

OPUS2

Manchester Arena Inquiry

Day 34

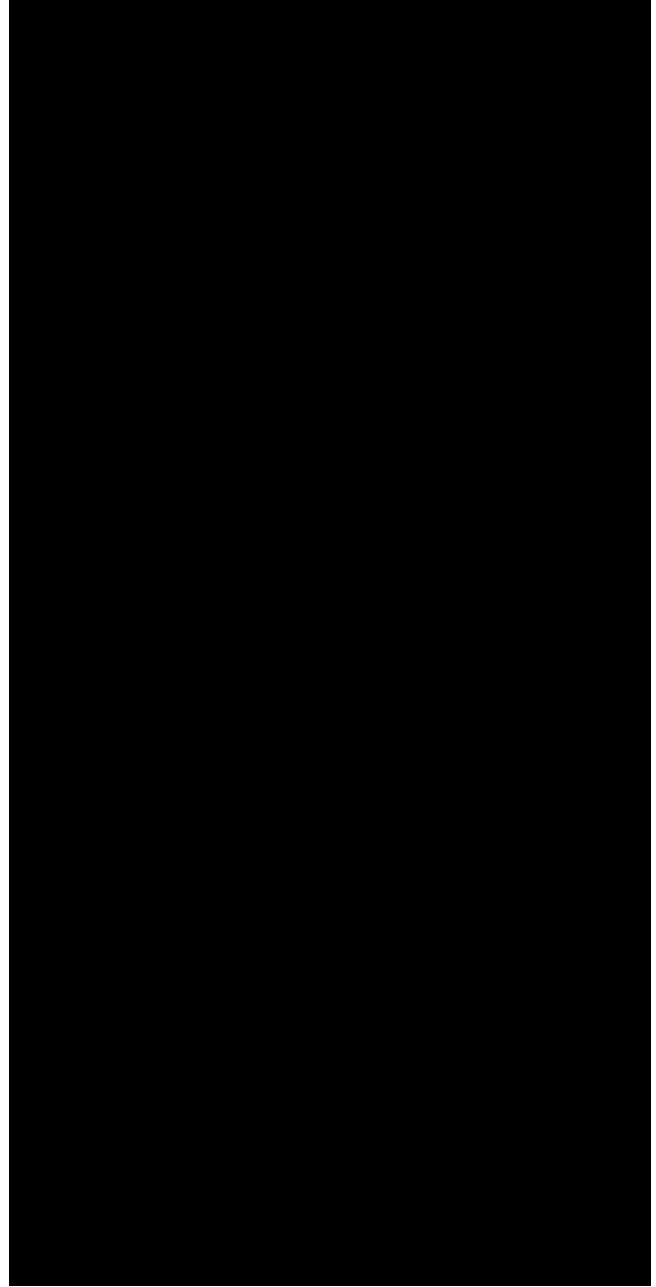
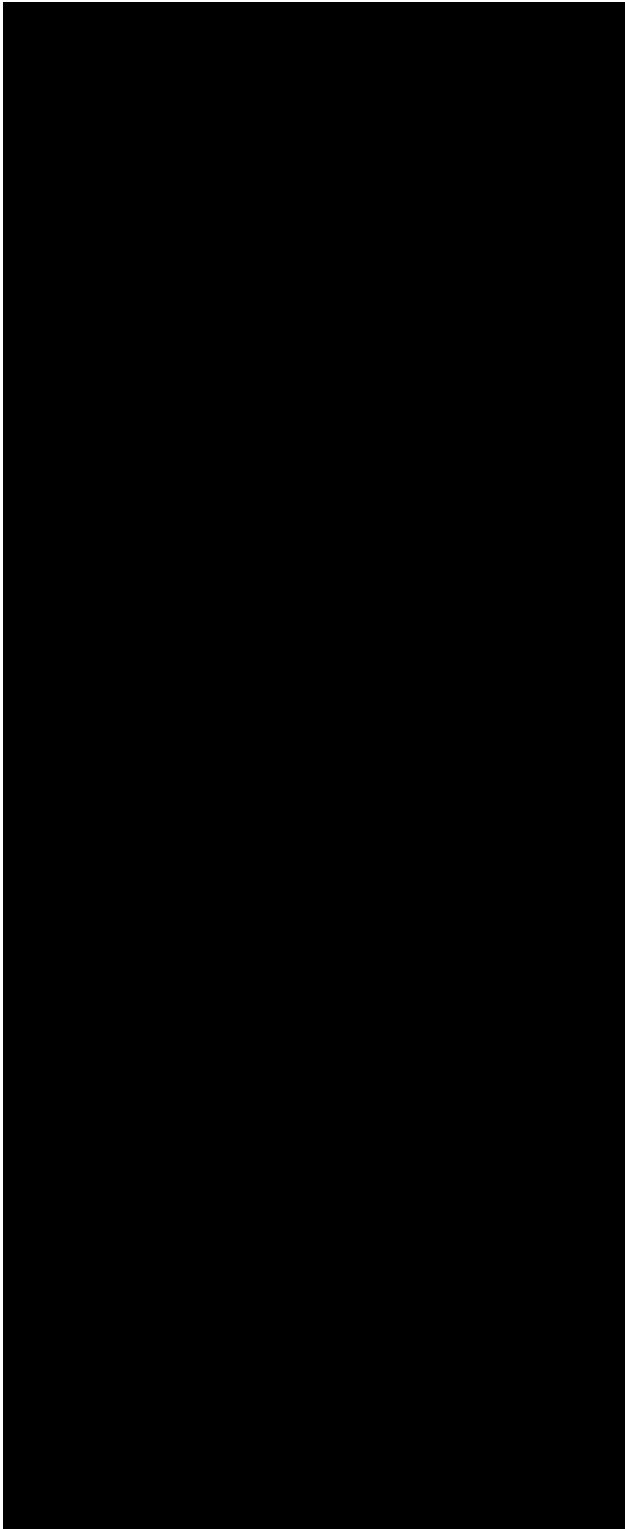
November 11, 2020

Opus 2 - Official Court Reporters

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18 MR JAMIESON: Indeed, sir, and I've noted the difference the
19 witness has said about the two areas.
20 What I want to understand, please, is this: the
21 attack happened on 22 May 2017.
22 A. Correct.
23 Q. The arena re-opened to the public on 9 September 2017.
24 A. That's correct.
25 Q. When it re-opened, the CCTV coverage was exactly as it

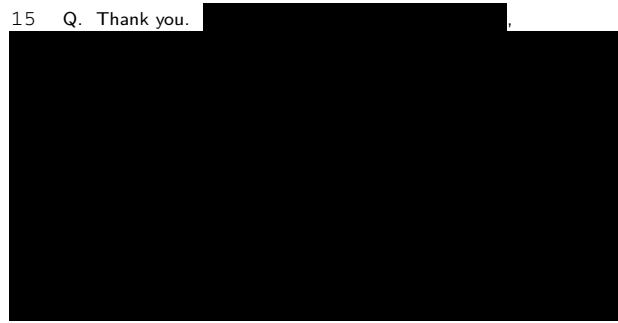
1 had been on 22 May 2017?
 2 A. Yes, that's correct, but to explain the blind spot
 3 situation in that case, the actual arena was covered in
 4 scaffolding where the (inaudible: distorted) staircase
 5 is, so all them areas were all sealed off.
 6 Q. Thank you. Just to -- I'm not going to say anything
 7 more about that in this session.
 8 Just to look at this page and looking at the three
 9 cameras that you've just been dealing with, just so
 10 I can understand the chronology, the new system that
 11 came in in August 2018, I think --
 12 A. 2018. It actually -- we went live with it in
 13 October 2018.
 14 Q. But at that time, the only one of these three cameras
 15 that was present is 626?
 16 A. That's correct. There was some other cameras that were
 17 on the far side of that and actually on this plan.
 18 Q. The high up the wall one, which is the one that you were
 19 dealing with with Mr Henderson a moment ago, that gives
 20 the best view of P5 -- can you see that spot just round
 21 the corner?
 22 A. That's correct, yes.
 23 Q. That one came in, if I've recorded your evidence
 24 accurately, in August of 2019.
 25 A. Yes.

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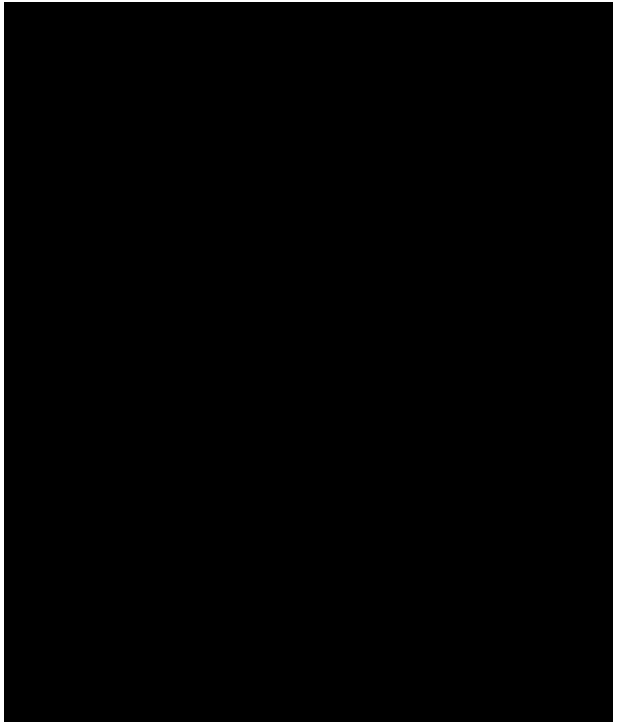
1 Q. So after the arena had been open to patrons for nearly
 2 2 years?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. And 626A, which is the big star at the top of this page,
 5 which is the one that offers the view down P2, P3, down
 6 the back of that raised area of the mezzanine --
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. -- that came in a few months ago, in August of 2020?
 9 A. I believe so.
 10 Q. Just to understand what that means, if we could go,
 11 please, Ms Newman, to {INQ100006/3} of the document.
 12 It's a table and I'm going to just explore with you what
 13 I've just been saying.
 14 626, if you look at the bottom three rows, it tells
 15 you which cameras have blind spots in the particular
 16 places?
 17 A. That's correct.
 18 Q. So from September 2017, the blind spots will be as they
 19 were in May 2017?
 20 A. Correct.
 21 Q. In August or October 2018, so after a year, the blind
 22 spots are those which are encountered by camera 626,
 23 which is the one in the middle run, so that's points 2,
 24 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 were all blind spots at that time?
 25 A. That's correct.

18

1 Q. Then moving forward to August 2019, we have...
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: 2 and 3?
 3 MR JAMIESON: Yes, thank you. I just wanted to check. 2
 4 and 3 remain blind spots?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. And those are only addressed in August 2020 when 626A is
 7 installed?
 8 A. I believe so, sir.
 9 Q. I know that the arena has been shut since spring of this
 10 year, February or March of this year 2020?
 11 A. From 23 March.
 12 Q. But otherwise, between September 2017 and March 2020,
 13 there was a full programme of events?
 14 A. Yes.
 15 Q. Thank you.



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