this means
15:14:50 38 and she says she still wants to finish up to help solve
15:14:55 39 crimes we have not arrested people for yet. She is talking
15:14:59 40 about gangland crimes and murders". Over the page,
15:15:02 41 "Advised she does not actively have to go out to seek
42 people to get info. She has passed all that and should be
15:15:07 43 satisfied with what she has achieved. She would like to
15:15:11 44 have this all over with and not talking to us but knows
15:15:15 45 this is not possible until after the Horty trial.
15:15:18 46 Therefore if people see her and speak to her then she will
15:15:22 47 tell us", then she gives some examples of names and the

15:15:26 1 handler says, "Understood. As long as she knows she is not
15:15:29 2 tasked and can pull out at any time". Does that passage
15:15:35 3 summarise sufficiently accurately your view as to what
15:15:42 4 Ms Gobbo should be doing and was authorised to do or not do
15:15:47 5 in relation to Mr Gatto and other members of the criminal
15:15:51 6 community?---The instructions from that handler are
15:16:00 7 consistent with what we were trying to achieve at that
15:16:03 8 time, yes.
15:16:03 9
15:16:04 10 I think it's, the essence of it is that you're trying to
15:16:09 11 wind down the relationship with Ms Gobbo. She's not tasked
15:16:13 12 into anybody but she's taken the position, "Well, I'm stuck
15:16:19 13 with you until at least the Horty trial and therefore I'm
15:16:24 14 going to speak to people and give you the info, or
15:16:26 15 intelligence" and that's understood by SDU?---Yes.
15:16:31 16
15:16:37 17 And then 1474. 28 November 2007. I think it's fair to say
15:17:00 18 Ms Gobbo goes through lots of emotional ups and downs,
15:17:05 19 doesn't she?---Yes.
15:17:07 20
15:17:07 21 And on 28 November she rings up to say she's had enough,
15:17:13 22 she's too tired and wants to finish up, do you see that at
15:17:17 23 point 2 of the page?---Yes.
15:17:21 24
15:17:24 25 And the handler says, among other things, if one looks at
15:17:31 26 about point 8 of the page, "Made it very clear to Ms Gobbo
15:17:35 27 that she should not be under any impression or feeling an
15:17:39 28 obligation to see these people for us. She's not tasked
15:17:42 29 into any of them. She chooses to go by herself". So
15:17:47 30 that's again consistent, I think, with your view of what
15:17:52 31 you're trying to achieve with Ms Gobbo at this time?---Yes.
15:17:56 32
15:18:02 33 I just want, I think I touched on this but just to take you
15:18:10 34 back. You'll remember I asked you about some questions a
15:18:22 35 moment ago where around October 2007 - perhaps I'll take
15:18:26 36 you to the page, it's 1259, ICR 103. This is back in
15:19:07 37 October, so you'll see that if one looks at point 6 of the
15:19:16 38 page there is a tasking that occurs in relation to
15:19:20 39 Mr Waters on 3 October 2007?---Yes.
15:19:26 40
15:19:29 41 And over at 1260, that information, if one looks at point 3
15:19:34 42 of the page is verbally disseminated to Mr Iddles, who is
15:19:39 43 with Operation Briars?---Yes.
15:19:43 44
15:19:46 45 So we can say confidently - this is October 2007, so two
15:19:55 46 years into the relationship we have most of the Mokbels
15:20:00 47 dealt with and a lot of what Ms Gobbo has been doing is

15:20:05 1 winding down but it is the case that she's still getting
15:20:13 2 occasional taskings, isn't it, at the two year mark?---Yes.
15:20:16 3
15:20:19 4 And then later on, which I'll come to later, she is tasked,
15:20:30 5 isn't she, in relation to Mr Dale?---Yes.
15:20:34 6
15:20:37 7 So you probably didn't mean it this way but I think very
15:20:41 8 early on in the cross-examination I think you suggested
15:20:44 9 that I think not that long into the informer relationship
15:20:51 10 Ms Gobbo wasn't, was really just being baby-sat and really
15:20:56 11 that tasking didn't continue, but I think it's correct to
15:21:01 12 say, isn't it, that tasking did in fact continue?---Yes, it
15:21:12 13 did and it's, I stick by what I said earlier, there were
15:21:19 14 several occasions where we tried to wind her down and we
15:21:22 15 were considering exit strategies and it included not
15:21:26 16 tasking her. But then she would come up with something
15:21:29 17 that we'd feel we would have to explore or investigators
15:21:32 18 would want to explore, so she would then be tasked again.
15:21:36 19 So the exit strategy was not effected at all.
15:21:42 20
15:21:43 21 I think just one last ICR on this. It's in the volume with
15:21:45 22 the other ICR number. I'm sorry, the other source identity
15:21:54 23 number. It's ICR 28, p.507. This is July 2008 and it's
15:22:47 24 one of the many calls from Ms Gobbo, but you'll see that it
15:22:55 25 has Ms Gobbo saying, if one looks at point 4 of the page,
15:23:00 26 "Received call from 2958. General conversation and rapport
15:23:04 27 building. Just reminding handler that Ms Gobbo was at
15:23:08 28 home. Lonely, wanted to just talk. Personal issues,
15:23:12 29 including psychological. Thursday was the anniversary of
15:23:16 30 the stroke and life and death experience. Next year
15:23:20 31 Ms Gobbo has promised that this relationship will be over
15:23:23 32 by this date without exception. More talk about no one
15:23:28 33 appreciating Ms Gobbo's worth and value. Argued against
15:23:31 34 this without success. Handler put blame on self for not
15:23:35 35 having proper handle on three years of information and
15:23:38 36 issues and handler puts it to Ms Gobbo that it makes
15:23:43 37 handler look bad. Ms Gobbo does not want to blame handler.
15:23:47 38 Crying. Angry. Handler was successful in getting Ms Gobbo
15:23:53 39 to laugh. Long conversation". Then further down the call
15:23:57 40 at 11.40 pm, "More general conversation, rapport building,
15:24:03 41 same issues re above. Spoke a little about Ms Gobbo's
15:24:07 42 employment and future. More emotional roller coaster.
15:24:11 43 Little things were important like the gift voucher given to
15:24:15 44 Ms Gobbo and the Christmas call from you". Mr Winneke
15:24:19 45 might have asked you this, was it the case that you called
15:24:23 46 her every Christmas during the currency of the informer
15:24:32 47 relationship?---I don't think so.

15:24:36 1
15:24:38 2 But you did at least once?---It seems according to this
15:24:44 3 particular contact report that I must have. I presume this
15:24:49 4 is to - - -
15:24:51 5
15:24:51 6 Was that a call on Christmas Day?---Actually, this can't be
15:24:55 7 right, can it? This is 23 July.
15:24:58 8
15:24:58 9 Yes. She is obviously referring, isn't she, to a past
15:25:05 10 Christmas call from you, presumably or possibly 25 December
15:25:10 11 2007?---I guess she must have been.
15:25:16 12
15:25:16 13 Can you recall calling her on Christmas Day?---No, I can't
15:25:22 14 but Mr Winneke took me to the public phone box phone call
15:25:30 15 which was in that period of late December. I don't know
15:25:35 16 whether that's one and the same.
15:25:38 17
15:25:42 18 That's later I think, that's early 2009 because that's at
15:25:46 19 the time of the preparation of the Dale statement, isn't
15:25:49 20 it, by Ms Gobbo?---Yes, that's right.
15:25:51 21
15:25:52 22 So that's later?---Yes.
15:25:54 23
15:25:54 24 So this must be referring to an earlier call you made
15:25:58 25 around Christmas time to Ms Gobbo, but I'm beginning to get
15:26:03 26 the impression you don't recall making it?---No.
15:26:06 27
15:26:09 28 Is it fair to say you got on pretty well with Ms Gobbo?---I
15:26:14 29 think we all got on pretty well with Ms Gobbo.
15:26:17 30
15:26:18 31 Are you able to say you liked her?---Yes.
15:26:21 32
15:26:23 33 I think you'd be confident in saying she liked you, didn't
15:26:28 34 she?---Well, you'd have to ask her that question, she'd
15:26:35 35 have a lot of reasons for not liking me now but we had a
15:26:39 36 lot of respect for her. And bearing in mind she was quite
15:26:43 37 different from our usual customer.
15:26:45 38
15:26:45 39 Yes. Commissioner, I'm now intending to go to a subject
15:26:52 40 matter where we would need to go into closed hearing.
15:26:55 41
15:26:56 42 COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right then. Pursuant to the
15:27:00 43 *Inquiries Act* I'm satisfied that access to the inquiry
15:27:05 44 during the evidence of this witness must be limited to
15:27:10 45 legal representatives and staff assisting the Royal
15:27:13 46 Commission, the following parties with leave to appear in
15:27:15 47 the private hearing and their legal representatives: State

15:27:19 1 of Victoria, Victoria Police, including media unit
15:27:22 2 representatives, Director of Public Prosecutions and Office
15:27:26 3 of Public Prosecutions, Commonwealth Director of Public
15:27:28 4 Prosecutions, Ms Nicola Gobbo, SDU handlers, Australian
15:27:32 5 Federal Police, the legal representatives of the following
15:27:35 6 parties with leave to appear: Stephen Asling, Pasquale
15:27:41 7 Barbaro, Person 14, Faruk Orman, John William Higgs. Media
15:27:45 8 representatives accredited by the Royal Commission are
15:27:48 9 allowed to be present in the hearing room. The hearing is
15:27:52 10 to be recorded but not streamed or broadcast. Subject to
15:27:55 11 any further order there is to be no publication of any
15:27:58 12 material, statements, information or evidence given, made
15:28:02 13 or referred to before the Commission which could identify
15:28:04 14 or tend to identify the persons referred to as Witness A,
15:28:07 15 Witness B, Witness X, Person 13, Person 14, any member of
15:28:11 16 the Source Development Unit or their whereabouts. A copy
15:28:15 17 of this order is to be posted on the door of the hearing
15:28:18 18 room.

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20 (IN CAMERA PROCEEDINGS FOLLOW)

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