COUNTY COURT : NASSAU COUNTY

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

-against-

Ind. #61029

JOHN KOGUT, .

Defendant.

262 Old Country Road Mineola, New York May 13, 1986

BEFORE:

HON. JOHN F. O'SHAUGHNESSY,

County Court Judge.

APPEARANCES:

HON. DENIS DILLON
Nassau County District Attorney
BY: FRED KLEIN, ESQ., of Counsel
Assistant District Attorney,

for the People.

F. JAMES WOODS, ESQ.,

for the Defendant.

JERRI KREVOFF, CSR, RPR Official Court Reporter

-JURY TRIAL-

VOL. II of IV

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A Before November 10th?

Q Yes.

A Yes.

Q You remembered that particular day, because it was Joe Dragato's birthday?

A I remember it was Joe's birthday.

Q You remember it was a Saturday; don't you?

A I really couldn't tell you it was a Saturday, until you know, it was mentioned that it was a Saturday. Then I said, okay, I guess it's a Saturday.

- Q When you gave a statement to the police, you were talking about the day of Joe Dragato's birthday; weren't you?
 - A Right.
- Q You told them that on that night, I was asked -- in this statement, it says, "I was asked by the detective if Lisa Price" --

MR. WOODS: (Interposing) Objection.

THE COURT: Sustained.

Q Well, were you asked by the detective, on that night, November 10, 1984, if Lisa Price and John Kogut was with you at the school yard, when we celebrated Mugsy's birthday. And you said, I can't --

MR. WOODS: Objection.

THE COURT: Yes; sustained.

1	Casatelli - Defendant - Recross 801					
2	MR. WOODS: A further objection, that it's					
3	not within the scope of redirect.					
4	THE COURT: No. I'll overrule that.					
5	MR. KLEIN: I would offer this into evidence,					
6	your Honor.					
7	MR. WOODS: Objection. There's no					
8	foundation.					
9	THE COURT: Sustained.					
10	MR. KLEIN: Show this to Mr. Casatelli.					
11	Ω Mr. Casatelli, do you see your signature on the					
12	bottom of those pages of that statement?					
13	A Yes, I do.					
14	Q You read that statement before you signed it;					
15	didn't you?					
16	A Yes.					
17	Q Before you signed it, you told the police that that					
18	was the truth?					
19	A Yes, I did.					
20	MR. WOODS: Objection.					
21	THE COURT: No. I'll permit that.					
22	MR. KLEIN: I would again offer that.					
23	MR. WOODS: Objection.					
24	THE COURT: Sustained.					
25	Q Well, didn't you tell the police, Mr. Casatelli,					

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Of the Lynbrook movie theater?

MR. WOODS: No further questions.

Step down.

No, I wasn't.

THE COURT:

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MR. WOODS: At this time, the defendant will take the stand.

JOHN KOGUT, the defendant, called as a

witness in his own behalf, having been first duly sworn by the Clerk of the Court, was examined and testified as follows:

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DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. WOODS:

- Q John, where do you reside?
 - A One six one Tremour Boulevard, Island Park.
- Q How long have you lived there?
- A Approximately a year and-a-half.
- Q Before that, where did you live?
 - A Oakland Avenue.
 - Q Where is that?
- A Lynbrook.
 - Q Where were you born, John?
 - A Far Rockaway, Queens.
 - Q Did you live in Far Rockaway for some time?
 - A Not that I can remember.

THE COURT: Can you hear him all right?

The jury can't hear you.

Some people in the back are having difficulty hearing you. Try to keep your voice up.

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Do you recall the name of the family in Lynbrook?

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No; separated.

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1		Kogut - Defendant - Direct 806
2	A	McTigue, I believe it was.
3	Q	McTigue?
4	A	Yes.
5	Q	How long did you live with the McTigue's?
6	A	For about maybe a year, a little less.
7	Q	At this time, you were thirteen or fourteen?
8	A	Approximately.
9	Q	And then did you leave the McTigues?
10	A	Yes, I did.
11	Q	Where did you go?
12	Α	To the other side of Lynbrook.
13	Q	To the other side of?
14	A	Lynbrook.
15	Q	Who did you live with there?
16	A	Rappolos, I think the name was.
17	Q	How long did you live there with the Rappolos (sic.)?
18	A	Maybe a year.
19	Q	Did you go from there someplace?
20	A	Yes.
21	Q	Do you recall where you went?
22	A	I believe to Brooklyn for a few months. And then
23	back to Ly	nbrook.
24	Q	When you came back to Lynbrook, who did you stay
25	with?	

A Bethpage. To St. Vincent de Paul; they set me up with an apartment to help me out, to get going on my feet.

I worked jobs and saved up money, and I went to Florida for a while. And when I ran out of money and so forth, I came back to Lynbrook, and moved in with the Skellingtons. That's where I met Lisa Price.

Q When did you move back in with the Skellingtons; or move in with the Skellingtons, excuse me.

A '83.

Q Do you know what month of '83? Was it early '83, mid '83, late '83?

A October, November, 1983; right around my birthday.

Q And from October of '83, until December of '84, were you employed?

A Yes. A lot of jobs; a lot of odd jobs.

Q What kind of jobs did you do; and who did you work for during that time?

A Moving furniture, pianos, landscaping, I worked at a factory here and there. That's about it, basically.

Q When you lived with the Skellingtons, when you first moved in, who lived in the Skellington house?

A The whole family; the Skellington family.

Q Who were the Skellington family?

A Margaret, her husband; their two daughters and their

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- Q Did you have a room of your own, or were you living up in the same house that everyone else lived in?
- A Me and Brian shared the basement. It's part of the house.
- Q Did there come a time that anybody else lived with you there?
 - A Yes. Lisa did.
 - Ω That's Lisa Price?
 - A Yes.
 - Q When did she begin living with you there?
 - A Right after we got engaged.
 - Q When was that? Do you recall?
 - A No, I don't.
 - Q Do you know what year it was?
- A '84, I believe. Yes, '84.
 - Q Do you know if it was the winter, fall, summer, spring?
 - A Summer, I believe.
 - Q And from the summer of '84 through the end of '84, were you employed?
 - A I was landscaping through the summer of '84.
 - Q You were landscaping in the summer. Did there come a time that landscaping job stopped?

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And I went into moving furniture. F_{λ}

Moving furniture. When did this moving furniture Q start?

- October, November -- no -- yes. October, November. Λ
- October, November of 1984? 0
- Yes. Α
- In October, November, of 1984, had you ever heard Q of
 - I never heard of her in my life. Α
 - Did there come a time that you heard of Q
- I believe it was posters -- when something was said.
- Did there come a time when you learned anything Q more about
 - In that month, in that period of time? Α
 - In November or December of 1984. Q
 - The papers. A
 - What you read in the papers? Q
- Yes. Originally, I think it was a poster, I A believe I seen, when she was missing.
- From December of 1984, until March 21, 1985, did you ever have occasion to discuss anyone? I'm talking about up to March 21, 1985.

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No. Λ

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O Did there come a time, in March of 1985, that you discussed with someone?

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Yes.

When was that?

Α When police asked me to come in for questioning.

0 Was that March 21, 1985?

A Yes, it was.

Do you recall what happened on March 21, 1985? Q

Α The detective came to the house. I just got off work.

Q Is the house in Island Park?

Α Yes.

Q About what time?

Four, five o'clock; maybe a little earlier. asked me to come in for questioning. And something to the fact that, do you know what we're asking you to come for questioning for. I got --

Q (Interposing) These detectives that you're talking about, do you know who they are?

The redhead. I don't know the other one. I know Α. the redhead.

You mean the redheaded detective who testified here. Q

The redheaded detective.

Q And what if anything did they say to you, and you say to them, at that point?

A They asked me to come in for questioning. I said yes. They asked me if I knew what I was coming for questioning for. I said, yes.

They asked me how, I think, I believe it was something like that. And I said, just through words, you know, from everybody else being pulled in. And it was left at that.

I got in the car. We might have talked about the sky or something. We went down to the police station --

Q (Interposing) I can't hear you.

A We went down to the police station. I met

Officer Volpe, who questioned me for, I don't know how long;

until about eight-thirty, quarter to nine. I was let go.

And I left with my girlfriend, my fiancee, Lisa Price, and

her girlfriend, who came to pick me up.

Q When you left, did Detective Volpe indicate that he wanted to question you any further?

A Yes. He said he would call me in advance, to let me know; so that I would, you know, if there was anything in the way, I could, you know, let him know; if I had any other plans.

Q And after March 21, 1985, did you hear from

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No. Not until the day they came to the house to ask me to come in for questioning again.

Q Who came to the house?

The redheaded officer, again. And I think the same two as before.

- Q The same two who has come on the twenty-first?
- Α Yes.

Detective Volpe again?

- Õ Do you know what date it was that they came?
- The twenty-fifth; which was a Monday. Ā
- Now, what if anything did you say to them, at that Q point?

THE COURT: Excuse me. This is when they arrived at the house?

The time they arrived at the house. The redheaded officer and the other officer.

I let them into the house. I only had my jeans on. I was otherwise undressed.

They asked me if I was -- if I would mind coming in for questioning again. I told them, I drunk a few beers. had smoked maybe half a joint. He made a phone call. I believe it was the redheaded officer. He said it was okay. Whoever he talked to at the other end, said it was okay. I says, okay.

Do you know what time you finished talking with

Apparently, I wrote a time down on a sheet of paper

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Detective Gruber?

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for him. So I think it was nine something, nine-thirty, maybe. Nine twenty-three, I think it said.

- You heard Detective Gruber testify; didn't you?
- Α Yes, I did.
- And do you have anything to add to what Detective Gruber said, in his testimony?
- I really can't remember what he said. If you show me, maybe.
 - Q You listened to his testimony; did you not?
 - Yes, I did. A
- And he recounted certain questions he asked you, Q and answers you gave him.
 - A Yes, sir.
- Were those questions and answers correct, to the best of your recollection?
 - I don't remember the questions or the answers.
- What if anything you and Detective Gruber talk about?
 - The murder of Α
 - Did he ask you questions about the murder of Q
 - Α Yes, he did.
- Do you recall what question he asked you; and what your answers were?

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A I know all my answers were no. Questions that were asked, do I know anything; or did I -- I'm not sure what the questions were. But I know they were all no; the answers were all no.

- Q At the conclusion of your interview with Detective Gruber, did he say anything to you?
 - A He said, I believe he said that I'm lying.
 - Q Up to that point, had he argued with you at all?
 - A No, he didn't.
- Q What happened when you left Detective Gruber? Did you remain in his office, or go to another office?
 - A I went into another room.
 - Q And did anyone go into that room with you?
 - A Yes. There was a detective in there.
 - Q Do you know his name?
 - A No, I don't.
- Ω Did you remain in that room with him, for any length of time?
- A Practically through the whole night. It was a switch off. Another officer came in. Then Volpe came in, a little while later.
- Ω Now, wait a minute. You went into a room; is that correct?
 - A Yes.

Rogut - Defendant - Direct 2 on paper. Truly, I couldn't give you estimated times of how long everybody was in there, or whatever. You don't know how long you were in there with him? A No, I don't. There came a time someone else came into the room? Q Yes. Who was that? \tilde{P}_{\bullet} Detective Volpe. Up to this point, had you and the detective you were in there with, had any conversation at all? I don't think it was of anything important. 7. You don't recall what you said to him; what he Q said to you? Α No. When Detective Volpe came in, do you recall what Q he said to you; and you said to him? If anything. Came in, shaked my -- shook my hand. Asked me if I wanted a cup of coffee. Said he wanted to speak to me for a little while. Did he ask you any questions at this point?

No, he didn't. Ã

> Did you say anything to him? Q

No. Nothing except hello. That's about it. Α

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Õ Did he do anything, or bring anything into the room with him?

I believe he brought a pen and paper with him. That was about it.

- Did there come a time that coffee came into the Q. room?
 - A Yes. That came in right behind him.
 - Right behind him?
 - \mathbf{A} Yes.
 - Did he bring it in, or someone else bring it in? Q
 - I believe it was somebody else. A
 - Do you know who it was that brought it in? Ō.
 - ANo, I don't.
- And this room you're in, would you describe it for us.
- It's about fourteen, fifteen feet in length, about maybe the same in height. There's -- when you first come in the door, there's a long desk -- not a desk, a table against the wall. Then you move back a little further into the room, and there is a desk. Then there's a window. There was, I believe, about four chairs in the room; three or four chairs.
- That window, does that look outside or into some Q other room in police headquarters?

1 Kogut - Defendant - Direct 2 A Outside. 3 Was there anything on the walls in that room? Ω There was, I believe, articles about hyp -- I don't know how to pronounce the word. Hypnotism, or 5 something like that. 6 One article on the wall, or? Q There was articles. I believe there might No. have been a picture in there, too. That's about all. Where were you in this room, when Detective Volpe came in? \mathbf{A} When or where? Where. Where were you in the room? $\ddot{0}$ Α I was to the back, in the corner, in a chair. Ω Were you sitting near a table? I was sitting -- no. I was sitting catty-corner, Α in the corner. And at this point, after the coffee came in, did you and Detective Volpe have a conversation, or you and the other detective have a conversation? I believe it was with Volpe. He sat down --

(Interposing) What if anything did he say to you,

and you say to him?

I believe it was something to the point of, you're a liar.

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- Q What had you said that he called you a liar?
- A I didn't say nothing. I guess he was talking to Detective Gruber.
 - Q What did you say to him, when he said that to you?
 - A I told him he was on drugs.
 - Q I'm sorry?
- A I told him he was on drugs. I said to let me out of there, leave me alone. Are you arresting me. You have no reason to arrest me. Let me go.
 - Q Did he say anything to you?
- A He told me keep my ass in the seat, and to listen to him.
 - Q Was the other detective still present?
- A At that point, I really don't think there was anybody in the room, except me and him.
- Q Do you know for how long a time you were in the room alone with him?
 - A About five or ten minutes.
- Q Did the other detective return, or did some other detective return?
- A I think it was another detective that came back in. It wasn't the same one that was in there with me originally.
 - Q Do you know who that detective was?

Ā No, I don't. I can't recall.

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Did you see him testify here in Court? 0

 \mathbf{A} Yes, I did.

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Is there any way you can describe him? Q

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He looks like a sergeant in the army. That's the Α best I can do.

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Did he say anything to you when he came into the room?

sitting catty-corner. Volpe stood up and came over in front

of me, and raised his arms. You know, he said he was looking

At that point, Volpe stood up. As I said, I was

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At that point -- yeah. Well, he introduced

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himself. He shook hands with me. He sat down.

at his watch. Naturally, my hands went up to defend

myself. The other officer -- I don't know his name --

slapped my arms.down. He told me to keep them down. And

I kept insisting on, if you are not arresting me, let me

go. You have no reason to arrest me. You asked me to come

in for questioning. I came in for your questioning. Now,

may I leave. Maybe not as nice as that, but it was said

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something like that.

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And the only thing I was told, is to keep my ass in the seat and to shut up.

Did Detective Volpe or the other detective then

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ask you a question; or say anything to you?

A. Mothing was asked of me. Everything was told to me.

What if anything did they then say to you? And who said it?

A It was told as, you -- we know that you did something. Or you had a part -- I don't know the exact words. But something like that. You're not leaving here, because we know you are lying. And you're not going anywhere until we get the truth.

- What did you say; if anything?
- I told them to let me the hell out of there, and they're crazy; whatever.
 - Did they say anything to you, in response to that? Q
 - 1 Keep your ass in the seat.
 - Were you standing up?
- I made quite a few attempts to get out of there. I mean, I'm not stupid. I have heard of -- out of other people they had pulled in there, what they have done to these people. And how long they have held them. I knew, and I tried to get out of it. There was no way I was getting out of it. They seemed set in their mind, they were not letting me leave, regardless.
 - Q For how long did this go on?

A All night.

Ω During the night, did you say anything to them?

A About what?

Q About -- did they ask you any questions about

A They didn't ask me nothing. As I said before, they told me.

Q Well, what did they tell you? John, look at me. You talked with one detective and Detective Volpe. That detective peft and another detective came in. Is that right?

- A Yes.
- Q You don't know what time that is?
- A No.
- Q You've described the initial meeting with the other detective who looked like the army sergeant.
 - A Yes.
- Q After you had the first incident with him did you then have any conversation -- did you say any words, other than, let me out of here; I'm leaving?
 - A Not -- no. That was basically it.
- Ω Did that go on for some period of time, that you were both saying that back and forth to each other? They're telling you you're not leaving, and you're saying you're

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\mathcal{I}_{λ}	For	a	couple	of	hours.

- Ω During that time, did you observe Detective Volpe writing anything?
 - A No, he wasn't.
 - Q Nothing at all?
 - A No.
- Q Then after a couple of hours, did the same conversation go on? Or did the conversation change?
 - A The conversation changed.
- Q And what did the conversation become, at that point? What did you say to Volpe, or Volpe say to you; or the other detective?

THE COURT: Mr. Woods, I would like to take a short recess.

You may step down.

Don't discuss the case among yourselves, during the recess. Please keep an open mind.

(Whereupon there was a recess.)

THE CLERK: People vs. John Kogut.

Are the People ready?

MR. KLEIN: The People are ready.

THE CLERK: Is the defendant ready?

MR. WOODS: The defendant is ready.

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THE CLERK: All parties are present.

You're still under oath.

BY MR. WOODS: (Continuing)

- John, the detective that locked like an army sergeant, was that Detective Dempsey, that testified here?
 - Yes, it was.
- After he had entered the room, you described some conversation. Did there come a time when either Detective Dempsey or Detective Volpe began to write anything?
 - Yes. I believe so.
 - Who was writing? Q
 - Volpe. \mathbf{A}
- Did you see what he was writing, while he was Q writing?
 - ANo, I dian't.
- Did he discuss with you what he was writing, while he was writing? Or was he talking to you while he was writing?
 - He was telling me what he was writing.
 - What was he telling you? Q
- Certain -- he was telling me how he believed it happened; how this girl died. I would disagree. I would tell him, I don't know what you are talking about. Between Volpe and the other officer that was in the room, if I told

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them, you know, you're crazy, you know, get the fuck out of here; leave me alone, let me go home, whatever, they would pressure, this is how it happened, this is how it happened; didn't it happen like this.

- Q Well, what did they say? Do you recall what they said?
- A The first statement, I don't even know how it came about. I don't remember.
- Q You say the first statement. What was this statement you're talking about? Something written, something that was said?
 - A It was written.
 - Q Where was it written?
 - A On the pad that Volpe had,
 - O Do you know approximately what time this is?
 - A Maybe about twelve, twelve-thirty.
 - Ω That's at night?
 - A Yes.
- Q Around midnight. When there was something written on a pad, was it given to you to read?
 - A No, it wasn't.
 - Ω Was it read to you?
 - A No; it wasn't read to me.
 - Q What if anything was done with it?

A When Volpe told me something, or the other detective told me something, I would suppose that was what was written down on the pad. Because they would say — they would tell me how they felt a certain thing happened. And I would deny it, because I didn't know, or whatever. And then they would pressure me, this is how it happened, this is how it happened; didn't it stand up, you know. Not physically challenge me. But mentally. And, you know, it went on for a while like this. Where it would come to the point, well, yeah, that's the way it happened.

- Q You said, that's the way it happened?
- A I would say yeah, if you say so.
- Q Then that first statement was finally finished?
- A Yes. It was a whole statement.
- Q When that first statement was finally finished, did you read it?
 - A No, I didn't.
- Q What if anything did you say to Detective Volpe, or he said to you, about that first statement, when it was finished?
- A Apparently, Volpe didn't agree with it. It was ripped up and thrown away.
 - Q Did you see who ripped it up?
 - A Volpe.

Q How did he rip it up?

A It was just ripped in half or in quarters, or whatever, and just thrown in the trash can.

Q And after he ripped it up and threw it in the trash can, what happened?

A He goes, all right. Let's start again. This time, let's have the truth.

I'd be like, you know, are you going to let me out of here, or whatever. You know, try to get out again.

I would ask to make a phone call. It's only common knowledge, and the answers I got were the same: keep your ass in the seat. No, you can't do that.

Q Who was giving you these answers?

A Between Volpe and the other one. I can't tell you for sure.

Q Then they started another discussion with you, after that?

A Yes.

Q Do you recall anything that Volpe said to you, or you said to Volpe, during this second discussion?

A I don't know how John Restivo's name got into this.

But it started off with Restivo, and then he accused me of

being in the van with him, going down the road, picking up

When I told them, I says, I never saw the girl

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before. I don't even know the girl; never heard of her.

Q Did there come a time you were shown a picture?

Yes, there was.

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Q I show you People's 1 in Evidence. Have you ever seen that picture before?

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A Detective Volpe showed it to me.

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Q Do you recall when he showed it to you?

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A No, I don't.

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Q What if anything did he say to you, and you say to him, when he showed it to you?

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A Did I know her; or did I ever see her before. I would suppose those were the questions that were asked. I can't even remember when this question was shown to me -- I mean this picture was shown to me.

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Q What did you say to him?

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A No. Because I never did see her before, and I don't know who she is.

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Q Did you do anything to that picture?

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A Apparently, I signed it.

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Q Do you recall signing it?

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A No, I don't.

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Q Is that your signature on it?

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A Yes, that is.

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Q Did you sign that before that first statement that

A No. This says the twenty-sixth on it. So it had

- Q Did you date it? Or did someone else date it?
- A That's my handwriting.

you talked about, was ripped up?

to be much later into the evening.

Now, as Detective Volpe asked you questions, or Detective Dempsey, or both of them, do you recall both of them asking you questions a second time, after they ripped up the first statement?

A As I said before, there was no questions asked.

They were giving, and I would look at them in amazement,

because I don't have answers, or I can't give them an

answer to something they're telling me. It would be

repeated and repeated. The pressure would start again, you

know; two of them maybe move in on the side. Or one would

sit on the desk, and one of them would move in. I tell them,

you know, you're crazy. Get the fuck out of here. Leave

me alone; whatever. Excuse my language. And it was kept

up until, all right, yeah, okay.

Q Did they finally come with a second statement to you?

A It was written. It wasn't given to me. Another second statement was written.

Q Was there a sheet written, or several sheets

Restivo entered? Did you say John Restivo's name? Did

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someone ask you John Restivo's name?

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I don't know where John Restivo's name came I may have said something, because we were speaking. I says, yes, you know, I heard that John Restivo was in here a couple of weeks ago, and he left in pretty bad condition, after fourteen hours of being here.

Did Detective Volpe say anything to you at that point; or Detective Dempsey?

It was mentioned -- which one, I don't know -that they did feel that John Restivo knew something, or did something.

At any point, did Dennis Halsted's name come up?

It came about the same way, with Dennis Halsted, where -- Volpe's words to that were, Dennis Halsted is a scumbag. And I do want him. And I am going to get that man. And it was left, that those were his exact words.

Do you recall when he said that to you?

A This is somewhere around the third or fourth statement, I believe.

Was that the first time Dennis Halsted's name was mentioned, or had it been mentioned before that?

That was about the first time. Because he had --Α he said, the first time you came in for questioning, you had mentioned Dennis Halsted's name. I did not mention Dennis

Halsted's name. There was a list shown to me. And on that list, he had said, he had asked me a question. I had put a check on, next to his name; or pointed to Dennis's name.

Q You mean on March 21st, when you came in, you were shown a list?

A Yes.

Q When you were shown a list, were you asked any questions?

A Yes, I was.

Q What question were you asked?

A If I feel that anybody on this list would have any part of this.

Q And at that point, did you point to Dennis Halsted's name? I didn't understand you.

A No. I just said -- I had turned around, and I said, look, you know, I said, there's a man -- this man, you know, when he gets drunk, he gets stupid. You know, I -- maybe a comment on each one, what I knew about who was on the list. And that was it.

O Do you recall anyone else on the list, aside from Dennis Halsted?

A John Restivo's name was on the list. Charlie
Restivo's name was on the list. Donna's two brothers were
on the list. Charlie Restivo's girlfriend, fiancee right now,

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A Nine, nine-thirty; maybe ten.

Do you know what time?

0 That's Donna who? Do you know her last name?

No, I don't. Her two brothers' names were on the list. There was two other brothers' names on the list. forget the last name. There was quite a few names, and there was a few that I didn't even know, names that I didn't know.

- And that was during the third time that the Q statement was written out and ripped up, you're saying?
 - Α Yes.

from what I understand.

- And then, did there finally come a statement that Q was written out, that wasn't ripped up?
 - The last and final statement.
- I show you People's 29 in Evidence. Is that what you're referring to as the last and final statement?
 - Λ Yes, it is.
 - Now, have you seen that statement before today?
 - Yes, I have.
- Now, when for the first time did you see that statement?
 - Α When I signed it on March 26th.
 - Q When is that?

Q

- Α The morning of March 26th.

		Kogut - Defendant - Direct	837
	Q	Did you observe did you see that statement	
	being wri	tten?	
	· A	Yes. It was being written I didn't see, you	l
	know, the	writing. But I watched; it was being written i	.n
	front of r	me.	
	Q	Do you know who wrote it?	
	A	Detective Volpe.	
	Q	Do you know where he wrote it?	
	A	At the desk.	
	Q	In that room you've described?	
	A	No. The little room, the second room that they	
had mentioned.			
	Q	There came a time when you went from that first	
	room that	you described, into a second room?	
	A	Yes.	
	Q	When was that when you went from the first room	
	into the s	second room?	
	A	It was getting pretty early in the morning, on	the
	twenty-six	th. Because if I remember correctly, the sky	
	was lighti	ng up, when I looked out the window. The sky wa	as
	getting li	ght.	
	Q	When you went into that second room, was there	a

window to the outside?

No, there wasn't.

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Q Was there a clock in that room?

A Not that I can recall; no.

Q Were you in that other room for some time, before that statement was started to be written; or were you in there and they started writing?

A No. This -- the final statement took about one hour to write, if I'm correct. Around an hour, hour and-a-half. That's all it took them to write this. I was in that room for a while, and it really wasn't -- they really didn't ask me about the case, when I first went into that room. It was just generally here's more coffee, you know. Bullshit talk. To sort of relax me, I guess. Then they started in again with this statement.

- Q How long did this go on, this talk that really wasn't about the case?
- A Maybe a half hour. Fifteen, twenty minutes, a half hour; something like that.
- Q Then they started writing that statement, or some other statement?

A No. This is the statement, the last statement was written in that room. There was only one statement written in that room; and this is it.

- Q After that statement was written, did you read it?
- A They say I read it. It was early in the morning.

At that point, I didn't really know what was going on.

- Q Once that statement was written, did there come a time it was given to you?
 - A Yes, it was.
 - Q Do you recall who gave it to you?
 - A Volpe. He wrote it, so I guess he gave it to me.
 - Q Volpe?
 - A Yes.
- Q When he gave it to you, did he say anything to you?
 - A I believe he asked me to read the first page.
 - Q Read it out loud, or read it?
 - A Read it.
 - Q What did you do, when he asked you to do that?
- A I presume I read it. I don't know if I read it.

 I would guess that I did read it.
- Q You don't remember reading it? Or do you remember reading it?
 - A No. It's a long time.
- Q After he said to read the first page, did he say anything else?
- A I read the first page. I gave it back to
 Officer Volpe, who then went through it and corrected the
 mistake. Then it was given back to me. He asked me to sign

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Do you recall who you went for a ride with? Q

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No, I don't. Α

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Q One, two, three or more --

A (Interposing) It was three officers. I cannot tell you their names right off the top of my head.

Q You saw two officers come in and testify that they went for a ride with you that morning?

- A Yes.
- Q Detective Sirianni and Detective Waltman.
- A Right.
- Q Have you ever seen them before?
- A Yes, I have.
 - Q Were they the ones who went for a ride with you?
 - A Yes, they were.
 - Q Where did you go for a ride?
- A Lynbrook.
- Q Where did you go in Lynbrook?

A To the cemetery. In the direction that they explained to you they went, they did go. They pulled into the cemetery. I did not tell them where to go. They brought me into the cemetery.

Before we even went for the ride, Detective Volpe did draw a map and said, is this where it happened. I told him, I don't know what you're talking about. The pressure went on, so forth. I finally gave a yes, okay. So the map was drawn.

So when they pulled into the cemetery, the map, he

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had a barn or whatever they call it over there. He says, is this where it happened. I brought them to the barn, which is at the end of the path. They stopped the car, they asked me — they stopped, we got out. We walked in about twenty feet, maybe a little more. They asked me, is this where it happened. I said yes.

We got back into the car, went straight down a path which led right to the road. We got out onto the road. They asked me — they also drew a map of where the body was found, which led down the street between Hot Skates and, it's like a road in between Sunrise and Merrick Road. I don't know the name of it. He's — he showed me how he believed how it happened. He says —

Q (Interposing) When you say he, who are you talking about?

A Detective Volpe. He said -- I don't remember the name of the road.

THE COURT: Was Detective Volpe one of the detectives with you?

THE WITNESS: No, he wasn't. I'm explaining a map that was drawn earlier for me. I don't remember the name of the road. He said, it's — that we supposeably went through this road.

There's a parking lot, where there's a factory.

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We supposeably pulled into the factory, took
Theresa's body out, and dumped it by crates.

They asked me, now, -- when we were driving -did I know any other way to that location. The
first way I showed them, winded up to be a dead-end.
The second way was down the street -- I don't know
the names of streets -- and into that parking,
gravel parking lot, or whatever. We got out of the
car --

 Ω (Interposing) You say we got out of the car. Who got out of the car?

A The three detectives and me. We got out of the car. Me and one of the detectives walked ahead, went through the path.

We walked on the path, walked up. The crates were sitting right there in the middle of the path. I said, I guess this is the spot. It was left at that.

Q Did the detective say anything to you, when you got there?

A They asked me where, you know, where, where did you lay the body. As I said, I walked down the path, and the crates were right in the middle of the path. So I says, I guess this is the spot, and I stopped where the crates were.

Q

A They were right on the path.

Were they right on the path, or to one side or the

Q Did you then continue, after you stopped there, or go back --

A (Interposing) Yes. He asked me, where did I throw the jewelry. We walked up a little further. I supposeably originally told them in the statement, that I threw it on the track.

I just — I don't know. I can't explain to you.

For some reason, I said, no. It's on the roof. By then, I

was sort of waking up with the fresh air, realizing what

was happening. I said, all right. They're fucking with me,

I'll fuck with them.

I told them, on the roof. So am -- we went back to the car. The detectives drove the car around to the factory. Two of the detectives got out. One stayed with me. They got a ladder, went up on the roof; got permission to go on the roof.

They came back and said nothing. You know, there was nothing up there. They drove me back to the police station.

Q Do you know what time you got back to the police station?

A No, I don't.

Q When you got back to the police station, were you still with those three detectives?

- A I was put into that small room again.
- Q That same room?
- A Yes.
- Q Off the Homicide Squad?
- A Yes.
- Q The second room that you were in with Detective Volpe?
 - A Yes.
 - Q Were you there alone, or with somebody?
- A I believe alone. Because they were right outside the door. You know, the doors and everything are right out there.
 - Q For how long a time did you stay in that room?
 - A I couldn't tell you that.
- Q Did somebody then come in to talk to you in that room?
- A Volpe came in, told me, you did a good job.

 Asked me -- well, didn't ask me. Told me I was making a video. That I had better not screw up on this, or else.

 It was left at that.

MR. KLEIN: I'm sorry. I didn't hear that.

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THE WITNESS: Or else. And it was left at that.

Q Did he remain in the room with you then, leave the room, or did you leave the room with him?

A No. He left the room to go find a tie, I think, or something like that.

- Q To go find a tire?
- A A tie.
- Q I'm sorry.

A I don't recall any officers coming in. But I remember, he came back. I was taken out of that room with him. And I don't recall who the other officer was.

I was taken over to the D.A.'s office. The buildings, whatever they're in. Walked out, walked across the street into the building. Went into a room, which is where Volpe left and went to talk to I don't know who.

- Q And were you in the room while Volpe left?
- A Yes.
- Q And during that time, did you have your statement with you; or did you have anything with you?
 - A No.
 - Q Did you have anybody with you?
 - A No.
 - Q And did you see Detective Volpe or Detective Dempsey,

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A No.

How long a time were you in that room, alone? Q

Α About ten or fifteen minutes, maybe.

Then did someone come into the room? Q

Α Yes.

while you were in that room?

Do you recall who it was? Q

I believe it was Volpe.

Did he say something to you; you say something to him?

He just brought me over to the other room, A where the camera and everything was set up. I think they were just finishing setting it up, when I walked into the I was showed a seat. I sat down. Officer Volpe sat room. across the room. The D.A. sat in the chair there.

Q Was the D.A. in the room when you got there; or did he come in later?

A I believe he came in after me.

Were you in there for any length of time before he came in?

Α Maybe a minute or two.

Q After the D.A. sat down, did you begin to talk to him?

Well, after everything was set up, the lights were

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You saw the video tape here in the courtroom yesterday?

Α Yes.

shut; the film was turned on.

Did that depict the conversation you had with the Q district attorney?

It does. I don't quite remember having that conversation. But yes, that is the conversation that was had, said.

Did you talk to anyone else while that conversation was going on?

Detective Volpe was in the room. And in the video, you see me; because at that time, that's up thirty hours and being interrogated for eighteen to twenty. My mind was pretty out of it, at that point. I did ask Volpe, Detective Volpe, a few times, for names, and so forth. Because I couldn't remember.

- While the video was being taken, you mean?
- A Yes.
- Now, after you finished the video, did you have any conversation with Detective Volpe, in that room?
 - No; not that I know. A
- Did you leave that room, or did you remain in that room, for any length of time?

2 I believe right after that, we left; everybody Α 3 Well, me and the two detectives. Q Was one of them Volpe? 5 We left and went back to the precinct. Α 6 Q Was one of them Detective Volpe? 7 A Yes. 8 Q Was the other one Dempsey? 9 Yes -- well, I would suppose. A You went back to the precinct. 10 Q Α Yes. 11 What did you do when you got back to the precinct? Q 12 I believe I was allowed to call Lisa, at that time. Α 13 Was that the first time you talked to Lisa? 14 Q Α Yes. 15 Did you ask to call her; or did somebody just tell Q 16 you, go call Lisa? 17 I have been asking all morning. They just kept 18 pushing it off. Then they finally said, okay. 19 Well, on this time, were you still asking, or did 20 somebody just tell you? 21 They gave, they says, I think they had to 22 bring a phone in, because the other one was broken, or I

> (Interposing) Where were you at this time?

had to go outside --

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- A In the little room.
- Q The little room?
- A Yeah.
- Q Did they then take you to Court?
- A Yes. Well, not -- first to central booking, or whatever, where the pictures and fingerprints, and everything is taken.
- Now, aside from the incidents that you say, where somebody pushed your arms down, told you to sit in the chair, did anybody ever touch any other part of your body, during that night?
- A No; not really. Maybe a smack on the knee, or something like that, you know. But that was really about it.
- Q During the time that you were with the police officers, aside from talking to you and giving you coffee, if you asked for it, did you have anything else to eat or drink?
- A No. Coffee and cigarettes, the whole night; constantly in front of me.
- Q Did you have cigarettes with you when you started the night?
 - A Yes, I did.
 - Q Did there come a time that your cigarettes ran out?

A Yes.

Q Did they get you more cigarettes?

A Yes.

Q As soon as you asked for them?

A Yes. Within five minutes, anyway.

Q Do you recall on how many occasions you asked to call Lisa?

A I can't tell you. But I'll tell you, all night,
I was asking to use the phone, or to leave. Because I was
not under arrest until ten-thirty the next morning; after
they had this. (Indicating)

- Q Well, what did you ask them?
- A First of all, I asked to leave.
- Q Who did you ask?

A Volpe. I didn't ask. I told him, that I'm leaving. Every time I attempted to leave, I was told to sit my ass down. You're not going nowhere.

I asked him, all right. Let me make a phone call.

He says, you're not making no phone calls. I was told of
one phone call. I don't know the time they told me. I
can't even recall the time they did tell me that Lisa did
call. They did tell me that they were bringing me home,
within a half hour to the hour. That's — they told Lisa
they were going to drop me off at my doorstep in the next

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hour or so; half hour or hour.

John, do you have any recollection of November 10, 1984?

Α Yes, I do.

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Do you recall the day of November 10, 1984? Q

Α Yes.

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Q What do you recall?

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I did a moving job that day, with Charlie Restivo.

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The reason I remember doing that moving job -- it was a piano.

The reason I remember doing that piano, was because it was

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the first job I ever did with a piano at the house already.

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It just had to be moved upstairs. The job was done with

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Charlie Restivo in the afternoon, or early afternoon. We

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didn't get the piano upstairs. We wind up leaving it out

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on the porch. We couldn't get it up the hallway, it was too

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small.

about?

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I think I made forty dollars that day, for about

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two hours. I went home. I might have took a shower, ate,

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dressed, went out, went down to Captain Video. We were supposed to go to the movie, but the plans were changed --

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(Interposing) When you say we, who are you talking

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Α Me and Lisa.

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Where was Lisa, when you first saw her that day? Q

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1	Kogut - Defendant - Direct 854		
2	A What do you mean, when I first saw her?		
3	Q When is the first time you first saw Lisa that		
4	day?		
5	A I woke up with her in the morning.		
6	Q Did you see her again, after you finished your		
7	moving job?		
8	A Yes.		
9	Q Where was she when you saw her?		
10	A She was home, waiting for me, in Lynbrook, Oakland		
11	Avenue.		
12	Q Then go on. What did you and Lisa do, after you		
13	arrived home?		
14	A Probably took a shower, ate. Maybe went downstairs		
15	got dressed. Went out, Probably went down to Captain Video		
16	Waited until everyone came around, to see what was going on		
17	for the evening. Found out there was a party. We bought the		
18	beers because I was the oldest, so I could buy them.		
19	Q Where did you buy these beers?		
20	A Lynbrook Beverage, on Broadway.		
21	Q Was anybody else with you, when you went for the		
22	beer?		

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wer, ate. Maybe went downstairs, ably went down to Captain Video. ound, to see what was going on here was a party. We bought the t, so I could buy them. hese beers? on Broadway. th you, when you went for the Lisa was. Probably Pat or George were with me, Α to help me carry it. Most likely. I can't tell you exactly. But one of them were probably with me, to help me carry the

beers.

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We went to the field, where people -- I couldn't give you names of people. We did -- we drank the beers. It was Mugsy's birthday, or whatever; Joe. We may even have sang happy birthday to him. I'm sure we did. I remember giving him beer to guzzle, because it was his birthday. He put a hole in the top, and you shake it, and make him drink it. We did go to the movies that night.

Q You say we. Who do you mean?

A Me, Lisa, Mugsy, a few other people. I don't know who they were. I believe Jimmy was there. I'm not too sure. There was an incident. But the incident was afterwards. It was over a cigarette pack. Movie ended about two, two-thirty. We walked home; went to bed. That's the end of the evening.

Now, at any time when you were with the police officers on either March 21st or March 25th, did Detective Volpe or Detective Dempsey, or any other detective, ask you where you were November 10th?

A Yes, they did. And I couldn't give them an answer right then. Because it's just another day out of the week. How I find out where I was November 10th, was through people that got in touch with Lisa, to let her know it was Mugsy's birthday that night, and we were there. The only

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24 25 reason they remember us being there, because it was Mugsy's birthday.

- Q Did you go to the field often?
- A Well, since me and Lisa been going out, we really haven't hung out, outside with people that much. We usually stay at home. But when we did go out, that's where we wind up; either Captain Video or in the field.
 - Q Captain Video, is that an arcade of some sort?
 - A Yes. ..
- Q Now, are you familiar with Lynbrook, enough to know where Atlantic Avenue school field is, from Hot Skates?
- A I've been living there a lot of years. I know that town inside out.
 - Q How far is it?
 - A Atlantic High School to Hot Skates?
 - Q Ball field; yeah.
 - A About a mile, if you cut diagonally across town.
- Q Were you near Hot Skates at all, on the night of November 10th?
 - A No.
 - Q Were you in Hot Skates at all, during 1984?
- A I don't even hang out nowhere near that end of town. I have no reason to go down there.
 - Q Well, Captain Video, that's on Merrick Road; isn't

it?

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A Yeah. But that's about a mile and-a-half, two miles from Hot Skates.

Q What direction from Hot Skates?

A If you're coming from Hot Skates, Captain Video is going towards the city.

Q Now, did you see

on November 10,

A I never saw the girl in my life.

Q Did you see her at any time prior to seeing that picture, on the twenty-sixth of March, 1985?

A I believe on a poster, maybe. I think in the pizza, Mario's; or a phone pole, something.

Q Did you ever see her in person?

No; never even heard of her name before.

Q Dennis Halsted, did you see him on November 10, 1984?

A No, I didn't.

Q Did you see Dennis Halsted at any time in November of 1984?

A No. Because we were fighting. We had a disagreement, and he came after me with a carload of guys. I was carrying a bat around for a couple of weeks, because I watched him get beat up by some small guy, and I laughed at him. I

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haven't spoke to that man over a year, because of that disagreement.

- Q Did you ever speak to him after December of 1984?
- A He stopped by -- we were watching Lisa's mom's house, while she was in Rome, or whatever. He stopped by with John Restivo one evening. That was it.
 - Q Is that the only time you saw him?
 - A I may have seen him. But I never spoke to him.
- Q Now, John Restivo, did you see him at all, in November of 1984?
 - A I was working for him.
 - Q Well, how frequently did you see him?
 - A Everyday, every other day.
- Q Did you see them on November 10, 1984; either one of them?
 - A No. I did the job with Charlie Restivo.
 - Q Did John come to the job?
 - A No, he didn't.
 - Q Do you know where that job was?
- A Lynbrook. Right around the corner from where I was living.
 - Q How did you get to the job?
 - A In Charles's brother's red Cadillac.