

Start time 3:00pm

**Present: Bulgarian Interpreter Mr L Y  
Rukshana Rafique (RR) Investigating Officer**

At the outset [D2953] and the Interpreter had a conversation both confirmed they understood each other.

The formalities were explained to [D2953] which he confirmed he understood. [D2953] stated he was feeling ok to proceed. With regards to the complaint [D2953] stated the following:

The first incident happened on 10 June 2017, the second on 11 June, and the third on 16 June 2017. He stated he was robbed in London. He was advised the Investigating Officer could only deal with his complaint about the incidents at Brook House Immigration Removal Centre (IRC).

[D2953] stated he wanted compensation. With regards to his complaint he explained:

- The first time 10<sup>th</sup> June he was punched on the left thigh.
- The second time was on 11 June, in the same part of the Centre when he was punched on the abdomen and near to the chest area.
- The third time was 16 June when he was punched on the left side of the head and face near his left ear.

With regards to the Incident of 10 June 2017 [D2953] stated:

He was transferred during the night to Brook House Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) by British Transport Police. Between 3 and 3:30 hours they left the Police Station and arrived at Brook House IRC after 5:00pm. He was feeling a bit stressed, the Centre had an appearance of a Prison with big steel gates and guards. He has not been in any such establishment/prison before.

As he was locked up in a room he started kicking a plastic bucket. The female guard locked him up in his room and told a man to get out so he could go in. He wanted to go for a walk because he was feeling stressed however, the female guard said it was not possible. As he had been kicking the plastic bucket, he was transferred to the 'awful wing.'

Officer Derek searched him before putting him in the room on that awful wing. He told him he had been transferred to the wing because it was quieter which he did not believe. The spelling of 'Derrick' as contained in his Solicitors letter is incorrect, the correct spelling is: 'Derek.' He was even more stressed on that wing because there was nothing there; no TV, his phone was removed, there were no sockets to change anything, he did not think there was even a toilet. There was no bedding, only a blanket and pillow.

***The interview then moved into a question mode in order to determine exactly what happened.***

RR: Why were you kicking this black plastic bucket?

[D2953] I was feeling stressed, to release some tension; it was not done to hurt anybody. It was a Prison and was the first time he had been to such an establishment.

RR: Did anybody tell you to stop kicking the bucket?

D2953: The female guard told me to stop; that doesn't matter it was a stupid bucket.

RR: You were taken to the 'horrible wing' who is Derek?

D2953: Derek is a Security guard, about 60 years old, quite tall, taller than me.

RR: How tall are you?

D2953: 1 metre 87, he must have been 1 metre 95 or 2 metres tall.

RR: How do you know Derek's name?

D2953: I have seen a photograph of him on the board of the wing along with the Security staff.

RR: Was anybody else present when Derek punched you on your left thigh?

D2953: There was a young lad at the door, only Derek entered the room and hit me hard on the left thigh.

RR: Why did he hit you?

D2953: Because I was banging the door and shouting; that doesn't give him the right. I was even more stressed having been transferred to that wing in those facilities; there was no TV. I always preferred having my own room because since the age of 25 I have a big problem with insomnia.

RR: Before punching you, did Derek give you any instructions including to stop banging the door?

*The Interpreter stated D2953 had repeated there were no facilities on the wing, no TV nothing in the room.*

RR: I was not there and you were. Did Derek open the door; come in and punch you on your thigh?

D2953: I don't remember what he said if he did. The important thing is he hit me.

RR: How many times did he hit you?

D2953: Once.

RR: Did he hit you on your left thigh once?

*Interpreter stated D2953 had moved on and was talking about the second incident.*

RR: Sticking with the incident of the 10<sup>th</sup> can you remember with which hand the Officer punched you?

D2953: Not really; I think it was his right hand; he would have struggled to use his left hand to hit me on my left thigh.

RR: Did you do anything in response?



D2953: No I didn't do anything. I know there was a Security guard outside; 'had I reacted I could have been....'

RR: The incident happened on E Wing but can you remember the room number that it happened in?

D2953: Room Number 3.

RR: According to your Solicitors, the punch caused a bruise is that correct?

D2953: Yes, I got a bruise.

RR: Did you need any medical treatment immediately after you were punched?

D2953: I did not receive any medical help. There was nobody else there; there were hardly any guards or staff on that wing.

RR: The young Officer did he witness Derek punching you?

D2953: He must have seen it because the door was open.

RR: Can you give me a description of him?

D2953: White, about 20 – 25 years of age.

RR: What colour hair?

D2953: Can't quite remember; think light brown.

RR: Did the Officer have any other distinguishing features glasses/tattoos.

D2953: Not sure it was five months ago.

RR: How is your left thigh now?

D2953: The bruise is gone now; the way I was treated was just barbaric.

RR: Did you go to healthcare and ask them to take a picture of the bruise or anything?

D2953: How can I ask for anything, after hitting me he locked the door and left with the young lad. There was nobody else in sight to ask and seek help.

RR: The next day, did you tell any other official in Brook House about the matter?

D2953: I didn't see anybody after that; the next day he came again and hit me.

*At this point the Interpreter repeated the previous question.*

D2953: How could I tell anybody else; I was locked up in my room and could not even go near the window. There was nobody to talk to.

RR: When you got out of E Wing you had access to the Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) did you not speak to one of those officials?

D2953: I was locked up in the room.

RR: The letter from your Representative says you were resisting on transfer what can you tell me about that?

D2953: I did not resist; when they told me I had to transfer to E Wing I left and did not resist. I could see there were so many guards there. I have had two operations on my chest as well as a hernia operation. There is no way I would get physical and resist.

RR: What time of day was it when Derek punched you?

D2953: I can't quite remember it was before lunch.

RR: Is there anything else you want to tell me about the first incident we have not covered?

D2953: You can move on to the second and third incidents.

RR: Are you ok to continue, do you need a break or anything?

D2953: I have a bit of a cold,

RR: I do not know if you have access to any water but please help yourself to anything which will make you more comfortable.

RR: You say in the second incident Derek punched you on the left side of your abdomen and chest.

D2953: The left side of my chest and the lower abdomen near the ribs.

RR: Why did Derek do this to you on 11 June?

D2953: Because I was banging on the door and windows; why else would he do it. You can ask him why he did it. I haven't hit him, he hit me, you should ask him.

RR: Am I right you were banging on the door and window because you wanted to get out of the room?

D2953: I was fed up with being in that room behind the steel door. It was on the fourth, fifth or the sixth day when I had my first shower.

RR: How many times did Derek hit you on the left side of your chest/lower abdomen area?

D2953: He hit me once, if he hit me any more times I don't think I would have made it; would have been alive.

RR: What position were you in when he punched you in this area?

D2953: I was sat on my bed, he was looking through the window; because you have to be sat in that position for them to see you.

Interpreter: D2953 has repeated he was behind a steel door

RR: Did Derek open the door, enter, punch you and then leave, is that how it happened?

D2953: Yes that's what happened because I was banging on the door and the window.

RR: Did he say anything to you as he did this?

D2953: He said something but it can't have been important. I can't remember what he said the important thing is he hit me. He was telling me off because I was speaking against the Police saying they were all corrupt because of some incident which happened in May. When I finally moved out onto the other wing, where you could get out of the room and there was a TV, he was then threatening me to stop talking to the Police.

RR: Did you do or say anything in response?

D2953: No nothing, I did not stand a chance.

RR: Were you left with any bruising as a result of that incident?

D2953: It wasn't a strong hit as it was on my left thigh but it was still very painful because I have had two operations on my chest.

RR: How is that area today?

Interpreter D2953 said 'no' pressure but I do not know if he understood the question.

RR: What time of day was it when it happened?

D2953: In the afternoon perhaps.

RR: Were there any other Officers around?

D2953: There was somebody else at the door as they always come in pairs but only Derek entered the room. I did not think it was the same young lad as before but was not sure.

RR: Is there anything else you want to say about the second incident that we have not covered.

D2953: Nothing else to add, I was locked up in that room, I was banging on the door and windows. Nobody offered me any medication; any anti depressants. I hardly got any sleep whilst I was in there; one or two hours a day.

RR: The third incident of 16 June when you say you were punched on the head and ear.

D2953: Yes, that happened on a different part of the wing

RR: Which wing?

D2953: Eden wing staff room.

RR: What time of day did this third incident happen?

D2953: Think it was just before lunch about 11:00am. It was a Friday.

RR: Who was it that punched you?

D2953: Same, Derek.



RR: Why did he do this for a third time?

D2953: I told him I had human rights. He wanted to transfer me to another wing with two others. I told him I was a Citizen and had human rights. I can't sleep when there is one person around never mind two.

RR: You wanted your own room?

D2953: Yes, I can't sleep at night. I compensate for the lack of sleep during the day but can't do it when there are other people in the room.

RR: Did you tell the Officers you needed to be in a single room?

D2953: I told them but they didn't care. They were not all as bad as Derek. There were some other guards they seemed quite nice and they have never lifted a hand; they were just like prison guards.

RR: Did you say to Derek you were not going to share a room?

D2953: Yes, I told him I had human rights and did not want to go in a room with two others because I struggle to sleep with even one person.

RR: What was Derek's response?

D2953: He told me to follow him to the staffroom; when we got in he closed the door and hit me on the left side of the head. There was another man there who was roughly about my age who was wearing a white shirt and red tie.

RR: Any other description?

D2953: He was in the staff room at the desk. When I entered the room Derek gently closed the doors so others could not see. The other person in the room was a manager, he was a witness and I am guessing that because of the witness he later came to apologise for what he did and shook my hand.

RR: Was the witness inside the room at the time when Derek punched you?

D2953: Yes he was in the room at the desk and was looking towards the door. The first or second time I never had any apology from him but this time I am guessing because of having the witness that he came later to apologise for what he did and shook my hand.

RR: Was the witness sat inside the room when Derek punched you?

D2953: Yes he was in the room at the desk and he was looking towards the door. Maybe the witness said something to him for him to come and apologise.

RR: At the time did the witness not intervene?

D2953: No he didn't intervene, I left and went back to my room. I am guessing the manager had a word with Derek which is why he came over to apologise in my room.

RR: Was it immediately after Derek apologised or later on in the day?

D2953: Immediate, he had never apologised before.

RR: What room were you in where Derek apologised?

D2953: I think it was number 11, possibly Eden wing.

RR: What did Derek say exactly?

D2953: He sat on the other bed, and reached over with his hands to shake them. I am convinced the manager must have made him come over because he never apologised the first or the second time.

RR: Did you shake his hand?

D2953: Yes I did.

RR: Did he says sorry to you?

D2953: We had a very brief conversation.

RR: How many times did Derek hit you on the side of your head?

D2953: Once.

RR: What position were you both in?

D2953: We were both standing up, he gently closed the door so people could not see what was happening.

RR: Did you say anything or shout out?

D2953: I was shouting that I had human rights. I wouldn't be able to transfer and would not be able to sleep in this room.

RR: When Derek hit you did you do or say anything in response?

D2953: I didn't say anything, I could see there was a witness there. I have seen the manager before.

RR: Did you not question Derek as to why he was doing this to you?

D2953: You can't deal with an idiot like him. I did not say anything there was no point in saying anything.

RR: Left with any mark as a result of the punch.

D2953: I was aching for a few days.

RR: Recall which hand he used to punch you?

D2953: It must have been his right hand. We were both standing up. He hit me between the jaw and the ear; where the glasses frame would normally sit.

RR: Did you remain standing as a result of 'the hit'?

D2953: Yes I did; it was not a civilised way to deal with anybody.

RR: Did you require any medical treatment because of what Derek did to you on that occasion?

[D2953]: I was not offered any medical help. I went back to my room to watch TV and was not offered any medical help.

RR: Anything else you would like to say that we have not covered?

[D2953]: Derek was on the side of the cops; he did not like the fact I was speaking out against the police in that town because I have seen nothing nice from the Metropolitan Police. I told him I would have been treated differently if I was a British Citizen.

[D2953] requested a written summary of his interview, and requested a copy to be sent to him and his Solicitor.

He gave the following contact e-mail address if he was removed:  
[DPA] [D2953] said he did not have any permanent UK address.  
He added he has the same e-mail address with @yahoo.com.

[D2953] said he hoped to receive some compensation. If he cannot get any compensation he does not know why he is even talking about it.

[D2953] confirmed he was still feeling fit and well as a result of the interview. He asked why nobody was talking to him about the fact he had been robbed and was advised to pursue that aspect separately.

Interview concluded at 16:15 hours.