

- Q. So that they could be alleviated, couldn't they? - A. I think it would be very encouraging and very useful to know problems from people who attended matches, yes.
- Q. You have accepted the "find your own level" for fans on the Leppings Lane Terrace, didn't you? - A. I had seen it operate and seen it operate successfully.
- Q. That would work as a circuit, wouldn't it, really? They would come in and they had the freedom to go down the tunnel and round via the radial gates. They could make a complete circle if they wished, couldn't they? - A. There were several entrances and exits from the terrace and also, yes, you could walk right along the back of the terrace.
- Q. As we know, with the circuit system it is fine as long as we don't overload the system? - A. I think that you have got to be able to get from place to place, yes.
- Q. If you had blocked the tunnel off in 1989 or '88, to stop fans going down there, there was nothing to stop fans going around and then using the radial gates to get to the centre, was there, because the radial gates were open? - A. The radial gates were open and people could pass from pen to pen via the radial gates.
- Q. So that may not act as a deterrent for overcrowding in the centre pens, might it? It could still happen? - A. I am not sure what you are saying, I am sorry.
- Q. It was possible for fans to move, if the tunnel was blocked, go round to the left or right and make their way by way of the radial gates to the centre, if they wished to do so? - A. Yes, it was.
- Q. In fact, crushing, although we know the centre pens are the most popular, we know that in 1981 there was a crushing incident in pen 1. Were you aware of that? - A. I wasn't aware before 1989, before the 1989 semi-final.
- Q. But you would agree that crushing could take place anywhere depending on the numbers who come into that area? - A. I think you can have problems anywhere in the Ground, yes.
- Q. In 1989 you were in overall control of the Control Room, that is right, isn't it? - A. That is correct, yes.
- Q. You were in control of the event itself? - A. I was monitoring the events. The Officer in charge, there is only one Officer in charge of the whole event.

A  
Q. MRS. MCBRIEN: Thank you. Gate B was never opened, was it? - A. I don't know.

B THE CORONER: Mrs. McBrien, how can you say that?

MRS. MCBRIEN: I would like to turn to the transcript of Superintendent Murray's evidence at the Taylor Inquiry, where it says that.

C THE CORONER: Mrs. McBrien, it may say that, but you are putting it to him. You can put to him whether he knows whether Gate B was opened, but you cannot say it wasn't opened unless of course you say that Mr. Ridge, and several of the spectators like Mr. Pitt and Mr. Seddon and various others all were telling untruths. Not just untruths.

MRS. MCBRIEN: I am sorry to interrupt, but I spoke to the gentleman who was at Gate B...

D THE CORONER: Mrs. McBrien, I said you cannot put that question. I was trying to be helpful but I am now telling you that you can ask the question as to whether or not he knew that Gate B was open and you cannot ask him anything else on that score.

E Q. MRS. MCBRIEN: Superintendent, do you know if Gate B was opened or not? - A. I don't know, no.

Q. The radio was on talk-through that day, wasn't it? - A. Yes, that was the usual state at Hillsborough for all matches.

Q. Would that mean that all Officers could hear what was said? - A. With talk-through all Officers can hear both incoming and outgoing messages.

F Q. Did anyone in the Control Box notice anything unusual or alarming in pens 3 and 4 a few minutes after Gate C had been opened for the second time at 2.52? - A. I don't know whether anyone else did, but no-one said anything to me, no-one drew it to my attention. I think I have already said that I didn't. None of the Officers in there said to me there was something wrong.

Q. Did you notice anything at 2.59 happening there? - A. I can't go by the exact timing but I did notice that the gates were opened and an Officer was helping some people out. I do not know exactly what time that was.

G Q. You do not know if it was before kick-off? - A. I don't. It is very difficult, but it was at an early stage. There were no other people on the track at that stage.

H

B. D. MURRAY

A  
Q. Did you connect those two events, the opening of Gate C and the people coming out on to the pitch? Did they connect in any way? - A. They did not form a connection to me, no.

B  
Q. Did you go on the pitch at that stage, or was it a little later? - A. I went on to the pitch to try and stop the game and then a minute or so after that.

Q. But you did not stop the game? We know that Superintendent Greenwood did that, didn't he? - A. That is correct.

C  
Q. At that particular time did you consider using the PA system to announce there was an emergency in the ground when the Superintendent was going to stop the match? Was it considered necessary to make an announcement to the whole ground? - A. I didn't consider making a public address message at that time because I did not know exactly what the problem was at that time.

D  
Q. Did Superintendent Greenwood speak to you at all? Did you discuss anything before he went to stop the match? - A. No, I did not speak to Superintendent Greenwood at all. I had seen him from the track side indicating to me to stop the match. He actually stopped the match before I did, but I did not speak to Superintendent Greenwood after that.

E  
Q. Did you think it must be something quite serious for the match to be stopped? - A. Well, people were on the pitch and I think that is a stage when play is normally stopped. I would expect it to be stopped once people are actually on the field of play.

Q. However, you weren't able to assess what was happening in the pens, is that what you are saying? - A. At that time I was unable to tell exactly what was happening.

F  
Q. I believe you did put out tannoy messages at that time, didn't you, telling people to move back?

THE CORONER: I don't think it was Superintendent Murray. Let's just check that:

Q. Did you yourself authorise the tannoy messages around this time, PA messages, for people... - A. I was on the pitch and asked for them to be sent. I asked for tannoy messages to be sent asking for people to move back.

G  
Q. This was after the match had finished? - A. That was after the match had finished, yes.

H

B. D. MURRAY

- A
- B
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- Q. Do you think that concentrating on the matters outside the turnstile areas may have distracted you from seeing the build-up of fans on the terraces? In other words, were you distracted, was your attention directed away from the terraces, because of the events which were occurring outside? - A. It is very difficult to say, but obviously the major problem between 20-to 3 and whatever time the gates opened was going on outside the Leppings Lane terraces. I feel that that is where the majority of my attention would be directed. I would still be looking at different aspects of the ground. I would still try and keep abreast of everything that was happening inside and outside, but obviously the problems that were apparent there and that were increasing there would take my main attention, yes.
- Q. Do you, by chance, remember what the radio technician was wearing? - A. He would be in civilian clothes because he is not a Police Officer, he is a civilian. I can't remember, no sir.
- Q. One of the questions that Mr. Russell dealt with was what Chief Inspector McRobbie was wearing. He was in civilian clothes, was he not? - A. He was in civilian clothes, yes.
- Q. Do you recollect what he was wearing? - A. I have just seen him on the photographs, but I couldn't have recollected it. I seem to remember him in a jacket and trousers, but I have just seen it, it is a dark blue jacket, but I don't know whether I would have recalled it.
- Q. In other words, it is what you have just seen? - A. Yes.
- Q. The final question from the Jury is could you have used the tannoy system to stop the match rather than the procedure which, in fact, was adopted? - A. That is very interesting. I would never have considered it, and I do not think that the referee --- I don't know. I don't know whether they are tuned into what is going on. Certainly we have from time to time tested the emergency evacuation procedure by passing messages and the referee is briefed immediately before the event and told the message that we would use. On one occasion I have known a referee say what was the problem, he heard the message; and on other occasions they have never heard them. That is why we utilise the linesmen to try and attract the referee's attention. I do not think it is a recognised form of stopping the event.

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