

T of E Ref: 67

## EVIDENCE TO TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY

DAVE TAFFS  
(1st Y Social Studies)

I FIRST FOUND OUT ABOUT THE VISIT OF DR. INCH FROM THE UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER, A LECTURER FROM PORTON DOWN TALKING ABOUT TOXIC CHEMICALS. I IMMEDIATELY WONDERED WHAT I COULD DO ABOUT IT? I QUICKLY FOUND OUT THAT SOME SORT OF DEMONSTRATION WAS PLANNED AND THERE WERE SEVERAL INFORMAL MEETINGS ABOUT IT. I DIDN'T ATTEND ANY OF THESE MEETINGS BUT I FOUND OUT ROUGHLY HOW THINGS WERE GOING AND I KNEW SOME SORT OF INDICTMENT WAS TO BE READ FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS. THAT AFTERNOON I WAS IN THE LIBRARY AND I HAD MADE A POINT TO LEAVE AT 4.20 pm. TO GO TO THE L.T.B. . ABOUT THAT TIME I SAW QUITE A FEW PEOPLE WANDERING UP TO WIVENHOE HOUSE. I CAME DOWN TO THE SQUARE AND WAS TOLD THAT THE MEETING HAD BEEN MOVED TO WIVENHOE HOUSE. ( I THOUGHT AT THE TIME THAT THIS WAS RATHER STUPID AS IT WAS BOUND TO MAKE PEOPLE ANGRY, AND A LOT OF PEOPLE GOING UP TO THE HOUSE IS ALWAYS NOTICABLE AND LIKELY TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE).



ABOUT ENTERING THE MEETING I CAN  
GENERALLY ENDORSE WHAT HAS BEEN  
~~SAID~~ SAID ABOUT ENTERING BY THE SIDE  
DOOR AND THE DIFFICULTY THEREOF. ONCE  
INSIDE ~~THE ROOM~~ (RATHER THAN THE ROOM BEING FULL)  
I WAS ABLE TO MOVE UP THE SIDE OF  
THE ROOM (TO JUST A LITTLE IN FRONT OF WHERE  
DAVE TRIESMAN WAS). THE ROOM FILLED UP FURTHER  
AND SOMEONE (I PRESUME DR. TILLET) INTRODUCED  
DR. INCH, THEN FIRST DAVE, THEN ANNA, THEN  
COLIN, READ OUT THE INDICTMENT WHILE DR.  
INCH STOOD AROUND SILENTLY. THEN DR. TILLET  
ANNOUNCED DR. INCH WAS LEAVING. I COULDN'T  
SEE WHAT THEN HAPPENED, I HEARD SHOUTS OF  
'SET DOWN', 'LINK ARMS', 'NO', 'STOP HIM' ETC., BUT COULDN'T  
SEE ANY ~~DEFINITE~~ ~~RESPONSES~~, APART FROM GENERAL  
DEFINITE RESPONSES



OBSTRUCTION, PUSHING, JOSTLING, BUT I COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING  
VERY CLEARLY. I LEFT THROUGH THE DOUBLE  
DOORS AT THE REAR AND FOLLOWED THE CROWD  
FOLLOWING DR. INCH.

I FOUND DR. INCH BY THE GARDEN DOOR  
SURROUNDED BY STUDENTS, (MOST ABOUT 3 FEET  
BACK FROM HIM) THE INDICTMENT WAS CONTINUED  
BY SOME MORE PEOPLE THEN THE QUESTIONING  
STARTED. I WAS NOW WEDGED AT THE END OF  
THE SMALL PASSAGEWAY, OFF TO ONE SIDE, JUST  
BEHIND SARAH HARRISON. SOME PEOPLE HAD SAT  
DOWN SO PEOPLE BEHIND COULD SEE  
AND HEAR BETTER. IT WAS A BIT CRAMPED BACK  
WHERE I WAS ~~NOT~~ BUT QUITE AN ORDERLY ATMOSPHERE,  
AND WHEN ~~SOMEONE~~ PROFESSOR GORDON SUGGESTED  
MOVING BACK I WAS QUITE HAPPY TO, AND  
I THINK PEOPLE GENERALLY WERE WAITING FOR  
SOMEONE TO START THE MOVE. THEN THE  
POLICE ARRIVED AND RATHER FORCEFULLY  
SURROUNDED INCH. THEY LOOKED RATHER  
BEWILDERED, AS IF THEY WEREN'T SURE  
WHAT TO DO NEXT, THERE WERE AT LEAST  
SIX, POSSIBLY EIGHT. THEY THEN STARTED PUSHING  
THEIR WAY OUT, TRYING TO PUSH US BACK  
THROUGH WHAT WAS A LOCKED DOOR. WE TRIED  
TO CONVINCE THEM IT WAS LOCKED BUT IT TOOK  
SEVERAL, VERY SQUASHED, MINUTES. THEY FINALLY  
LEFT, PRECEDED BY A SMALL BUNDLE OF FURY,  
I COULDN'T SEE WHO.

WHEN I GOT OUTSIDE I SAW THE POLICE  
CAR LEAVING CONTAINING INCH AND I WAS  
AMAZED TO SEE FIVE OTHER POLICE CARS  
AND A VAN CONTAINING DOGS (I LATER SAW  
A PHOTO SHOWING THAT THE DOGS HAD BEEN  
OUT OF THE VAN AT SOME TIME). I WAS THEN  
FURTHER AMAZED TO SEE TWO PUZZ SUDDENLY  
PICK ON CHRIS RATLIFF (HE HAPPENED TO HAVE  
A DISTINCTIVE JACKET ON) WE RESCUED HIM  
AS WE DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF ONE  
ARBITRARY ARREST, CHRIS RATLIFF RAN OFF  
FOLLOWED BY THE PUZZ AND A LARGE GROUP  
OF US, I THINK INCLUDING JULIAN HARPER, BUT  
HE CERTAINLY ~~WASNT~~ WASN'T AT THE HEAD.  
AS FURTHER EVIDENCE TO MR. LILLEY'S  
POWERS OF RECOGNITION I CAN DEFINITELY



(A FRIEND OF MINE)

STATE ANDREW PRING A WAS NOWHERE NEAR THE UNIVERSITY ON THAT DAY

I WOULD FURTHER LIKE TO ADD

1. AT LEAST 150, I THOUGHT OVER 200 PEOPLE, WERE AT THE MEETING, AT THE QUESTIONING OR OUTSIDE AFTERWARDS.

2. AT NO TIME THAT I COULD SEE HIM DID OR WOULD LOOK AT ALL WORRIED OR UPSET. AND NO ONE MANHANDLED HIM, WHILST HE WAS BEING QUESTIONED.

3. I DON'T THINK ANYBODY CAN BE DESCRIBED AS 'MOST CULPABLE' (IN THE V.C.'S WORDS) CERTAINLY NOT DAVE TRIEMAN, BECAUSE HE HAPPENED TO BE THE FIRST TO READ, PETE ARTHUR, BECAUSE HE THREW SOME MUSTARD POWDER, OR RAPHAEL HALBERSTADT, FOR AS FAR AS I CAN SEE FOR NO REASON, IN ANY WAY MORE THAN THE OTHER 150, OR SO.

4. ABOUT JEM THOMAS'S GLASSES, I DON'T SEE THE INCIDENT, BUT I DO HAVE A PAIR OF A SIMILAR KIND, AND I KNOW THAT THEY CAN QUITE EASILY GET BENT, AND CAN BE FAIRLY EASILY, AT LEAST PARTIALLY, STRAIGHTENED.

5. FOLLOWING THE ATTEMPTED ARREST OF CHRIS RATCLIFFE THERE WAS A FURTHER SCUFFLE ROUND THE BACK OF WIVENHOE HOUSE, SOMEWHERE, AND, DEPRIVED OF THEIR ORIGINAL VICTIM, <sup>THEY WERE</sup> A TRIED TO MAKE TWO FURTHER ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND WERE FINALLY FOILED OF A SACRIFICIAL OFFERING BY US WALKING BACK, <sup>AND THE FRONT,</sup> IN GROUPS OF SIX OR SO WITH ARMS LINKED.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS TO PUT TO ME BECAUSE OF THIS STATEMENT, I AM WILLING TO ATTEND THE TRIBUNAL AND ANSWER THEM.

Dave Taff