

Commission of Inquiry into the Actions of Canadian Officials in Relation to Maher Arar

## Audience publique

## Public Hearing

L'Honorable juge /
Commissaire
The Honourable Justice
Commissioner Dennis R. O'Connor

Tenue à:
Salon Algonquin
Ancien hôtel de ville
111, Promenade Sussex
Ottawa (Ontario)
le jeudi 26 mai 2005

Held at:
Algonquin Room
Old City Hall
111 Sussex Drive Ottawa, Ontario

Thursday, May 26, 2005

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Mr. Lorne Waldman
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Minority Advocacy and Rights Council

The British Columbia Civil Liberties Association

## APPEARANCES / COMPARUTIONS

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Ottawa, Ontario / Ottawa (Ontario)
--- Upon commencing on Thursday, May 26, 2005 at 10:10 a.m. / L'audience débute le jeudi 26 mai 2005 à 10 h 10

THE REGISTRAR: Please be seated.
Veuillez vous asseoir.
THE COMMISSIONER: Good morning.
Mr. Cavalluzzo, did you have
further questions as a result of the new process?
MR. CAVALLUZZO: Yes. As a result
of the new process, Mr. Commissioner, I have three very brief areas that $I$ want to discuss with Mr. Pardy initially this morning.

PREVIOUSLY SWORN: HENRY GARFIELD PARDY EXAMINATION (Continued)

MR. CAVALLUZZO: The first area, Mr. Commissioner, relates to a discussion that I had with government counsel, and we both agree that there are no national security concerns with the answer $I$ am going to elicit. But $I$ just advise the witness to ensure that the answer he gives me relates to his own information and not relating to any in camera information or information that is protected by national security confidentiality.

The area I would like to initially
ask you about, Mr. Pardy, relates to, if I can call it, the evolution of the attitude of the Syrians to Canada in respect of the prospects of releasing Mr. Arar.

One point that $I$ am going to ask you relates to the listing of Hezbollah on the terrorist organization list under the Criminal Code on or about December 15th of 2002 , and ask you whether the listing of Hezbollah had any impact whatever in terms of the Syrian response to our efforts to have Mr. Arar released?

MR. PARDY: Yes, very much so. The issue of the listing of Hezbollah had been under discussion in Canada for some time by the government, and $I$ think there was an awareness of the sensitivity of this insofar as the Syrian government was concerned.

The sensitivity wasn't in Syria per se but it was the role of Syria in neighbouring Lebanon, and Hezbollah was very much seen as -- I wouldn't say a client of the Government of Syria, but certainly acted with the full support of the Syrian government, and this was particularly so in southern Lebanon, next to
the border with Israel.
MR. CAVALLUZZO: Okay. The second area of questioning relates to the CAMANT notes.

We saw in your curriculum vitae that you were instrumental in implementing the CAMANT note system or the COSMOS system, and there was some discussion through the evidence of Ms Girvan as to the propriety of destroying notes after information was uplifted into the CAMANT system.

I wonder, as the key implementer of this system, whether you can comment on her actions?

MR. PARDY: Yes. In large
measure, the development of COSMOS, and in particular the CAMANT module, which was for case management, the problem that we were facing in all of this is you had a lot of information scattered throughout the system. Particularly when you run the consular business, headquarters, very straightforward. But we had upwards of over 200 points of service overseas.

So one of the things that we were concerned with is that we try to bring together that information so that it was available in a
coherent way to anybody who could be involved in a particular case.

Consistent with this of course, as well, was to protect the information, consular information about individuals, and restrict access to it, which was one of the things that went along with the development of the COSMOS system.

But insofar as the people keeping
personal notes, we never gave any direction in this area. It was pretty much left to the discretion of the individual. Some people kept them; some didn't.

I didn't myself. For instance, in terms of -- I had the desk diary book, which I think is before the Commission, but as you can see in there, the notes are very cryptic and essentially that was meant as a means by which I could give reminders to myself if I had to do something later on in the day.

But the destruction of those kinds of notes was entirely normal, and I would say most people followed the practice of Ms Girvan.

MR. CAVALLUZZO: Thank you.
Finally, the third area will -- I
wonder if the clerk might give you Volumes 2 and
9.
--- Pause
MR. CAVALLUZZO: And if we start at Volume 2, I was advised by counsel that I slipped over the third consular visit. It's the only visit that we skipped over. So let us do that now, at tab 192.

THE COMMISSIONER: Tab 192?
MR. CAVALLUZZO: That's correct. As you will recall,

Mr. Commissioner, the third consular visit was on November 12 th of 2002 .

I am going to ask you a particular question relating to paragraph 4, but just the typical question that $I$ would have: Is there anything unusual in the third consular visit report that you should bring to the attention of the Commissioner, or is it business as usual?

MR. PARDY: Just give me one moment here and $I$ will review the information, please?
--- Pause
MR. PARDY: No. I think the key thing is probably in some ways paragraph 5, where Mr. Martel of course tried to, as he was want to
do I think just about on every visit, to obtain information about the progression of this "investigation" by the Syrians. The people that he was talking to were certainly aware of the General's conversation with Ambassador Pillarella the week before, and they reflected that in their response to Mr. Martel.

MR. CAVALLUZZO: Okay. The specific question relates to paragraph 4, and I am reading it now:

> "He asked the following be sent to his wife and asked that she continued dating her letters. He spoke Arabic (as requested by the Syrians) and Col. Majed why I had acted as interpreter. 'I hope to be released soon. Thank you for sending me your message. I am asking you to continue sending me letters as this is the only way for me to know of your whereabouts. I
believe the decision you have taken is a wise one as the

## StenoTran

family is returning to Canada. As we had discussed before the chances of working in Tunis did not turn out to be positive. With God's will we will be re-united.'"

And I would like to ask you now
about tab 808 in the last volume.
As you may recall, Ms Girvan was extensively questioned about this particular memorandum, which appears to be dated either June 5th or May 6th of 2004 . In particular, she was asked about the paragraph at the bottom of page 1, and I read:
"He also told me ..."
And this, of course, was when
Mr. Arar was in detention in New York City.
"He also told me that he and his wife and children had moved from Tunisia some months previously, and had given up their home in Canada, because his wife wanted to be nearer her father, who was very ill. He
said that he was looking for work in Tunisia first, but that there were not many prospects. He is a computer expert. He had been on his way to Canada to see about business opportunities, as he had had a discussion, he said, with his wife about the need for him to either look in Europe or North America for work. He talked about how much work he had done for Mathworks in the U.S. and that he had travelled often to the United States during that period. He wondered if this had made the authorities suspicious of him."

This information, which is noted
in 2004, was apparently given to the witness Girvan allegedly on or about October 3rd of 2002 when she visited Mr. Arar in detention in New York.

The question $I$ have for you is
twofold: The first is whether you became aware of this information from Ms Girvan around the time of Mr. Arar's detention in New York City?

MR. PARDY: Yes. As my notes
indicate, I had a number of telephone conversations with Ms Girvan right after I had returned to Ottawa on October the 3 rd.

In addition, as you know, we met in Washington on October 9th, $I$ think it is that Ms Girvan arrived there. I was there a day earlier. And we had a number of face-to-face discussions. And some of those points came up very clearly in those discussions.

My recollection is that most of it came up in Washington, and particularly there was one other piece of information. As you know, there was some discussion of it earlier, and this was the issue of the use of points by Mr. Arar and the reason why he was flying through the United States was that he had points, I think from American Airlines. I very clearly remember in my mind saying it's probably the most costly use of points that $I$ had experienced up to that point.

And it was that kind of context. We just saw it not as being significant
information at the time. It was part of our understanding of what was going on.

Mr. Arar also, if you will
recall -- and $I$ think this is recorded in Ms Girvan's notes of her discussion with him -mentioned MathWorks, the company that he had worked with in the Boston area. Things like that.

So all of these things were there. Very early on, as you know, in
terms of the family being in Tunis, $I$ was talking to Dr. Mazigh, and the reasons for them being there: illness in the family, the situation in Canada with respect to possible work. The high-tech industry had certainly bottomed out, or was bottoming out $I$ guess is a better way to put it.

But in all of this, $I$ would
emphasize that where a Canadian is located in terms of our responsibility to provide consular services does not matter one jot to us. I mean, we deal with Canadians who have never been in Canada in their lives.

So that element of it was of no consequence whatsoever. MR. CAVALLUZZO: Thank you. You
just answered my second question.
MR. PARDY: Oh, okay.
MR. CAVALLUZZO: That would
complete the final line of questions.
THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
Mr. Cavalluzzo.
Ms Edwardh?
EXAMINATION
MS EDWARDH: Thank you,
Mr. Commissioner.
We will come back to the issue of where a Canadian is located.

It certainly has no relevance to whether a person is a Canadian citizen, Mr. Pardy.

MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: But as the construct
of dominant nationality has evolved, it's
certainly not a matter that is irrelevant in
pressing your right to have access to a dual
national, the issue of residence?
MR. PARDY: Well, as you know -- I am getting into the issue of -- as you know, under international law, there is in my understanding no recognition of this concept of dominant nationality except in a 1930 League of Nations
treaty, which essentially states that a dual national when living in a country of second nationality then the country of first nationality has no right to intervene and provide consular service.

We found that concept -- Canada
was a signatory to that treaty in 1930. It's still in effect, by the way.

And we found in the early '90s that that was such a limiting factor to our work in this area that we took action to have Canada denounce that treaty.

And it's certainly my
understanding that it's the only time that Canada has ever denounced a treaty of this -- or any treaty, for that matter.

MS EDWARDH: But certainly -- and we can go to the note a little later, but I just make this point now, since the Commissioner's mind is on it.

When you instruct the Ambassador and Mr. Martel with respect to the objectives of their first few consular visits, as they approach those visits, having not had them then, you specifically instruct them to stress Mr. Arar's
continued residency in Canada. That's one of the factors?

MR. PARDY: Oh, yes, very much so. We had mentioned it in one of the -- I think it's mentioned in one of the notes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes.
MR. PARDY: But again, you know, you work with the information that you have and try to put the very best face on it that you possibly can.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And
essentially you knew that there had been an extended stay in Tunisia, but Mr. Arar and his wife, and their children -- all Canadian citizens -- had deep roots in Canada and expected to return?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and that's reflected in our instructions to Ambassador Pillarella, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Fair enough.
Mr. Pardy, my hope, if you will
bear with me, is that we can cover some large swaths of information without going in detail through the chronology that Commission counsel led you through, but I suppose I should say, if I
overstep that mark and you want reference to some document, stop us, and I am sure everyone will search for it.

But I would like to have some general discussion with you, if $I$ could.

It's fair to say that your view, not only in this case but in other cases, has been that the public discussion of some issues can compromise the efficacy of quiet diplomacy?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Right. And we see it
on a number of occasions in this case,
particularly after August in 2003, where you become aware of allegations of torture and you have a concern, as does Mr. Martel and the Ambassador, that public discussion of that could impair the delivery of consular services to others, particularly in Syria?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And that it's not
only in relation to the future -- I mean, the future of delivery of services to others -- it's generally your view that consular services are most effective if they are not carried on at the same time as a public campaign in the nation that
is concerned about the wellbeing of one of its citizens?

MR. PARDY: Yes. My views on this are in writing, and certainly $I$ have spoken publicly about it as well.

MS EDWARDH: You said that to Mr. Cavalluzzo. It's a wisdom that certainly is not written in stone, is it?

MR. PARDY: No, and it's almost counter-intuitive for Canadians, yes.

MS EDWARDH: If I take you back to another case, certainly you have in your curriculum vitae your involvement with a Canadian citizen who found herself tragically in Vietnam?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And indeed you worked in that case with a number of people, the family, and also AIDWIC?

MR. PARDY: Yes. And the Toronto police who played a very large role.

MS EDWARDH: And indeed you had the assurances of the government of Vietnam that they would await a contingent of police officers from Toronto so that they could review evidence of -- it's Madam Hiep?

MR. PARDY: Yes, Nguyen Thi Hiep, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes. Her innocence, that was the objective?

MR. PARDY: It wasn't awaiting. The two visits did take place by officers of the Toronto police and they delivered evidence to the Government of Vietnam, yes.

MS EDWARDH: It was the object of
those visits to show she was innocent?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, you will agree with me, sir, that the issue of whether to have a public campaign or leave it to private diplomacy was a matter that was discussed in her case as well, and that you advised the board of AIDWIC, or those of us who were involved, that confidentiality and privacy and not having a public campaign is the best way to bring about a positive result --

MR. PARDY: Yes, that was my
recommendation to the organization, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And you will agree that, tragic though it may be, we all woke up one morning, and having been silent, learned that this

Canadian citizen was buried in a shallow watery grave in Vietnam?

MR. PARDY: I think it's fair to say that you are overcharacterizing the scene in Canada as one of silence. There was a fair amount of public comment about this case in the Canadian press.

MS EDWARDH: Well, I am going to suggest there wasn't much until she was executed?

MR. PARDY: Oh, I follow these things fairly carefully. There was a fair bit of comment in the press. I would have wished it as otherwise, and I will wait for your other questions in terms of why we ended up with the situation that we did there.

MS EDWARDH: My point is simply to
the extent that that case was much quieter than the Arar case -- you will agree with that?

MR. PARDY: I would want to review my notes and the file on that one to make that determination. I mean, a death penalty case where the possibility of a death penalty takes on a particular connotation in the Canadian body politic, and certainly the fact that Madam Thi Hiep had been sentenced to death, and we were
working against that sentence, $I$ think resonated within the Canadian media.

MS EDWARDH: Of course. The fact that you are not prepared to agree with me on is that was a case where organizations like AIDWIC, which are usually loud and clamouring, in fact opted for silence in deference to allowing diplomacy to go forward, and you are not prepared to say that there was less coverage in that case, certainly, by --

MR. PARDY: The other element in
that case was the fact that the family members themselves were concerned as to whether or not publicity in Canada was going to be helpful to Madam Nguyen Thi Hiep, yes.

MS EDWARDH: All I am really trying to establish is that there are different ways to approach it. If you assume that being quiet always works, it would be a terrible mistake, because being quiet may not work to your advantage?

MR. PARDY: And then $I$ would like to be in a position to make that decision based on what $I$ know about the case and whether or not moving from one of a quiet approach on a case to
one of publicity is going to be beneficial to the individual involved.

That is the key determination
here. On my part, it's not a determination that $I$ am trying to protect the Government of Vietnam, or any other government for that matter; it has to do with what is going to work to help the person that is in difficulty.

MS EDWARDH: That's my point. I am not suggesting you were trying to help, in this advice, any foreign government, but that your judgment about quiet diplomacy is one that certainly we cannot say always works?

MR. PARDY: At my age, nothing is absolute, Ms Edwardh.

MS EDWARDH: There was a question put to you by Mr. Cavalluzzo about the media campaign, and we can certainly agree with this fact: Mr. Arar's wife and his supporters, and members of the media, and other concerned citizens raised their voices very loudly in the Canadian public, and the issues that they were concerned with were given significant press?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And in fact close to
the time he returned and thereafter, and shortly thereafter, it was your view -- and we can go to the documents if you need -- but it was your view, and I think expressed to others in that group, that there would be no public inquiry?

MR. PARDY: My view was that the mechanism that was available, that mechanism under Canadian law, to review action by the Canadian Police Complaints Commission, was a vehicle that was available and could conceivably arrive at certain conclusions with respect to the conduct of certain Canadian officials, yes.

MS EDWARDH: But you also told -and we have the minutes of the meeting -- those that were Mr. Arar's supporters that it was highly improbable and extremely unlikely that a public inquiry would ever be called?

MR. PARDY: Yes, that was my view
then. But then as you know, other events intervened that -MS EDWARDH: Certainly. MR. PARDY: Yes. MS EDWARDH: But you will agree with me that one of the reasons there is a public inquiry today was the public pressure put on the
government to create such an inquiry?
MR. PARDY: I am not sure whether
that was the main reason that led to the decision of the government, when it did, to call a public inquiry.

MS EDWARDH: How about a
significant contributing reason?
MR. PARDY: The government, if you follow the statements throughout the fall of 2003 , were united on this issue in terms of not having a public inquiry. Then an event occurred that led to the government to change its mind.

If you look at the statements made publicly, not in the House of Commons, by members of the government, they had concluded that a public inquiry was not warranted in this situation, and they were sticking to this until a certain event occurred.

MS EDWARDH: And that event was the publication of an article written by Juliet O'Neill?

MR. PARDY: That was the
initiating event, but the event itself, $I$ think, that led to the inquiry were the search warrants, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Search of her home? MR. PARDY: And the offices of the Ottawa Citizen, yes.

MS EDWARDH: I am going to suggest
to you, sir, throughout this whole period there was significant public pressure, as well, for a public inquiry?

MR. PARDY: Oh, yes. And as I
said earlier, the government's response to that pressure, based on the situation previous to the search warrants, was that a public inquiry was not necessary in these circumstances.

MS EDWARDH: So I guess, given your view, Mr. Pardy, and I just found it odd and a little unreasonable that certainly from the outside looking at government, it is not infrequent to find Members of Parliament, cabinet ministers, or the Prime Minister, respond to matters of great public concern? They respond?

MR. PARDY: Oh, the Canadian political system is highly reactive to what happens within -- it's probably one of the most reactive systems in the world, certainly in terms of my experience.

MS EDWARDH: And certainly you
will agree with me that one of the principal vehicles promoting a reaction is the media?

MR. PARDY: Oh, yes, absolutely. MS EDWARDH: And so it won't surprise you if I share some of Mr. Cavalluzzo's surprise that the pressure for action to bring home Mr. Arar, that was certainly placed on the government may have been a significant factor in the Prime Minister's decision to bring about a consensus and move this matter forward? MR. PARDY: Well, I think you would have to call the former Prime Minister to find out what his exact reasons were.

But if you go back and look at the file that is before this Commission, long before there was any public clamour to assist Mr. Arar, the record of my actions were taken right from the very beginning to assist Mr. Arar independent of any of the pressures that were going on in the body politic.

MS EDWARDH: Mr. Pardy, you
misunderstand me. I am not suggesting that from the get-go you didn't pursue this objective. MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: I am interested in
how you get to a stage where the waters are sufficiently calm between the various entities of the Government of Canada so that you go above the concerns of CSIS, above the concerns of the RCMP, you go around them and you end up with a letter from the Prime Minister.

All I am doing is putting to you the simple proposition that there is no doubt that by that time, by the time the Prime Minister signs on to this proposal, that there is significant public support for bringing Mr. Arar home?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and that public clamour was there, I would say, for several months prior to the decision for the Prime Minister to be involved in it. So he was living with that, and he became certainly very aware, $I$ think through discussions that his own officials would have had with him, that there was a need here to break through, if you like, the lack of consensus at the ministerial, if you like, or below the ministerial level in the Government of Canada.

MS EDWARDH: And that public expression of concern would certainly be a matter that we would expect the Prime Minister to note when he decided to forge that consensus and write
that letter. That's all $I$ am saying.
MR. PARDY: Yes. And there is a counter interpretation of all of this. It is possible that we could have arrived at a consensus within the Government of Canada earlier on if the public clamour had not been there.

I think one of the issues here, the issue of public policy, is that that level of agitation that was going on could have delayed a consensus arriving at a lower level and possibly earlier within the Government of Canada.

MS EDWARDH: Well, we certainly have no evidence that the blocks in your road, sir, arose from the public concern as expressed to Members of Parliament, to the Government of Canada and to the Prime Minister's Office. Those weren't the location of the blocks as you knew them, as you described them over the last two days?

MR. PARDY: No. And I would suggest to you that institutions of government and the way that they respond to public pressure varies widely. Some respond to it positively; some respond to it negatively.

And certainly we had found insofar as the Government of Syria was concerned, and
foreign governments generally respond negatively to public pressure in other countries, and that was my experience on any number of cases that $I$ had dealt with over the years.

MS EDWARDH: But my question is really is quite narrow, Mr. Pardy. All I am doing is asking you to agree with me that in the couple of months leading up to the Prime Minister's decision to write the letter that you think had such an important impact on the Syrian government, all I am really saying, sir, is that there was a continuous public concern expressed in wanting action to bring Mr. Arar home, and that there is no doubt that that was a factor that led to the Prime Minister's decision.

I am not saying exclusive. He is
a politician. Clearly a factor.
MR. PARDY: And $I$ think in my
response, $I$ think it's important that in effect the issue be laid out in all of its manifestations and not just one narrow interpretation.

MS EDWARDH: Absolutely.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Can you concede that
that would at least be a factor --

MR. PARDY: Oh, I have said right at the very beginning that it was a factor. I didn't say that.

What $I$ am saying to you is that, as a factor, it could have cut both ways.

MS EDWARDH: Sure. It didn't in this case. I don't think it did anyway.

MR. PARDY: Okay.
MS EDWARDH: We don't have any evidence that it cut both ways?

MR. PARDY: Well, as $I$ said to
you, the reaction of institutions of government meant, in my view, that it did cut both ways.

MS EDWARDH: All right. So what you are talking about is not the Prime Minister's Office. You are talking about institutions of government that are other than the Prime Minister's Office?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Such as the RCMP and
CSIS?
MR. PARDY: And CSIS, yes.
MS EDWARDH: They don't like the public clamour because they don't like operating in the public domain?

MR. PARDY: But in my mind -MS EDWARDH: Is that a fair
statement?
MR. PARDY: That's a fair
statement.
But in my mind it wasn't necessarily exclusive to those organizations. It was the reaction of the Government of Syria, where Mr. Arar was located.

MS EDWARDH: So that's the third
component?
MR. PARDY: That's the third, yes.
MS EDWARDH: I am not trying to
argue with you, Mr. Pardy.
MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: I want to thank you
for your candid acknowledgment yesterday that there is a very significant public record about human rights abuses in Syria.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And particularly, it appears, that detainees of military intelligence were more vulnerable to abuse or degrading conditions of confinement or perhaps even torture? That accords with your understanding of the public
record?
MR. PARDY: Yes. My understanding
is that people who find themselves within the purview, if you like, or captivity of intelligence organizations, not infrequently they are outside of any rule of law that exists in a given country. MS EDWARDH: And I think that's an important observation, Mr. Pardy, because, you see, in Canada, if one were arrested and detained, generally the provisions of the criminal law come into play.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Police officers have certain duties about giving information to detainees, then they must bring detainees before a court within a reasonable period of time. So the idea of an allegation of criminal wrong-doing in the face of no charge, no access to a court and no trial is something most Canadians are unfamiliar with?

MR. PARDY: Very much so.
MS EDWARDH: But it is in fact the standard fare of detention by organizations that are really like the Military Intelligence Division of the Syrian government?

MR. PARDY: That is correct, yes. MS EDWARDH: We knew, and you described being aware in mid-August, that Mr. El Maati had claimed that he had been tortured by the Syrians.

You talked about that yesterday.
I take it you received this
information when Mr. El Maati was given consular visits when he was in Egypt?

MR. PARDY: Yes. I think --
again, $I$ didn't have a chance to check the record, but I think it was earlier than August. I think it was July.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, you actually
said that you thought that it was a little earlier.

And the place that Mr. El Maati was, where was he? Was he also under the control as a detainee of Syrian Military Intelligence, to your knowledge?

MR. PARDY: We are talking Egypt
now?
MS EDWARDH: That's right, no. You talked to him in Egypt?

MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: When he was in Syria, please forgive me.

When he was in Syria, he was a detainee of Syrian Military Intelligence?

MR. PARDY: I don't have that as conclusive evidence because we had no access to him whatsoever, and we had no information from the Syrian authorities where he was located in Syria.

But I think that it's a reasonable conclusion that that's where he was being held, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And I take it if he were held by the Syrian Military Intelligence, he was most probably held in what we now know as the Palestine Branch, if he was held in the Damascus area?

MR. PARDY: I have no evidence, one way or the other, on that particular issue. MS EDWARDH: All right.

You said in answer to a couple of questions yesterday that you acknowledge the public record in respect of Syrian human rights, and the Military Intelligence branch included a practice of holding people incommunicado during periods of intensive interrogation and the
techniques of interrogation may well amount to, certainly abuse, if not torture.

You acknowledged that?
MR. PARDY: If you recall that as the record, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Well, we can look at the record --

MR. PARDY: No, I am quite -- you are quoting the record to me. I have not seen it since I said it yesterday.

MS EDWARDH: Well, if you have any concern about whether you said it, $I$ can just remind you specifically that Mr. Cavalluzzo took you to the Amnesty International report that specifically talked about incommunicado detention and torture.

MR. PARDY: I will not be shy in differing with you if $I$ think the record is different from what you suggest.

MS EDWARDH: Thank you, Mr. Pardy. It is not my intention to mislead at all.

MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: Yesterday you said a couple of important things, and I just want to break them down because they certainly are
important for Mr. Arar.
You said that from your knowledge, from the time he leaves the United States until the time everyone is prepared to say "Ah, he's here", that being October 21 st, that what happened to Mr. Arar is certainly, from your perspective, not only consistent with, but now it is confirmed, that he was held incommunicado in Syria?

MR. PARDY: I think that's a very reasonable conclusion to reach based on the information that we have, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And it's also fair to say, Mr. Pardy, that you knew that there was a substantial, if not probable, risk that if he was held incommunicado in Syria and held by Syrian Military Intelligence, that there was a probable risk he would suffer abuse, perhaps even torture, in the interrogation process?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And you made the comment, sir, that the consular report, where it is described as Mr. Arar saying the investigation was much more intensive earlier, was consistent with your knowledge of this initial period of incommunicado detention and interrogation?

MR. PARDY: Yes. I think I would need to be reminded of what visit that was.

MS EDWARDH: Well, we will find it at tab 229, August --

MR. PARDY: Oh, this is the very
last visit.
last?
MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: I am being taken
astray here.
It is indeed --
THE COMMISSIONER: Tab 214, is it?
MS EDWARDH: Yes -- I am sorry, it's 229.

THE COMMISSIONER: Tab 229?
MS EDWARDH: Yes, Mr. Commissioner 229.

And in particular paragraph 7, Mr. Pardy. Commission counsel took you to this paragraph $I$ guess in your first day of testimony.
"Upon being questioned..."
I am looking at the second line.
Do you see that?
MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: It says:
"Upon being questioned on his current health compared to the day he was first visited he indicated he had been afraid at the beginning as the investigation was more intensive."

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I think I went on to say that this was consistent with other experiences that $I$ had with cases in the Middle East.

MS EDWARDH: Yes. And you even went further in your testimony yesterday. You said it was certainly not only consistent with your understanding of the public record of incommunicado detention and interrogation, but from your perspective, you said it was very consistent as well with the statements made by Mr. Arar when he returned home?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Right. And not to
challenge in any way, just to put on the record what those statements were, Mr. Pardy, I would ask you to turn to tab 693.

You will recall that Mr . Neve and Mr. Waldman, and several others, appeared with Mr. Arar when he made a public statement, and that public statement was transcribed.

It won't surprise you if you find
it in the notes here. I am sure it was of interest to persons at the department.

You will see it transcribed, and
the portion of this that $I$ want to take you to, just to acknowledge what words Mr. Arar spoke when he returned, begins at page 4 of 6 .

MR. PARDY: Four of six? Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And I am going to start, if $I$ could, with what Mr. Arar said.

For the record, let's be clear. He made this public statement early in November, November 4th, 2003. Is that correct?

MR. PARDY: Yes, about a month after he had returned to Canada, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And what he said -and if you just want to follow with me in case I fail in my reading. About eight or ten lines down on page 4 it begins:

> "It was about 6:00 in the evening..."

Do you see that?
"...6:00 in the evening on
October 9th. Three men came and took me into a room."

Do you see that?
MR. PARDY: Yes, I do.
MS EDWARDH: And:
"Three men came and took me into a room. I was very, very scared. I was crying all the time. They put me on a chair and one of the men started asking me questions.

I later learned this man was a... Colonel. He asked me about my brothers and why we had left Syria. I answered all the questions. If I did not answer quickly enough, he would point to a metal chair in the corner and ask, do you want me to use this?"

Let me just stop there.
In the reports in the public record, there certainly is reference to the use of
a metal chair in torture sessions in Syria that involve breaking people's backs. Do you recall those references?

MR. PARDY: I will take your word that they are there. I can't recall them. But certainly this is not inconsistent with other situations that $I$ have dealt with the use of a metal chair.

MS EDWARDH: Thank you.
"And he said it many times, do you want me to use this?

I did not know then what that
chair was for. I learned
later it was used to torture
people. I asked him what he wanted to hear. I was very
terrified and I did not want
to be tortured. I would say
anything to avoid torture.
This lasted for four hours.
There was no violence. Only
threats. At about 1:00 in
the morning, the guards came
to take me to my cell
downstairs. We went into the

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basement and they opened a door and I looked in. I just could not believe what $I$ saw. I asked how long I would be kept in this place. He did not answer. But put me in and closed the door. It was like a grave, exactly like a grave. It had no light. It was three feet wide. It was six feet deep. It was seven feet high. It had a metal door with a small opening in the door which did not let in light because there was a piece of metal on the outside for sliding things into the cell. There was a small opening in the ceiling, about one foot by two feet, with iron bars. Over that was another ceiling so only a little light came through this. There were cats and rats up there, and from time

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to time, the cats peed
through the opening into the cell. There were two blankets, two dishes, two
bottles. One bottle was for water and the other one was used for urinating during the night. Nothing else. No light. I spent ten months and ten days inside that grave ... The next day, I was taken upstairs again. The beatings started that day and was very intense for a week. And then less intense for another week. The second and the third days were the worst. I could hear other prisoners being tortured and screaming and screaming."

Let me stop you there.
From your vast knowledge of human rights issues, this technique of letting people just hear others who are being tortured, would you agree with me, Mr. Pardy, is a form of
psychological torture?
MR. PARDY: Yes, and it's a very
common technique. As you will note from my curriculum vitae, I spent three years dealing with what was going on in Idi Amin's Uganda from 1975 to 1978 and certainly Uganda in those years where the theory and practice of hell was very evident, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And:
"Interrogations are carried out in different rooms. One tactic they use is to
question prisoners for two hours and then put them in a waiting room so they can't hear the others screaming, and then bring them back to continue the interrogation.

The cable is a black electric cable, it's a shredded cable, about two inches thick. They hit me with it everywhere on
my body. They mostly aim for
my palms but sometimes missed and hit my wrists. They were

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sore and red for three weeks. They also struck me on my hips and lower back. Interrogators constantly threatened me with a metal chair, tire, and electric shocks. The tire is used to restrain prisoners while they torture them with beating on the sole of their feet. I guess I was lucky because they put me in the tire but only as a threat."

And on and on it goes.
I take it, given your knowledge of
the human rights record and the conditions of detention and confinement under the auspices of the Syrian Military Intelligence, that does not surprise you and is consistent with what you know about the initial periods of detention?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Thank you, Mr. Pardy.
Now, let me turn to one -- excuse me.

And it's those comments that you
believe were consistent when you said that his public statements upon his return were consistent with what your understanding was of what kind of thing he would have experienced in the initial period of his interrogation?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Thank you.
Without taking you through the
consular notes -- and we can go through them all if you want to -- can we at least agree on this, and I think Mr. Cavalluzzo used almost as an expression "the moustached men". But it's quite clear that none of these visits -- none of them -permitted Mr. Martel or Mr. Arar to have any kind of a free and candid exchange? MR. PARDY: No, and that's characteristic of almost all consular visits in situations where these kinds of circumstances prevail, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And so what we do see on the record is the domination and the control of the detainee through various mechanisms. Is that fair?

One of the most important
mechanisms is, "Mr. Arar, you speak in Arabic"?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And of course that's done because the one thing that the persons who are detaining Mr. Arar want control of is what he says?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: We do see in the consular reports certain signs that Mr. Arar has had difficulty or is having difficulty. Is that fair?
indications in, $I$ think, at least two if not three of the reports when you read the sentence, even at the time $I$ read them, that sort of suggested that -- I mean, this was not a very pleasant place to be, but certainly the confirmation of that in any absolute sense was through the information that you just read into the record, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Sure. For example, one of the ones -- well, my friend Mr. Cavalluzzo has pointed out:

> "The first red flag for me was that after someone has disappeared for a period of time, we are told by the

Syrians that within 24 hours he has made a confession."

You recall that there was --
MR. PARDY: Oh, yes. The visit on
October 23rd, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And that's a big red flag. Because if the Syrians are telling you the truth, that they just got him the night before, then they have done some very rapid and effective interrogation?

MR. PARDY: Or they had a standard script to use in these situations.

MS EDWARDH: Or they were lying?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Fair enough. If you want to, we can turn some of these up, because I think they are useful.

THE COMMISSIONER: What's the tab?
MS EDWARDH: Let's look at tab 131
and 130, because I think you are very good at reading your consular notes and see things in them, Mr. Pardy, that may not be obvious to those of us who are reading them.

So if we turn to tab 130, there are a couple of observations I made, and you tell
me whether you attach any significance.
This relates to the first consular visit, the $23 r d$ of October, 2002.

The first sign is we know that
Mr. Arar is not meeting Mr. Martel in any prison. He has been taken out from wherever he is and brought to an office; right?

MR. PARDY: Yes, but I think your
assumption that there isn't a prison involved in the narrow meaning of that word is wrong, because we find quite often in countries that a prisoner is brought to another location for these kinds of meetings and not in the place where incarceration is taking place.

MS EDWARDH: But one of the things you are instantly alive to is you can't see what that place is?

MR. PARDY: Absolutely.
MS EDWARDH: And if I go into
Millhaven or Collins Bay, I know what I am getting.

MR. PARDY: What you are getting, yes.

MS EDWARDH: You have no idea here what you are getting. Is that fair?

MR. PARDY: Oh, yes, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And that's indeed the
observation Mr. Martel makes, and it's a thing to note that he could not see where Mr. Arar was being detained; right?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, here's another interesting observation: Mr. Arar is sat at a distance. He is not sitting, as you and $I$ would, across a desk for a discussion. He is placed some distance away.

And I am going to suggest to you that -- you may not know the distance, but you wouldn't disagree if $I$ said it was 10 or 12 feet sitting away from Mr. Martel?

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MR. BAXTER: I am afraid $I$ wonder
how Ms Edwardh can lead that question, and how Mr. Pardy can have any opinion with respect to that without running afoul somewhat of where we were yesterday.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Martel is going to give evidence, so we will hear from him.

I don't know if the witness can answer it from his experience that that might be?

I don't know. Maybe he was told by Mr. Martel? I just don't know.

MR. BAXTER: Fine.
THE COMMISSIONER: One thing I
notice is this witness is very able to answer these questions, and when he doesn't know the answer --

MR. BAXTER: He will tell you so.
THE COMMISSIONER: He is very
helpful.
I will say this to you,
Mr. Pardy -- I am not sure I need to say it to you, but let me say it. If you are not able to answer a question, please say so.

MR. PARDY: Yes, thank you.
MS EDWARDH: And knowing you,
Mr. Pardy, and reading the language that the person, the detainee, is put away from any really close eye-balling, that raises a concern -- or it would to me. Did it to you?

MR. PARDY: Yes. The ideal
situations in all of these -- I mean conditions for all of these kinds of things is to see Mr. Arar up close, be able to touch him, talk to him in private and all of these things. I fully

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agree that that's the ideal circumstances.
But yet -- can $I$ just draw a conclusion here for you. When you are not in control of those conditions, or if the conditions are such in a given country where you cannot expect that, you don't let your desire for the best kill the little bit of good that is evident. And that is seeing Mr. Arar -MS EDWARDH: He is alive. MR. PARDY: He is alive. He is talking to us.

MS EDWARDH: I am with you,
Mr. Pardy.
What I am really trying to establish is that when you are told by Mr. Martel that this distance is established, one of the things distance does is it makes sure that you don't see any of the marks and bruises that are on a body?

MR. PARDY: Yes, or clothes is used, whether it's long sleeves, short sleeves -all of these kinds of things come into play here, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And certainly, to the best of your knowledge in any of the early visits,
Mr. Martel was not in a position to say to
Mr. Arar, "Would you mind discreetly showing me
your body? Can I see?"
None of that ever happened?
MR. PARDY: None of that ever
happened, no.
MS EDWARDH: And it wouldn't have
been allowed to happen?
MR. PARDY: Exactly.
MS EDWARDH: So Mr. Martel tells
you that it's quite clear that Mr. Arar is not
free to answer all the questions?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And he appears
healthy, but it's a difficult question for him to
properly assess?
MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: And certainly, given
the structure of the interview that he had with
Mr. Arar, it would be impossible to assess whether
someone had been the victim of physical abuse?
MR. PARDY: Exactly, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, one of the other
indications -- I just want to see whether you
share my concern, sir.

Mr. Martel tells you that Mr. Arar is required to puppet the directions given to him by the Syrians. In other words, he is instructed about certain things to say?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and how to behave, exactly, and areas that were not to be discussed. Very specific.

MS EDWARDH: And he was completely compliant?

MR. PARDY: Yes, except on one or two occasions I remember that he pushed against those directions and additional information came out.

MS EDWARDH: But that's much
later?
MR. PARDY: That's much later, yes.

MS EDWARDH: In October --
MR. PARDY: In October, yes.
MS EDWARDH: -- Mr. Martel makes
it clear to you that the man he sees is submissive and resigned. That conveys a whole lot, doesn't it?

MR. PARDY: Yes, it does.
MS EDWARDH: And people who are
described that way in the language of a consular note are people for whom you would have profound concern had been abused significantly in the detention, up to that time?

MR. PARDY: I would draw a
conclusion that this was a very difficult situation, and what led to all of these things -I mean, I still had an open mind -- I shouldn't say I had an open mind. I made certain assumptions that that was quite likely the case, that he was subject to what the British used to say in colonial days -- what was it? -- harsh conditions or harsh imprisonment or something like that -- rigorous imprisonment.

RI was the term the British used
to use.
MS EDWARDH: And in modern
discussions in liberal democratic countries like our own, you will agree with me that those conditions and the physical abuse that has gone on in no way comport with the minimum standards of confinement and indeed frequently violate the Convention Against Torture, which prohibits cruel, degrading treatment?

MR. PARDY: Yes, but I -- and this
came up I think once before, where you made the assumption that there are international standards with respect to prison conditions.

As you know, if you narrow your
question down to just prison conditions, there are no international standards in this area and it's one of the large issues that $I$ think the international community need to come to conclusions on.

Efforts have been made to do so, but they have failed.

MS EDWARDH: I read those books that said there were minimum standards.

But in any event, physical abuse, conditions that are cruel, degrading, and are inhuman -- we are not worried about international standards; we are worried about Convention Against Torture?

MR. PARDY: And the Convention
Against Torture was a major step by the international community in this area, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Certainly in the
first report you have all these red signals going off, that this is consistent with this typical program of interrogation abuse in the initial
stages. But there are some things that are missing, and $I$ am curious about the function of a consular note.

Mr. Martel doesn't say certain things, or he may not have the information, but if you were going to assess some of the information about Mr. Arar, you would have wanted to know how was he dressed? Is he dressed in full pants --

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: -- are his arms
covered? Would you agree with me that that would be an important observation?

MR. PARDY: It was -- it would be.
And $I$ think he did refer to those kinds of things in subsequent notes.

MS EDWARDH: Only one.
MR. PARDY: Only one about the
dress? I am not sure.
But certainly $I$ think what we are
looking for here in these kinds of reports, you try to provide what the client had to say, which is very important, his words. You describe the conditions under which the interview was taking place, and you then try to provide certain conclusions, if you like.

You know, Mr. Martel said, "Subject appeared to be healthy, but this is difficult to assess."

I think that's the kind of
information that we are looking for from notes on these visits.

MS EDWARDH: All right. But my
observation is if one were really alive to a concern that a person may be the victim of treatment that falls below the standards of the Convention Against Torture, it would be helpful to have the kind of record that one could say Mr. Martel could only see Mr. Arar's arms on August the 14 th, which was the first time he said he is wearing a $T$-shirt. Other than that, he is either warmly dressed --

MR. PARDY: Warmly dressed.
MS EDWARDH: Which implies totally
covered, to me, or there is no notation.
There is no discussion in the notes, for example, of whether Mr. Arar appears over the months that pass to lose considerable weight.

There is no discussion of -- well, those are the kinds of things that $I$ would think,
if you had a real concern that someone might be, or is likely the subject of treatment that falls below -- there might well be a protocol where those consular officials who get access are looking specifically for things? MR. PARDY: All of these things, yes, I don't disagree with you. But I think you have to look at it in the sense of we had five consular visits in a matter of 10 weeks, I think it's fair to say. I think that's what it was, to the end of December, say, for example. Now, what was the weight loss?

Ten pounds? Would you notice a drop of ten pounds or even 15 pounds on the part of an individual? Then when the visits started to space themselves out, unfortunately on the April 23rd visit, Mr. Martel was not part of the group that went in to see Mr. Arar. That might have been an observation at that point, because the people that were there were seeing Mr. Arar for the first time.

Then it was not until August that Mr. Martel saw him again.

So those kinds of -- yes, it would be nice to have that information but, again, I
think you have to rely on the individual that's in there. And he is doing a number of things in terms of talking to the individual, providing some measure of encouragement to him, trying to ameliorate the conditions of imprisonment by conversations with the guards and other officials that are around.

As I mentioned yesterday, part of the process is to try to humanize the situation for the person that is incarcerated. And it's a very difficult role to play.

I have gone into these situations and afterwards $I$ said to myself in my mind, $I$ didn't observe this and I should have observed this. These are trying situations, not only for the individual, but for the consular officer in trying to think, "Well, what do I really need to look for here?"

As you say in this visit, at a distance, there was a conversation, there was communication, there was information passed, and Mr. Martel was able to make certain observations.

But $I$ did not need Mr. Martel to tell me his suspicions as to whether or not serious abuse or torture had taken place. I mean,
this is something that $I$ am working with on a daily basis, and it's something that $I$ bring to the equation as a result of my experience.

MS EDWARDH: And you read it into
these circumstances?
MR. PARDY: Yes, absolutely. And
I think anyone back in Ottawa that deals with these cases would do exactly that.

MS EDWARDH: Fair enough. I see you as being more attuned to this, because by the time you are giving some instructions on the 29 th of October, you ask that any changes in Mr. Arar be noted.

MR. PARDY: Yes. Could I -MS EDWARDH: Yes, you will find that at tab 147.

That's a visit. I think it's 145 where you give the instruction.

Just before you get into number 2,
you say:
"Also to see whether there is any change in Maher's presentation/demeanour over the past six days."

MR. PARDY: Yes.

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MS EDWARDH: So you specifically
send Mr. Martel in to look for that?
MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: And, interestingly,
he says for the first time, if you turn to the consular visit, and he doesn't note this in the first visit, but he tells you at tab 147, paragraph 5, that:
"He did not seem to be disoriented anymore..."

MR. PARDY: That's correct, yes.
MS EDWARDH: So might we draw from
that that certainly it's fair to conclude that Mr. Martel would have understood that, when he first saw Mr. Arar, his presentation was as a person who was disoriented, and there is an improvement now noted?

MR. PARDY: Yes, $I$ think that's a reasonable conclusion to draw from the report that Mr. Martel did on -- what's this? October 29th now, yes.

MS EDWARDH: So it's just between the $22 n d$ and the $29 t h$, there is some improvement? MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: If you go to the
fourth consular exhibit as another example, which you will find at tab 229 -- I am sorry, that's in the next volume, Volume 3.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: There is a suggestion
that the Syrian officials make him stand up?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And they do this to
show how well he is taken care of?
MR. PARDY: Yes, which was a real
surprise to me, quite frankly, but, yes --
MS EDWARDH: It told you he could stand?

MR. PARDY: He could stand.
MS EDWARDH: Does it really tell you anything else other than he is still utterly compliant?

MR. PARDY: He is under their instruction still, and they want to restrict the amount of information that could become available to us in these circumstances, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And that's how you understood it when Mr. Martel was conveying it to you?

MR. PARDY: Absolutely.

MS EDWARDH: All right. Now,
there is another --
MR. PARDY: But I would add
another point. Over the period of these visits -and I think Mr. Martel noted this once or twice -there seemed to be a -- I don't want to use too strong a word here, but certainly a relaxation on the rigidity of the Syrian authorities here with respect to these visits, which $I$ found equally encouraging, and that led us to conclusions as well.

MS EDWARDH: And when you say "relaxation" with respect to the visits, I take it from what you are saying, Mr. Pardy, is what you found there to be was less of the domination/control/direction that you saw in the earlier consular visits?

MR. PARDY: Yes. They were
allowing, they were willing -- they said well, you can give him -- pass magazines and newspapers. Whether the Syrian guards were interested in reading those themselves, I don't know. But whether they got to Mr. Arar, I am not sure. But again, on their part, it was part of the psychology that surrounds these
visits.

MS EDWARDH: Right. We will come back to the newspapers, because one of the interesting things that you drew is that Mr. Arar was in fact getting the newspapers.

But in fact, if you go to tab 192 -- sorry, you have to go back a volume.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: It is absolutely clear that Mr. Martel is telling him certain things about the news.

I would ask you to look at
paragraph 3 where he explains the purpose of the visit:
"... to provide consular assistance, moral support, as permitted by Syrian authorities and that Canada was doing what it could on his behalf. Arar indicated he hoped to be released soon. Martel kept to the lines that are public knowledge as they appeared in the press."

And I took that to be that

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Mr. Martel -- and of course he will tell us. But I am going to suggest to you that Mr. Martel conveyed certain information to Mr. Arar about what was in the press?

MR. PARDY: Yes, that's one
conclusion, but on that particular point it's a very narrow one. Mr. Martel would be in the best position, I would think, to provide the Commission with an interpretation of what he meant there. MS EDWARDH: But when you took some comfort in the next consular visit when Mr. Arar asked about something in the press or if it continued in the press, I take it -- you said well at least he was getting the magazines. Well, it may be all he was doing was asking about what Mr. Martel said on an earlier occasion. Fair enough? MR. PARDY: Yes, and I may have overstated that.

But I am still open to
Mr. Martel -- or, I am sorry, Mr. Arar could -- I don't think it was referred to in his November 4th statement, I think --

MS EDWARDH: It wouldn't surprise
you for a second --

MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: -- if he never saw a single newspaper or magazine that was dutifully brought to him by consular officials?

MR. PARDY: In these
circumstances, you are never surprised by anything.

MS EDWARDH: And it sure wouldn't surprise you that when you learned something about the conditions of confinement in a shady, grave-like cell, if you couldn't read because it was too dark, that wouldn't surprise you either?

MR. PARDY: No, no.
MS EDWARDH: These are not the airy, well-lit facilities that we in Canada would expect?

MR. PARDY: I don't have any firsthand knowledge of those conditions in Canada. MS EDWARDH: Well, I can vouch for those. --- Laughter / Rires MR. PARDY: I assume you do. MS EDWARDH: Innocently, Mr. Commissioner.

There is another interesting
thing, and it's almost humorous if you don't
translate the significance of it. It is the
January 7th consular visit, tab 267. And that is
in Volume 3.
I just want to make sure your
interpretation is the same as mine.
MR. PARDY: I am sorry, the tab
number again?
MS EDWARDH: This is 276 .
MR. PARDY: Oh, 276.
MS EDWARDH: January 7th, 2003
consular visit?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And there is an
almost funny paragraph, paragraph 9:
"At the end of the meeting
and once Arar had left the
room the two officials spent
considerable time discussing
the detention condition.
They went out of their way to
say Arar was receiving
special treatment. They said
he was being kept in a
separate room and not mixed

> with other detainees, was given decent clothing and was provided with the necessary food and water."

Well, let me just focus on the
separate room.
When we go to the hospital or live
in a hotel for a while, we love a separate room.
I translate that, as I am sure you did, Mr. Pardy, that Mr. Arar was held in utter isolation?

MR. PARDY: When anybody in these
kinds of conditions uses the word "special", I don't see it necessarily as a positive element. You can be special and be very bad, and that's what I looked at.

But in terms of the isolation that was taking place, which is a concern for you, because if there is a mixing of prisoners, that in itself denotes a certain progress, possibly, in terms of what's going on in these circumstances. MS EDWARDH: Well, he is saying he is not mixed with other people --

MR. PARDY: Exactly. And I took
that to mean that there were still things going on, that they wanted to keep him isolated. And
isolation, as you know in these conditions, is in effect a form of abuse.

MS EDWARDH: It's complete and utter in his circumstances. If he can't see other prisoners, he can't see his family, he can't see his wife and children, and the only people he has any human contact with are those who hold him in captivity or a consular official, it's pretty clear that is abuse?

MR. PARDY: Oh, absolutely, yes. MS EDWARDH: And you and I can
agree as well that detention in conditions of isolation that are prolonged inevitably produce a very serious deterioration in mental health and wellbeing?

MR. PARDY: Yes, isolation is -- I think there is all sorts of medical literature on that particular point, yes.

MS EDWARDH: So you and I agree on
that?
MR. PARDY: Yes. I have even read Robinson Crusoe.

MS EDWARDH: Let me just move and try to summarize this as quickly as possible. You stated in your testimony that
the understanding you had from the beginning and continued with you throughout the period of time that Mr. Arar was in detention was that the significant abuse, physical abuse, torture/whatever, which took place in the early days, and -- that's what you are saying?

That's your understanding of what happened?

MR. PARDY: I think -- and again, I am not going to ask to check the record. But certainly what $I$ was trying to suggest here -- I don't want to use the term "serious". All abuse is serious. What I am trying to say is there was a concentration of attempts, if you like, by the Syrian authorities to condition Mr. Arar quite early in the process, and that is again a normal element that $I$ have observed over the years in terms of people that do this kind of thing.

MS EDWARDH: Let me then flip
through a whole other time period.
I would like to take to you tab
508, if $I$ could, and it relates to the last consular visit.

Just to summarize the context of
that visit, you had seen the Syrian Human Rights Committee report, and then you get a letter passed on to you from Mr. Arar's wife documenting or saying he has been the victim of torture.

Mr. Martel obviously goes back
into that last visit, and one of the things he is concerned about -- and as you said, there was no real time frame to the allegations put forward by the human rights committee. He goes and he is looking in his mind --

I would ask you to turn over to
the next tab, 508?
MR. PARDY: 508 is a New York
Times article -- I am sorry, there is a written note on 508. Tab 507 is the report of Mr. Martel. MS EDWARDH: Right. Is 508
anything you are familiar with, or the handwriting?

MR. PARDY: No, I don't recognize this report at all.

MS EDWARDH: Fair enough. Let's go back to the other tab, 507.

It's clear in your mind that what Mr. Martel is going to do is he is going to look, because you haven't had access to Mr. Arar since

April. He is looking to see if there are any signs of present, ongoing torture.

Is that fair?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: That was his focus when he went into that meeting.

MR. PARDY: We used that issue as the pressure point on the Syrians to grant us access, because as you know, we had nothing since April.

MS EDWARDH: Right. So what Mr. Martel wants to know is, "Mr. Arar, have you been recently tortured?" That's what he is looking for it, signs of it, physical signs of it, et cetera?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: What Mr. Martel was not concerned about, because you guys already had a working set of hypothesis, was whether when months and months and months in the past he had been held incognito, he had been tortured. That was the subject matter of the inquiry?

MR. PARDY: And as I mentioned, the information that was received from the SHRC, as I said, did not have a time context, and we
were concerned, given the specificity of that information, as to whether something was going on in August of 2003 .

MS EDWARDH: So certainly
Mr. Martel's inquiry was about, "Are you being tortured now?"

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Let's leave that
whole area -- it's always troubling for the soul -- to another one for a moment.

I am troubled by tab 502,
Mr. Pardy. I am troubled with it because -- just give me a moment to find it.

I can find the tab, it's just the page.

MR. PARDY: Yes, there are ten
pages there.
MS EDWARDH: Because there is a reference, and this is sent from Mr. Pillarella, the ambassador.

This is the very top one, August 12th, 2003. So you are just getting ready to go into this visit; correct?

MR. PARDY: This is the page 1 you are referring to.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, I am looking at page 1.

MR. PARDY: Okay.
MS EDWARDH: The first e-mail.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: It goes to a number of people -- and perhaps you will just describe it -- sent August 12 th, 2003 .

It goes to Graeme McIntyre. Who
is he again?
MR. PARDY: I think he was the desk officer for Syria in the Political Relations Division at that time, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And the person who was the desk officer for Political Relations, what is their function?

MR. PARDY: Their function is to
have an overview of all of the elements that go into Canada's relation with a specific country, and that would include political, economic, social conditions, human rights conditions. All of that should fall within the purview of the desk officer.

MS EDWARDH: And are they
fundamentally tasked with promoting both Canada's values and interests, but in the maintenance of the relationship?

MR. PARDY: An element in that, yes, quite clearly. That's why the Department of Foreign Affairs exists up to a certain point, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And it is copied to a number of other persons whom we have seen before? MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.

MS EDWARDH: Do you get this memo? MR. PARDY: I can't recall, $I$ am not on the -- which I find surprising, that there is no one in the Consular Affairs Bureau that is copied on this memo.

MS EDWARDH: And I do, too.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Because of course --
MR. PARDY: That does not say, given the way the system operates, that one of the addressees on the message says, "Oh, god, we didn't copy Pardy. Let's get it over to him."

I can't discount that possibility. MS EDWARDH: No, but $I$ can't find any record.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MR. BAXTER: It's coming from your
secretary, Mr. Pardy. Does that assist you in any way?

The CAMANT note is a posting by
Laura Cyr.
MR. PARDY: Okay. So that would
indicate that $I$ would have seen it then, if she had posted it into CAMANT as one of the data dumps that she was doing.

Is that what you are suggesting? What's the record number? Oh, I am sorry, yes. Exactly. This is a record out of CAMANT -- I am sorry. I forgot to look at the top of the page.

So quite obviously it did come to my attention, yes.

MS EDWARDH: When you say it did come to your attention -- I am unclear about these dumps. All of a sudden you get 20 e-mails -MR. PARDY: Can I explain? MS EDWARDH: Sure. Would you help
us?
MR. PARDY: It's a puzzle.
CAMANT, as I explained earlier, is a very restricted database, and we restrict the people who do have access to this. But when you
get high-profile cases, the number of people that are involved in the case is quite broad and they are outside of the information that is available in CAMANT.

A large part of this information would come to me through e-mail. It would come and given a variety of preoccupations -- and it's very simple. Every time $I$ had a piece of this, I could have copied it over into CAMANT, and would have done so. But $I$ was dealing with so many subjects, $I$ would put them in an e-mail file, and the arrangement then was for Miss Cyr to go in every couple of days -- and sometimes, as you will see, there is larger gaps than that -- and she would cut and paste them all over into CAMANT on my behalf.

MS EDWARDH: And was your practice then to carefully review them all, or do you just know that they are in the file and if you need them you could go back? If you have reviewed them, great.

MR. PARDY: No, I would have
reviewed them when they came to me in their original form. I would not have gone back into CAMANT after they had been posted there by Miss

Cyr, other than if $I$ was going for something that was in the file, I would note the fact that this material was there.

MS EDWARDH: So somehow this gets into the CAMANT file. Can you tell what date it was posted by your secretary?

MR. PARDY: On the $20 t h$ of August.
MS EDWARDH: Right. So on the 20th of August then. Can we tell when you would have seen it?

MR. PARDY: I would have assumed
here that I would have -- because I would have seen it probably in close proximity to the date on the message, August the 12 th .

MS EDWARDH: All right. Let me tell you what troubles me.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: There is a
notification that there is a Thursday morning consular visit with Mr. Arar in that paragraph.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: It says:
"... a meeting with Arar should help us to rebut the recent charges of torture."

And I find that troubling, Mr. Pardy, because knowing you, for example, the last thing you would start off with is a mindset that you are rebutting it, but rather to assess carefully whether there is any evidence that would warrant a conclusion one way or the other.

But you wouldn't start from the position of rebutting something that you cannot know whether it happened or not.

MR. PARDY: Insofar as my view is, no, I would not start from that proposition, no. MS EDWARDH: Right. And it's clear that Mr. Pillarella, at least from this memorandum -- and we will hear from him -- had that mindset, or that's the language that he chose to use?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I would not wish to impute motivation here for Mr. Pillarella. As you have noted, there is going to be a chance to see him.

I would read this in the context of everything else that Mr. Pillarella had done over the months there to help Mr. Arar. So my inclination is to be much more charitable than suggested by your question here.

MS EDWARDH: Or suggested by the
language that Mr. Pillarella --
MR. PARDY: Or suggested by the language, exactly, yes.

MS EDWARDH: I am drawing it from the language.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Because there is a big difference in seeking to rebut something rather than seeking to explore whether it is a possibility that exists.

You will agree with that?
MR. PARDY: Can you repeat that?
There were two turns there.
MS EDWARDH: Sorry. There is a difference between seeking to rebut something, showing it is wrong, and seeking to explore whether or not there is a basis, one way or the other, to conclude it's true or false?

MR. PARDY: Yes. The words would
lead to certain conclusions, yes.
MS EDWARDH: I have another
question that relates to this.
On the final visit we know that
Mr. Pillarella approves the consular note, and he
does from time to time other consular notes. Mr. Martel signs off, and it says "Approved Pillarella".

But we don't find that, for example, that anyone approves Ms Girvan's notes. When she writes about her visits, she writes from her observations.

Why does Mr. Pillarella approve
the note in Damascus?
MR. PARDY: Again, practice varies according to the location. Ms Girvan in New York did it.

When I was overseas, in some
situations the ambassador wanted to review anything that $I$ sent back to Ottawa, because at the end of the day it is the responsibility of the ambassador to ensure that what goes out of that embassy is correct in his view because he has the final authority and the final responsibility here. MS EDWARDH: So if he, for example, took umbrage to some statement or conclusion or description of events as set out in Mr. Martel's report, he could direct Mr. Martel to redact or remove it?

MR. PARDY: I would not expect
that he would try to change any observation or any conclusion that Mr. Martel might have reached as a result of his discussion in the prison with Mr. Arar. I would find that most unusual. That sort of thing does not happen.

MS EDWARDH: I just want to go one step further.

It's clear Mr. Pillarella's
interests are not the same as yours entirely, as you have very carefully described yesterday. Mr. Pillarella stands and holds a number of interests that he promotes as ambassador from Canada. He has an interest, and must acknowledge the role of the RCMP, CSIS, Immigration. All of those interests play into his mandate.

Is that a fair statement?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And so his concerns may be broader than consular affairs.

Is that fair?
MR. PARDY: His concerns and
interests are broader than consular affairs, but I would come back to the basic principle here that in a situation such as this, the primary interest is the wellbeing of Mr. Arar.

I have never in my life experienced a situation where an ambassador abroad would, if you like, affect that basic responsibility in any way.

MS EDWARDH: Well, certainly Mr. Pillarella shared your view that any public discussion of torture allegations could have a negative impact?

MR. PARDY: Yes -- well, I am sorry.

I would not -- because it's not something that $I$ have discussed with Mr. Pillarella, and you will have a chance as to whether his views coincide with mine. The important view was mine, not his.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And we will
then ask him that question.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: But certainly you
will agree with me that as having an interest in protecting the immigration processes, both to Canada and deportation from Canada to Syria, he would be concerned that an allegation of torture, if it wasn't rebutted, could impair Canada's ability to deport people to Syria?

MR. PARDY: I understand Canadian law, and that's an issue that has come up. I think there was a report last week or earlier this week from an international committee that talked about that, to a certain extent.

MS EDWARDH: But he would have that concern?

MR. PARDY: Oh, yes. Absolutely, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And he would also -MR. PARDY: Not in a -- can $I$ just add, not in the negative sense that seems to be suggested here.

MS EDWARDH: I am not suggesting that.

MR. PARDY: Exactly.
MS EDWARDH: But one of his
concerns was that public discussions about torture
(1) could impair Canada's ability to deport persons to Syria. And so does the existence of torture impair Canada's ability to deport to Syria; right?

MR. PARDY: Yes, but $I$ don't think this would devolve down to the level of the ambassador as an important consideration.

MS EDWARDH: It's an interest,
though. And he has this section that deals with immigration at the embassy. It's one of the interests that Mr. Pillarella would be alive to?

MR. PARDY: But the immigration
section at the embassy deals only with the movement of people, say, from Syria, or other countries that they had responsibility to, to Canada. It really had nothing to do with the deportation process in Canada. MS EDWARDH: Then let's forget Mr. Pillarella. The Government of Canada has an interest in ensuring that, should it wish to, it can deport persons to Syria. And an allegation of torture, unrebutted, would prevent such deportations, or impair the ability of the country to effect them.

MR. PARDY: Well, as you know, the deportation process in Canada is subject to so many influences and constraints as far as Canadian law is concerned. At the end of the day, I think there has even been Supreme Court decisions on this point.

So the views of an ambassador on
this point $I$ don't think is really germane at all.

MS EDWARDH: I am not any more
with the ambassador.
MR. PARDY: Okay.
MS EDWARDH: I am with the
proposition -- the Government of Canada has an interest in deporting persons to Syria and that a proven allegation of torture impedes that interest; correct?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: The Supreme Court of Canada -- you know the cases? It's Suresh.

MR. PARDY: I know the cases, yes.
I am just trying to fix in my mind whether $I$ was aware of any case where, within the Canadian system, a decision had been made to try for a deportation to Syria.

Suresh was -- I am not sure which country involved Suresh.

MS EDWARDH: We can come to that. Whenever there are proven practices of torture, it becomes very hard to expel persons to those nations.

MR. PARDY: Oh, absolutely. And as you know, members of your profession have been very adept at making sure that it not happen, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Thank you, Mr. Pardy.
I appreciate that comment.
--- Laughter / Rires
MS EDWARDH: Let's go on to the other proposition. A proven allegation of torture also could impair bilateral relations.

MR. PARDY: Yes, absolutely.
MS EDWARDH: We don't have to go
beyond that?
MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: A proven allegation
of torture can also impair your access to deliver consular services if the Syrians ever saw fit to give it again?

MR. PARDY: Absolutely. Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And a proven
allegation of torture can impair bilateral
relations with the United States?
MR. PARDY: I wouldn't go --
that's a large leap.
MS EDWARDH: Yes, that's true.
A proven allegation of torture is at least an irritant in an already large and complex bilateral relationship?

MR. PARDY: It would loom so small
that it would be insignificant in that relationship.

MS EDWARDH: That's almost hard to believe.

MR. PARDY: No, it really does.
I would expand. Apart from the one or two individuals that might have been involved in making a decision within the American system -- but we had already gone over this ground in the sense that, if you want to look at Mr. Ashcroft's public statement that they had sought a diplomatic guarantee with respect to the issue of torture, we knew the value of that.

And as you know, there is an extensive debate and a whole set of legal issues under review by the courts in the United States on that.

But in terms of Canada's bilateral relationship with the United States, I would not agree with you that this is a --

MS EDWARDH: Even an irritant. MR. PARDY: Not even an irritant. MS EDWARDH: Let's put it this way. Given that we are undertaking this activity of looking at the flow of information, can we go
this far: that to the extent our friends to the south render or send persons to countries where they are probably going to be the victim of treatment falling below CAT, does that raise any issue about cooperation with those friends?

MR. PARDY: Yes, it does, because
we have obligations, $I$ think, under the CAT itself
that cuts across this kind of an issue.
MS EDWARDH: Absolutely.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
THE COMMISSIONER: Is this a
convenient time?
MS EDWARDH: It's a perfect time.
Thank you very much, Mr. Commissioner.
THE COMMISSIONER: We will rise
for 15 minutes.
THE REGISTRAR: Please stand.
--- Upon recessing at 11:43 a.m. /
Suspension à 11 h 43
--- Upon resuming at 12:05 p.m. /
Reprise à 12 h 05
THE REGISTRAR: Please be seated.
Veuillez vous asseoir.
MS EDWARDH: Thank you,
Mr. Commissioner. If I could proceed?

Mr. Pardy, I can take you to it -but you've looked at it. I just want to talk about the role of the Muslim brotherhood in the history of Syria, as you know about it.

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: And one of the observations that $I$ understand we can make from the history of Syria is, first of all, there was a state of emergency declared sometime in 1963? MR. PARDY: I think that's when
the transition occurred from a successive colonial-type government into something different, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Authoritarian
government?
MR. PARDY: Well, the previous one was authoritarian as well.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. So there was
some kind of change --
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: -- but there was a
state of emergency?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And one of the
reasons -- maybe that's too simple -- but
certainly the powerful role of the security forces in Syria today is in part justified, at least, by the ongoing emergency state that Syria perceives itself as being in? That state of emergency has never abated, nor has it ever been declared to be over?

MR. PARDY: Yes. Syria, I
think -- and again, I don't want to telescope too much into a few words here -- but Syria sort of emerged as an independent country in the aftermath of the First World War. It was part of the French sphere of influence.

After the Second World War, Syria
started to emerge as an independent actor, I think, in a more concrete way, but the creation of the State of Israel, of course, just turned everything upside down as far as the Middle East was concerned here.

And a lot of the governments, as you know, that are in that part of the world, one can easily characterize as authoritarian regimes, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And if the witness could be given Exhibit P-89?

This is a document, Mr. Pardy,
which you may have -- well, you should have had an opportunity to look at it, but its provenance is not in Canada.

It is a document that was obtained through FOI in the United States and is a record of a visit to the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in respect of the Proposed Country Report?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: You've had a chance
to look at it?
MR. PARDY: Yes, I have.
MS EDWARDH: It's interesting, and it fits very much into what you were saying, because if you look at the overall subject matter, it says:

> "Subject: Syria. Human rights reform not possible in current environment." (As read)

And one of the components of that environment is of course Syria's perceived need to deal with the State of Israel. And the other one, as noted on the top of page 2, is Syria's view that it is the original victim of terrorism. Do you see that?

MR. PARDY: Is that paragraph 3 or
4?
MS EDWARDH: It's paragraph 3, and
it's just at the very top of page 2 of this
document. It says --
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH:
"...said Syria is the original victim of terrorism having fought the Muslim brotherhood for many years. And according to... these two factors..." (As read)

That being Israel.
"...necessitate the
continuation of the emergency decree through which the SARG is governed (for no regard for the rule of law) for 40
years." (As read)
And so certainly the Muslim
brotherhood plays large in Syria's history and its justifications for the nature of the regime in place. At least that is reflected in this document, and POPOF is, of course, a public
affairs officer with the U.S. embassy?
MR. PARDY: Political affairs
officer.
MS EDWARDH: Political affairs.
When I googled it, it was public affairs.
Anyway, that observation, sir, is
one I'm just going to ask you to comment.
Do you agree that the Muslim
brotherhood has been used by the Syrians to justify the ongoing nature of the emergency decree and plays a significant role in how they see themselves as victims of terrorism?

MR. PARDY: I think if you use 1963 as the date here, then $I$ do not believe that the Muslim brotherhood was of much influence at that point.

It was a subsequent -- the Muslim brotherhood, as you know, originated in Egypt about 75-80 years ago, and that's where most of its activities -- but then it started to spread to other countries.

The key period I think, as far as Syria is concerned, is in the late '70s, early '80s, and the touchstone event, if $I$ can use that, was an attack by people who were assumed to be
part of the Muslim brotherhood on cadets attending a military academy, and there was a large number of people that died.

In the aftermath of that, in 1982,
the Syrian government attacked the town of Hama, which was concerned to be the heart of the Muslim brotherhood, and according to published reports, somewhere between 5,000 and 40,000 people were killed.

So that is sort of seen by a lot of observers as being the date at which, in effect, the effect of the Muslim brotherhood in Syrian politics --

MS EDWARDH: Ended?
MR. PARDY: I wouldn't say ended,
but certainly has a serious concern to the stability of the Syrian authority or Syrian government.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And it would be fair to say, not only from the experience in that attack on the town, but also thereafter, that the Government of Syria set out and targeted for elimination that organization for many years?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I think the other element, of course, the Ba'athist party,
which is the one in Syria, has that -- or used to have as its core a socialist philosophy that did not admit to the possibility that Islamic law could be a significant feature in the public affairs of the country

And that, along with the other
factors that you mention, $I$ think were important.
MS EDWARDH: So we can agree,
though, that the -- I think you used the term "convenient label" to describe the allegation that someone in the '90s, or even thereafter, may have been a threat to the security of Syria because they were a member of the Muslim brotherhood, and one of the things you said, that that was often used as a label that permitted political detention.

MR. PARDY: Yes, and this relates
to a law that was enacted -- I shouldn't say "enacted", but certainly was adopted in some way or another in 1980, the focus of which was membership in the Muslim brotherhood.

MS EDWARDH: And am I correct,
sir, at least $I$ gathered from a recent report from Amnesty International, you may have had an opportunity to read it, but it remains a capital
offence in Syria today to be a member of the Muslim brotherhood?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, I just want to
jump, if I could, and see if I can't go past, it becomes apparent in December of 2002, you are given information as a result of meetings between the ambassador, or Mr. Martel, and General Khalil that currently, in December, and thereafter in January and $I$ think it goes well beyond that into February, that Mr. Arar, after being interrogated, they have decided there is a basis to have concluded that he is a member of the Muslim brotherhood or is associated somehow with the Muslim brotherhood, and that is why they think that he is a person who raises internal security issues for the State of Syria?

MR. PARDY: Yes, that was the information provided the ambassador, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Now, you know, as I do, that Mr. Arar was born in 1970 and left Syria as a seventeen-year-old?

MR. PARDY: Yes, I do know that. MS EDWARDH: So that would be
around 1987?

MR. PARDY: Yes, that is correct. MS EDWARDH: In 1982 and '83, at the height of the efforts to crush the Muslim brotherhood, Mr. Arar was a twelve- and thirteen-year-old?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and as you know, I had concluded that this was highly -- what's the word here? -- suspect information, and I did not take it at face value whatsoever.

MS EDWARDH: Right. In fact, you
thought it was -- when you call it "suspect
information", I take it you thought it was nothing more than a convenient ruse on the part of the Syrians to put a label that justified the detention of Mr. Arar?

MR. PARDY: That is correct, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, one last comment about the Syrian Human Rights Committee, and I'm posing this, really, for the future.

When the report came out -- my
friend asked you to comment on it, and you said you came with some scepticism to emigre --

MR. PARDY: Organizations.
MS EDWARDH: Emigre organizations?
MR. PARDY: Yes.

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MS EDWARDH: And emigre
organizations are organizations made up of expatriates?

MR. PARDY: That is correct, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And they generally
are non-resident?
MR. PARDY: Generally speaking,
they find themselves in countries other -- they might have some connection back into their country of citizenship or former citizenship, but generally speaking you refer to an emigre organization as one located outside of the country of interest, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. But it's fair also to say, and indeed you've described yourself as having quite a different view once you got real details of what was alleged --

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: -- but these organizations are often the only way Syria's human rights problems are brought to the attention of States and nations in the international community?

MR. PARDY: That is one possible effect of these organizations, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And one of
the things I noticed, whether you have scepticism or not, it's certainly the case that the U.S. State Department Country Report with respect to Syria -- and if you could maybe perhaps take a look at it, it's P-27 and P-28. Mr. Registrar, if you could give that to the witness?

I just note, and you may have observed, that those reports themselves rely on this very same committee.

MR. PARDY: I will --
MS EDWARDH: Okay, take a look.
MR. PARDY: No, I would say I
would take your word for that.
MS EDWARDH: Okay. All right. So there's no dispute about that?

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
--- Pause
MS EDWARDH: It's throughout. My friend asked me -- it's page 1, it's page 2. You see the Syrian Human Rights Committee referred to throughout.

So, I suppose, while you have some concerns, one of the ways to dispel any concerns -- let's say if someone is in your position and they don't have the broad swath of
experience you have, Mr. Pardy, certainly one could pick up the phone and consult with other NGOs that you have good relations with and who you value their views of, to get their opinion about the credibility of an organization?

For example, you could pick up the phone and phone Alex Neve of Amnesty International and say "What do you know about this group, and do you credit their views?"

MR. PARDY: Yes, I think that did happen after the fact, but only after the letter came which provided much more detail and much more colour in terms of what they were alleging with respect to Mr. Arar, and I think the statement was made by Mr. Neve that this was an organization that Amnesty themselves had some confidence in. MS EDWARDH: Right. And certainly though, for the future, this network of NGOs, like Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, they are good assessors, often, of whether they would act on or accept allegations from an NGO like, you know, the Syrian --

MR. PARDY: I'm still a little sceptical of such organizations because, one, I would want to have some provenance of who they are
and who they represent in these kinds of issues, and whether or not they are serving more than one -- something other than a search for truth and justice. I mean, I think this --

MS EDWARDH: Right, as some
governments sometimes serve more than one end -MR. PARDY: Absolutely. But, again, it's always useful sometimes to be sceptical because you can get dragged down the road sometimes on some of these things.

So that's what's always in the back of your mind when you look at these things, yes.

MS EDWARDH: One of the things I thought was interesting, and we can come to the 2003 report of the Department of State, it was your view, as expressed to Mrs. Arar, or Dr. Mazigh, and her supporters and those working with her that they would be best to obtain counsel for Mr. Arar in Syria who was not a high-profile/human rights lawyer. Is that correct?

MR. PARDY: In the context of the developments in August of 2003 , yes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes. But I found it interesting to see that the lawyer that was eventually sought out and retained is described at page 4 of the country report, and I would take it this is released and it's describing a situation -- it's paragraph 3: "On July 15 the military court dropped all charges against lawyer and SHRC chairman, Haytham Al Maleh." (As read)

I'm going to suggest to you you can recognize that name. That was the name of the lawyer that was contacted with a view to having him try and see Mr. Arar. Do you recall that name?

MR. PARDY: No, I do not.
Do you mean --
MS EDWARDH: I assure you, Mr. Pardy, I don't have the page reference, but I'll ask --

MR. PARDY: Which one are you referring to here? Was it the lawyer or the SHRC individual?

MS EDWARDH: No, I'm suggesting
that the lawyer that was contacted to represent Mr. Arar in Syria is also the SHRC Chairman?

MR. PARDY: Oh, I see. You say is
this one and the same person. Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Is that one and the
same person.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And he is the person
who tried to get access to Mr. Arar and was denied access right up to the last minute --

MR. PARDY: I'm puzzled by where
you see the reference that this person is also
chair of SHRC in -- I'm sorry, I can't seem to
locate it here.
MS EDWARDH: I'm sorry. Let me
show you. Page 4 of your document.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: It's the third
paragraph.
MR. PARDY: Right here? In
September of 2001?
MS EDWARDH: No, on July 15.
MR. PARDY: Oh, I've got a
different piece of paper here.
MS EDWARDH: Then maybe you have
the other year. You've got -- P-28. You've got the wrong report.

MR. PARDY: I have P-27
MS EDWARDH: That's frightening.
MR. PARDY: Okay, there we go.
MS EDWARDH: So it's page 4 --
MR. PARDY: Page 4.
MS EDWARDH: -- and it's the third
paragraph.
MR. PARDY: Yes, okay.
MS EDWARDH: So there's a
reference to the military court in Syria dropping charges against a lawyer?

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: And the SHRC
chairman, Haytham Al Maleh?
MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: Okay, and he had been
charged with spreading false news, belonging to an
international political association, and publishing material that caused sectarian friction. Do you see that? Those are the charges?

MR. PARDY: Yes, which is code word for the fact that this was an attack on the
minority government of Syria, which everybody agrees -- it's an Al Duwait(ph), what they refer to as an Al Duwait(ph), which is a minority group in Syria.

MS EDWARDH: So this is an attack on him as a member of that group?

MR. PARDY: When they say that the sectarian friction, they're saying that the group was promoting sectarian division within the country.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And I would assume that those charges don't tell us much about the substance of any real wrong-doing on the part of the lawyer who is also the head of the group --

MR. PARDY: But it does tell us -it does tell us the sensitivity of the authorities.

MS EDWARDH: Oh, I have no doubt that they're sensitive.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: I'm not sure
"sensitive" is the right word, but in any event... MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: Just to confirm, if I could just take you to tab 581 and 540 .

So turn to 540 first. And you've just left the department, but $I$ can take you back to --

MR. PARDY: Just one second. I
need the document here.
MS EDWARDH: And you may have only
had this come clearly to your attention -- or it may not have come to your attention, I'm sorry, Mr. Pardy, but you may have learned this as you read the document thereafter.

We have a number of notes, and $I$ suppose the first one that $I$ draw your attention to is 540 .

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: It originated, this
CAMANT note, from Myra -- I'm sorry? Oh, 514
apparently is the first one.
THE COMMISSIONER: 514.
MS EDWARDH: Oh, I'm sorry. This
does put you in the loop -- 514, tab 514.
Thank you very much.
"Dr Mazigh..."
Do you see 514, at the very
bottom?
MR. PARDY: Yes, I do.

MS EDWARDH:
"Dr Mazigh has canvassed various contacts and suggests following two names as possible lawyers for Maher. Her preference is for the first, Mr Emaleh."

And then you see, and $I$ think we
can agree, this is a version of Canadian
misspelling of names --
MR. PARDY: Transliterations.
MS EDWARDH: Transliterations.
MR. PARDY: It's a difficult
process, yes.
MS EDWARDH: That indeed, Haytham
Al Maleh is the lawyer who is to be retained to act for Mr. Arar in Syria?

MR. PARDY: That was their
preference.
MS EDWARDH: Right. And you see
that again if you go to tab 540 --
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: -- second line, or
second paragraph:
"She has decided that she

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would prefer to engage..."
And the name of the lawyer.
And then over again -- perhaps we're getting closer to the real name at tab 581. And we're now into September.

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I think my views on this issue were reflected, I think, fairly accurately in the minutes of the meeting that I had with Dr. Mazigh on August 18 where we discussed this issue, $I$ thought, in some detail, and I gave her the reasons for my concern in terms of the hiring of a person such as this.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And she heard you out and --

MR. PARDY: And decided otherwise, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And decided
otherwise?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: But certainly your
recommendation -- I mean, I suppose, to just explore this a little so we don't leave any misunderstandings, it's my understanding of your recommendation that you are not only trying to urge someone to get counsel who may not have
divided loyalties, but you're urging the retaining of counsel who may not be as much a target for the administration?

MR. PARDY: Or not so much divided loyalties, but could have other objectives in this process as well, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. Certainly in other cases where you and I have been involved, it's been certainly my view that the object of the exercise is to find someone who has the courage to act, who won't disappear?

MR. PARDY: Or is not disappeared in the process.

MS EDWARDH: Right. That's right.
So, for example, if $I$ can just --
I know, it's tough to be a lawyer in some places, Mr. Commissioner.

MR. PARTY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: So, for example, this
same discussion occurred between you and I in respect of Mrs. Kazemi's family --

MR. PARDY: Yes, it did, yes, I
remember.
MS EDWARDH: And I listened to
you, I did the same thing and didn't follow the
advice of the embassy, but hired someone I thought couldn't disappear --

MR. PARDY: Yes. That was a very unique case. She had just --

MS EDWARDH: Won the Nobel Peace Prize.

MR. PARDY: -- been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and I thought that gave her a large measure of protection in that process. So I did not --

MS EDWARDH: Right. So the real
objective in hiring someone is to try and make sure that those persons who are retained don't put themselves in harm's way to such an extent that they lose their own lives in the course of acting?

MR. PARDY: Absolutely, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Thank you.
We covered the introduction of the
Syrian brotherhood into the calculus, and indeed that occurs as early as the beginning of December in 2002, December 12? The first record I could find. Do you want a reference --

MR. PARDY: Subject to any
other -- I mean, certainly it was -- that may have been the very first specific reference, although

I'm not sure, in the notes that Mr. Pillarella prepared after the November 3 or -- I had a telephone conversation with Mr. Pillarella right after he had seen the General on November 3. We had spoken over the phone. And I'm not sure whether we speculated at that point about the Muslim brotherhood at that point.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. So it may have
occurred --
MR. PARDY: But it certainly
was -- it didn't surprise me when $I$ saw this specific reference in December, no.

MS EDWARDH: Certainly it's specifically on the table that it's Syria's interests that are at stake, no one else's interests that are at stake, and this is an issue of great concern to the Syrian government. That's essentially what you were told?

MR. PARDY: That's what we were
told, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Right.
And I want to just go back to your comments, that you requested some assistance from Mr. Arar's family at the beginning of January.

MR. PARDY: I wasn't that
specific. I said it was in the context of when the first allegations started to emerge about the possibility of a trial, and $I$ think -- my memory was that this was February or March -- it was the first time, and then when it emerged in August, we returned to this issue again, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. So my note of your evidence, sir, and that -- you know, I may be wrong or you may have misspoken yourself, was that this matter was raised with Monia and Bassam in January --

MR. PARDY: No.
MR. CAVALLUZZO: -- and I take it you will agree with me that while the Syrian brotherhood is on the table, there is absolutely no reason to be asking them about 1993?

MR. PARDY: No, I did not -- in the first instance, it was not raised with Monia and Bassam. They were together in the August time frame when $I$ raised it. Earlier on, I think it was in a telephone conversation with Dr. Mazigh, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And that you
now locate in March --
MR. PARDY: Somewhere in that time
frame, because $I$ was thinking about this issue, the allegations of Afghanistan, and what did this mean? And $I$ was casting about for any information that could be available to us in the event that that was important, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Well, certainly by the time -- if we go through the various stages, the allegation about Afghanistan wasn't important to the Syrians, or did not appear to be important to the Syrians.

MR. PARDY: Well, when they moved off to the -- at a certain point there they made the allegation of membership in al-Qaeda and you had a match with what the Americans had stated in their exclusion order, and what $I$ found significant was that the Syrians had moved to match their allegations, if you like, with those of the Americans, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And certainly the first we know of that is as a result of the meetings that take place when the Members of Parliament are in Syria?

MR. PARDY: Again, $I$ would have to refresh my memory as to whether that was the very first suggestion of that.

MS EDWARDH: The first record I
can find, because there's a lengthy hiatus, and there are no visits for a period of weeks leading up to --

MR. PARDY: February.
MS EDWARDH: Yes -- leading up to that April visit, and then the briefing comes: "Our investigation is complete, Mr. Arar will stand trial as a member of al-Qaeda."

MR. PARDY: That certainly
occurred in the April 23 time frame --
MS EDWARDH: Well, the record
speaks for itself. I don't want to prove a negative because we'll be here till next June, okay.

MR. PARDY: No, no, no.
MS EDWARDH: And that accords
roughly with your recollection?
MR. PARDY: Yes. But I think the other thing that sort of touched off in my own mind were the allegations themselves of being in Afghanistan in 1993 and the relevance of that to a consideration of this whole issue.

And the allegations about
Afghanistan, of course, occurred in November of

2002 .
MS EDWARDH: Right.
Now, let's go to your view of this allegation, and $I$ take it -- you said very clearly in answer to Commission counsel's question -- that the suggestion of someone being in Afghanistan in 1993 was really not an important element for you?

MR. PARDY: Not an important
element. What $I$ was suggesting here, that to suggest and to draw a conclusion that presence in Afghanistan in 1993 denoted, say, membership in al-Qaeda, I think. There is a distinction there, I think you will agree with me.

MS EDWARDH: Sure. So that's as much a stretch, in fact, as saying that a twelve-and thirteen-year-old is a member of the Muslim brotherhood because, quite frankly, al-Qaeda -- or no.

In Afghanistan in 1993, as you pointed out, the Mujaheddin were freedom fighters supported by Western liberal democracies, like the United States?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and they were fighting against another group in Afghanistan called the Taliban who had not succeeded at that
point, yes.
MS EDWARDH: So that's why for you
it was not a meaningful element in a step of proof that someone was a member of al-Qaeda?

MR. PARDY: No, not at all.
MS EDWARDH: Yes. Now, let me
just go back.
I've looked through your notes, or
the CAMANT notes, or the voluminous e-mails between you and Dr. Mazigh, and I cannot find anywhere, Mr. Pardy, any specific reference to, "Can you help me find $X, Y$, and $Z ?$ ?.

MR. PARDY: Not in that period.
As I mentioned, I thought it was done in a telephone call with her, and as you know, there were quite a number of telephone calls.

I think it does find reflection in August in a written record.

MS EDWARDH: Right, and we'll come to that.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: But certainly at the
time you have a recollection of making this request --

MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: -- and there are
many notes you make of telephone calls. You put them into the CAMANT system.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: So I'm going to make a couple of suggestions to you: first of all, that that conversation that you had, Mr. Pardy, the first time you recall having it, was in the context of Dr. Mazigh saying, "I want you to help me meet the men who are saying this. I want to meet with the RCMP." And you knew that was not going to be in the cards.

MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: You don't remember
that conversation?
MR. PARDY: No, I'm saying, that was not in the cards, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, that's right.
But you recall her wanting to meet with --
MR. PARDY: Yes, from the top to
the bottom, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Yes.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And, indeed, the
suggestion of trying to gather some assistance was
often in the context of Monia saying to you, "Help me meet these men who are my husband's accusers"?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I think by
counter to that, on this particular issue, it really had nothing to do with officials of the Government of Canada.

This information came from the Syrian authorities. And what $I$ was interested in achieving, and given the fact that the information was ten years old, was whether or not through family records or academic records that there might be some indication that, factually, the allegation was wrong and could be discounted on that basis.

MS EDWARDH: Now, I'm going to also suggest that, while this may have been the subject matter of a discussion in the context of her wanting to meet with Canadian policing and intelligence authorities, that there really was -it was not of high priority of yours at this time because, you see, Mr. Pardy, there's no follow-up, and if someone were to say to you, sir, "I'll bring you X" or "You send someone out to look for X", I can tell you, Mr. Pardy, you would have a follow-up memorandum shot out through an e-mail
saying, "Have you got it yet? What you have learned?"

MR. PARDY: No. I think what you have to remember is that the Syrians were saying that a trial was imminent, and it was raised in that context. And then the issue of an imminent trial in that period of time, of course, just fell by the wayside and $I$ just, you know, as with all other things you just left it lie there.

But again, come August, we knew that the Syrian suggestion that there was going to be a trial, that was going to take place within a week, and $I$ was concerned then that if there was any information that we could obtain and put it in play to discount what could have been a central tenet in the Syrian prosecution.

MS EDWARDH: Maybe. Maybe not.
MR. PARDY: Maybe, yes. I didn't know.

But I thought it was very valuable for us to have, and I also felt that it was information, that if the family had something, that they could provide it, yes.

MS EDWARDH: From your perspective it's fair to say when these discussions about a
trial occurred in April, it was going to be an imminent trial, right? No one gets a lot of -Weren't you told in April by --

MR. PARDY: I think it was earlier
than April. I thought it was March, I think. But
I stand to be corrected again on this one. I
mean, we're covering -- in terms of time.
But I think it was a little
earlier in -- was it in the February visit, or at that time frame? February 18 --

MS EDWARDH: Let me check.
MR. PARDY: Yes, it's worth
checking.
MS EDWARDH: Because you may be right.

I have a clear sense that it was formally stated in the context of the visits of the Mps when they said, "Our investigation is over and Mr. Arar will stand trial."

MR. PARDY: Well, that's -- I
mean, let's see if the record is -- what it says.
THE COMMISSIONER: What tab?
MS EDWARDH: Just give me a
moment, Mr. Commissioner.
MR. CAVALLUZZO: It's tab 313 and
the witness is referring to paragraph 4.
MR. PARDY: And what is the date
on that?
MR. CAVALLUZZO: February 17 and the visit is February 18.

MR. PARDY: Give me the tab number
again, please?
MR. CAVALLUZZO: 313.
MR. PARDY: 313.
Yes, $I$ think this is the -- sort of the general environment in which we were working, yes.

MS EDWARDH: All right. So let's take a look at the information that is provided to you.

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: First of all, there's the statement -- and if you see anything else that draws you in another direction, point it out -but:
"As previously indicated, we had no indication that charges had been laid..."

Right?
MR. PARDY: As you will know -- or

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perhaps not, since you're in the common law tradition -- in the civil law tradition, the detailing of charges is part of the adjudication process, and it doesn't sort of necessarily take place in advance of a trial.

MS EDWARDH: But they also say
that the charges --
"There's no indication that charges have been laid... and security services confirmed the fact."

MR. PARDY: That's right.
MS EDWARDH:
"They also indicated that if/when charges will be laid, consular access might cease."

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: And -- it's tab 313,
Mr. Baxter.
MR. BAXTER: I'm looking for -paragraph 4 refers to specific issues you have raised, and $I$ believe paragraph 4 is in response to something that's been sent from the witness to Mr. Martel. So I apologize for all the flipping of papers.

MS EDWARDH: No, no. I thought
perhaps you couldn't find your place. I'll let you flip then.
--- Laughter / Rires
MS EDWARDH: I mean, all I really
want to point out, Mr. Arar is still being detained. Then it goes on under c):
"Investigation is ongoing and
there is no indication as to
when it will be completed."
So, in February, as I read this
note, a trial is not on the horizon, nor is any specific allegation, and it crystallizes on April 22 when people are told -- am I missing something? No.

It crystallizes on April 22 when people are told the investigation is, in fact, concluded, and there will be a charge that Mr. Arar is a member of al-Qaeda?

MR. PARDY: Yes, but you will see from the record, the way $I$ approach dealing with cases such as this, there are certain things that you need to do today in order to take care of today, but there are certain things that you do today in order to plan for the future in the event
of what's going to occur.
And what touched off in my mind were these comments by Mr. Martel. He was speculating about the possibility of something happening, and what $I$ was concerned with, that we start some of the planning that might be necessary to meet this sort of thing if, as occurred in August, the Syrians suddenly decided, okay, he's in a court tomorrow --

MS EDWARDH: Well, indeed, they told you in April he would be in a court within a week.

MR. PARDY: But, yes, within --
no, well, it was a bit later. In August, they told us within a week he was going to be in trial.

MS EDWARDH: In any event, you'll agree with me, will you not, that certainly the conversation that you had with Dr. Mazigh did not take place directly as a result of this visit but, rather, sometime after this visit and before April, there was a conversation, and we don't have a record of it.

MR. PARDY: We don't have a record of it, but, again -- and $I$ think what was interesting about the fact is that $I$ think it was
at that point that Dr. Mazigh had mentioned to me that she did not know Mr. Arar in 1993, that they had met in early 1994, and she said -- I think even mention was made about the -- that he was living with his mother in Montreal -- I'm not certain of this. But, again, you know. But, again --

MS EDWARDH: I don't find in the record the details that $I$ know you know about Mr. Arar, when he met his wife, how she couldn't personally assist you with knowledge of 1993. Can you describe for us where in this record would this history that you clearly had at your fingertips, Mr. Pardy -- why isn't it written down?

MR. PARDY: The record is so large here and so frequent with respect to the conversations that I had with Dr. Mazigh through this period -- I don't think there was hardly a day that went by; and if $I$ had to sit down after every one of those conversations and give you the level of detail that you're suggesting here, well, I'm sorry, then $I$ don't think $I$ would have been able to do the job that $I$ was asked to do.

MS EDWARDH: Fair enough.

MR. PARDY: And, you mean, so in that sense, a lot of this kind -- it goes back to the earlier questions when we were dealing with whether or not you kept notes and this sort of thing.

MS EDWARDH: Sure.
MR. PARDY: But what $I$ did was --
my memory is not bad, even at my advanced age, and I could remember things and $I$ would deal with it.

MS EDWARDH: So it's very clear
that generally it's fair to say that Bassam and Dr. Mazigh tried to help you?

MR. PARDY: In -- well, as far as -- I don't know if she had gone to Bassam in the earlier conversation, but certainly Bassam was present in August when we raised the issue and -and went away and said, "Well, I'll see what we can come up with."

MS EDWARDH: I'm going to suggest to you that he was alive to this general request earlier, and one of the things -- you know, we start with, what did he give you? One of the things you wanted early on was a copy of Mr. Arar's Syrian passport. And he brought it, you copied it, and he left with it. But that was
to make sure that it was expired -- or I don't know what it was for.

MR. PARDY: I must say -- sure,
that was with Ms Pastyr-Lupul, because I do not remember that incident at all with respect to the passport, although we were sensitive on this issue of the Syrian passport and the validity and whether or not it had been used in any way in terms of his travels in 2002 .

MS EDWARDH: Right.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: That's why it makes logical sense for you to have asked for it. But at the same time, I take it -- I can't find any record of its receipt, nor can $I$ find any record of the request; and I take it, Mr. Pardy, that that doesn't mean it didn't happen, it's just that there's no record and you don't happen to have a memory today.

MR. PARDY: Exactly, of that one particular thing. But on this, which I saw as very central, the issue if there was going to be a trial, I saw that particular bit of information about Afghanistan as being particularly important, and the possibility that there could have been
either a financial or an academic record that would demonstrate that during the seven and a half months it was alleged that he was in Afghanistan, no, he was in downtown Montreal. That would have been a wonderful thing to have.

MS EDWARDH: We know we don't have any other follow-up, even from the August meeting.

But let me just ask you: were you aware, or did you make any inquiry of Dr. Mazigh, about the difficulty she had getting transcripts? Did you make any inquiry about that?

MR. PARDY: Transcripts of what?
MS EDWARDH: Of Mr. Arar's
attendance at McGill, because he was not --
MR. PARDY: No, I did not know
that that was the case, no. I did not and --
MS EDWARDH: Were you aware that
Dr. Mazigh had tried to get the lawyer in Syria to obtain a power of attorney that would give her access to certain documents, but, of course he never got in.

MR. PARDY: Which lawyer is this now?

MS EDWARDH: The lawyer in Syria. MR. PARDY: That was appointed
back in August?
MS EDWARDH: Yes.
MR. PARDY: Yes, because, as you know, all of that came together very quickly, and I was gone as of the 30 th of August, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. But he never got in, to your knowledge?

MR. PARDY: No. As a matter of fact, I think -- I learned subsequently that the lawyer had great difficulty in obtaining any information about the process in Syria in that latter part of August and September.

MS EDWARDH: And certainly then, it's fair to say, that should anyone require the usual formalities with respect to documents, like a power of attorney or a letter from the person who the documents belong to, that Dr. Mazigh couldn't get them?

MR. PARDY: Well, I know these are laws that have been put in place in Canada and I know they're very difficult, in terms of academic institutions and financial records, to obtain access to them.

MS EDWARDH: And, indeed, if you
were to ask someone today, "Would you mind going
back a decade to a bank and get the banking records?", two things are obvious: first of all, Mr. Arar knows where his banking records are. Is that correct? That's an assumption --

MR. PARDY: I don't know. Ten
years ago and he's living in Montreal, he had moved to Ottawa in the meantime, had gone down to the States, you know, we don't have a large trail of these things with us. MS EDWARDH: If anybody knows, he knows.

MR. PARDY: Yes, I would think
that would be the --
MS EDWARDH: But nobody is in a position to ask him which bank he banked at or whether he has the records?

MR. PARDY: Yes, but my
recollection is that he was -- you mean, this, as I understand it, was quite a close family and they were -- they weren't -- no suggestion of estrangement or anything else.

I was working under the assumption that somebody might be able to chip in some pieces of information. That was the only assumption.

MS EDWARDH: And do you, from your
vast experience, Mr. Pardy, know how long banks keep records? I'm going to suggest it's seven years.

MR. PARDY: Is that -- I take your word for that, yes. Academic records are kept a little longer, I think, yes.

MS EDWARDH: But then you have to have the power to get them out of the institution --

MR. PARDY: The need the power, yes, yes.

MS EDWARDH: But $I$ take it that if we look at this record, there is no evidence at all of any follow-up on your part on this issue?

MR. PARDY: Yes, because $I$ think the issue then sort of faded to a certain extent and we were trying to do other things, and, you know -- and $I$ just made the assumption that if the family were able to develop or provide information, that that would have been on my desk without me having to prompt them, given the importance of this, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes. Given the importance, if you had thought that it should -if it hadn't kind of moved off the horizon with
rapidly changing events, you would have followed up as well?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I did when things started to really move in August. There is a record that $I$ did follow up, yes. MS EDWARDH: And I just want you to identify for me -- we'll go to the August. This is a note taken in a meeting with Ms Pither. Is that correct?

MR. PARDY: No, this is -- my
understanding is that -- in that meeting, Bassam Arar was not present. This was another meeting, and it is reflected, as $I$ understand it, in the desk notes of Ms Myra Pastyr-Lupul. I think that's my understanding. But all of this --

MS EDWARDH: Can you give us -- or could counsel give us some assistance? I have not seen that note. I am interested, if I could find it or perhaps I could ask --

MR. BAXTER: We will -- I believe
they're in the process of being redacted in advance of Ms Pastyr-Lupul's testimony. But we will certainly attempt to find the relevant sections and produce them to my friend as soon as we can.

I believe I've seen the piece of paper, the one page that the witness is referring to. I don't know, frankly, where it is, Mr. Commissioner, and it may take a bit of time to get it.

MS EDWARDH: You're not sure it's an exhibit?

MR. BAXTER: It's not an exhibit.
--- Laughter / Rires
MS EDWARDH: Not surprising I
haven't seen it.
THE COMMISSIONER: But it will be.
MR. BAXTER: The custom is to make it an exhibit when the witness arrives to identify the notes, $I$ believe.

THE COMMISSIONER: I see.
MS EDWARDH: And so your memory, sir, is that in August, you raised this issue again, and you would have raised it sometime after August 14?

MR. PARDY: I think it was -- I'm
trying to -- I think it was getting towards the very end when this thing -- I had Mr. Lockyer appointed. He was going to go out. And the family was making a final decision on a lawyer
there. And it was in that context of those discussions, and $I$ do explicitly remember that it was a meeting with Dr. Mazigh and her brother-in-law, Bassam.

MS EDWARDH: And then you retired on the 31st?

MR. PARDY: I should have done it a year earlier.
--- Laughter / Rires
MS EDWARDH: And might I take from
the description you've just given us that
Mr. Lockyer would be alive to any assistance he could provide in respect of the subject matter? In other words, if --

MR. PARDY: Not necessarily,
because, as you know, the purpose of Mr. Lockyer going out in this context was to observe the process, if there was a trial that was going on, and to provide us with information.

And given his own background in terms of the vicissitudes of the Canadian judicial system, I thought he was well-placed to provide that information to us in terms of casting a judgment on any judicial process that would take place in Syria.

MS EDWARDH: But surely, sir, if
you had any information that would assist in Mr. Arar's defence, once you have a sense of what the allegations was, you're going to get it into the hands of someone who can ensure that counsel in Syria can try to defend Mr. Arar?

MR. PARDY: And we would have given it direct to the counsel through the embassy, yes.

But Mr. Arar -- and I just made
reference to Mr. Lockyer -- it was a slightly different role that he was playing. As you know, there were discussions continuously with the lawyer that was appointed, between him and the embassy officials, and that would have been the channel that we would have used. Because in the first instance, we would work cooperatively with that lawyer in any way we could.

That's the way we do it.
Mr. Lockyer was sort of a -- I don't want to say "supernumerary", but certainly was serving a separate purpose.

MS EDWARDH: Did you give the November 3 statement to the lawyer in Syria?

MR. PARDY: I do not know
whether -- what material was passed by the people in Damascus, whether Mr. Martel or Mr. Pillarella, but $I$ think what we were trying to do, and I think what the lawyer was trying to do after he was appointed -- he was sort of visiting the various offices, trying to find out where the file was, and he was getting the run-around from everybody there. But what was the discussion was, I think Mr. Pillarella or Mr. Martel can certainly provide you with details on that.

MS EDWARDH: Fine. But you will agree, Mr. Pardy, as a simple proposition, if one were going to arm defence counsel in Syria and give them the tools to challenge the assertions made under interrogation, in circumstances where they may lack credibility, you needed to give that material to the counsel representing Mr. Arar? MR. PARDY: Absolutely, yes.
--- Pause
MS EDWARDH: And, in addition, I take it that you would forward to that lawyer any other information you had that could bear upon the involuntariness of the statement in question? MR. PARDY: Yes, that whole process -- by the time I left, I think the
discussions -- I am not quite sure if the final decision on retention of the lawyer had been taken by the time I left. I was still arguing against the retention of this kind of lawyer.

I still felt that it was
unamicable to Mr. Arar's interests to have somebody of this background, and I'm not sure then just where it went after August 30 , yes.

MS EDWARDH: But, my point is, the commitment is that this man is going to stand trial, even if it's in a court that you don't approve of, your role is to make sure that materials essential to the defence, which you understood related to 1993, would be in the hands of that defence counsel?

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I think it was also reflected in the actions of Ms Girvan in New York in dealing with counsel there. It is the same process. That is the standard way that we operate, yes, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And so one takes it
then, if that document could be put into
Mr. Arar's counsel's hands, it might be equally put into this counsel's hands, but I leave that for your consideration, Mr. Commissioner.

MR. PARDY: I'm sorry, I've lost
the bending of the roses. The document in
question? I'm not quite sure.
MS EDWARDH: Oh, we're talking
about the November 3 --
MR. PARDY: Oh, I'm sorry, you are being a bit rhetorical.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, I am. I was. My apologies. It's five to one.
--- Laughter / Rires
MR. PARDY: I looked at the
commissioner, and he looked as puzzled as I was.
--- Laughter / Rires
MS EDWARDH: Let me move to a different area then, and $I$ think we can do this quickly.

You were here during Ms Collins'
testimony when she was asked a series of questions about what steps -- they're hypotheticals, obviously -- but what steps would she have taken had she believed that it was a realistic possibility or probability that Mr. Arar was going to be deported to Syria.

And we need your guidance, to some extent, about the mechanisms that should exist
for, first of all, frontline persons. Assuming Ms Collins were to accept as a fact that this was a probability, what should such a consular officer do?

MR. PARDY: I think what would happen, it would be referred to me for action, because there is no point then of walking around at the lower reaches of a bureaucracy on an issue of this magnitude.

Two things could happen: one is, at a very high level in Washington, possibly the ambassador, he would go in and see a senior person in the Department of State there; and secondly, we would possibly call in the American Ambassador here in Ottawa on that issue.

MS EDWARDH: And by calling in the ambassador, the ambassador would be called in to speak with the Minister?

MR. PARDY: Yes, it would be at that level. Mr. Cellucci, as you know, given his -- I won't go there, but anyway...

That would be the normal thing to do.

MS EDWARDH: Right. Assuming he wasn't attending a luncheon meeting?

MR. PARDY: Yes, that's correct. MS EDWARDH: Okay. So that would be the high-level steps that would need to be taken to deal with such an extraordinary situation?

MR. PARDY: Yes, it would have to be very high in that sense, yes, if that -- but our problem was -- I mean, you'd go in and you would assume, make the assumption, that we had sufficient evidence to justify our concerns, and that's what would be laid on the table, yes. But, again, I'm back to the issue that $I$ discussed on the first day, I think, with Mr. Cavalluzzo here, as to what would be the results of that in the absence of very specific information, and I guess we had conflicting information. I think is not an unreasonable characterization to make of the information we had at that time.

MS EDWARDH: But the only direct statements you had -- I don't want to argue about the record. It's an idea of, what would you do if you decided there was evidence that there was a probability this would happened?

MR. PARDY: As I say, that's the

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two channels -- that's, general speaking, the most appropriate way to go. The American Ambassador in town and the Canadian Ambassador in Washington, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And we do know that there was no direct contact with the Americans on this issue. No one contacted them between October 3 and 8 on this issue: Is Mr. Arar really going to Syria or are you sending him to Syria? MR. PARDY: No, that is correct, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Now, here's my
problem, Mr. Pardy. I believe, sir, from your evidence, the conclusion that one would reach is that you were blind-sided by this conduct on the part of the Americans, sending him to Syria?

MR. PARDY: I thought their
behaviour was duplicitous, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And one of the things
you thought were the probability -- maybe not "probability". Maybe that's not fair to you. One of the things you were afraid of, knowing the history of this case and knowing what else was happening in the world, that Mr. Arar might find himself in Guantanamo. You
mentioned that earlier.
MR. PARDY: Yes, I did.
But the other scenario that I mentioned in the same context, being a member of al-Qaeda was a criminal offence in the United States, and the possibility that he would be incarcerated until such time as they decided whether they would have a trial.

MS EDWARDH: Right. That would, of course, be the civilized way to approach the allegation of involvement in a criminal organization.

Did you have any other basis to believe that there was a realistic possibility that he would be shipped out to Guantanamo?

MR. PARDY: No, other than the -as you know, this behaviour or this action by the Americans, in terms of shipping people to Guantanamo, which was -- the issue here is it gets back to citizenship; and, as far as I know, there was one example of an American citizen ending up in Guantanamo, but he was quickly removed because the courts -- the legal basis for Guantanamo, if I can use that term, did not support having such a person there.

But a person such as Mr. Arar could easily have ended up in a place like Guantanamo.

MS EDWARDH: Because, in fact, the population of Guantanamo was not at all confined to persons who were apprehended and detained out of Afghanistan?

MR. PARDY: Not at all, no.
MS EDWARDH: Right. There were collections of people from various nations placed in Guantanamo on the principle that there might be some actionable intelligence obtained through their detention.

MR. PARDY: And the removal of individuals from the field of action, if $I$ can use that term.

MS EDWARDH: Incapacitation?
MR. PARDY: "Incapacitation" is a
good word, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, if you thought that Mr. Arar was going to Guantanamo, from my perspective as his counsel, Mr. Pardy, it's not much better than Syria. So --

MR. PARDY: Yeah, no, I'm sorry.
In the context that this came up was that $I$ was
being asked by -- what was going through your mind, as $I$ was trying to deal with the situation of Mr. Arar in New York; and I think the question was, "Well, what were the possibilities here?" And there were certain possibilities.

My primary conclusion was that --
and I think other people that were working on this case -- was that Mr. Arar would be treated somewhat similar to what happened to Mr. Baloch and Mr. Jaffri. That was -- the other possibilities was Guantanamo --

MS EDWARDH: That's the most likely probability.

MR. PARDY: That's the most likely
probability.
MS EDWARDH: But certainly on your
radar as a risk was Guantanamo?
MR. PARDY: Was a possibility,
yes, if there was going to be something going on other than retaining him in the continental United States for possible -- further investigation, because the term that was used -- I'm trying to think -- there was people such as this, and it came up in the context of Mr. Baloch and Mr. Jaffri -- was that they were subject to
clearance following an investigation by the FBI. MS EDWARDH: Yes, and it's just as easy to remove someone to Guantanamo for such clearance as well.

MR. PARDY: Very few people, as I
recall, were moved -- again, we're back into
this -- were removed from the continental United States to Guantanamo. Most -- I think the vast majority were over.

Again, that was an exceptional -it would have been an exceptional development, just as the removal of Mr. Arar to Syria was an exceptional development. Yes.

MS EDWARDH: My question, though, is this: Having got it in your mind or it's on your radar screen --

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: -- why weren't steps
taken, such as that you've just described in respect of Syria, why weren't they taken in respect of the prospective removal or possible removal of a Canadian citizen on his way home, travelling on a passport -- why weren't they taken with respect to your concern that he's going to Guantanamo?

MR. PARDY: Because, as I just mentioned, the conclusion -- or not the conclusion, that's too strong a word -- but the operational assumption we were making here, that Mr. Arar would remain in American custody in New York for some time to come.

MS EDWARDH: And, of course,
that -- it's not a criticism, but it's the operational assumption that is premised upon an entire absence of candour and information by American authorities.

MR. PARDY: Well, I think during this period, after the 2nd of October, I think there was a fair degree of openness and cooperation from the American authorities during that period.

The consular access, the
acknowledgment that he was a Canadian citizen, the agreement that a lawyer could be appointed and the lawyer could go visit him -- there were a number of those factors that gave us some measure of confidence that the operational assumption was a reasonable one.
MS EDWARDH: But my problem with
that -- that's the jail. That's the jail. You
know, I mean, the jail lets you in. You said yesterday that you were satisfied that the acknowledgment by MDC authorities was sufficient to constitute notice under the Vienna Convention. Fair enough. That's the jail --

MR. PARDY: Followed by word from Washington on October 4.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, and I don't think it would have mattered to you if Washington hadn't called you, as long as you had confirmation from MDC?

MR. PARDY: Not really, no.
MS EDWARDH: Right.
And I also think that it's clear that it's the MDC who lets you in. You weren't dealing with $I N S$ or you weren't dealing with the Department of Justice, you were dealing with a jail. It doesn't matter how fancy a jail or how tight a jail it is, it's just a jail.

MR. PARDY: Yes, but in terms of -- you mean, as you know, our understanding of what went on at MDC, the type of person there, in part supported our operational conclusion that Mr. Arar was going to be in the United States for some time to come.

MS EDWARDH: But my point isn't that you drew the wrong conclusion, my point is that you didn't get any information from the INS about the allegations, about the suggestion, about the process.

It looked to me like everybody didn't understand what was happening, and perhaps including Mr. Arar's New York lawyer.

MR. PARDY: Well, that was the whole point, to get a lawyer into this process as early as possible. And, really, from quite early on, in Ms Girvan's testimony here, not only did we raise this issue with the family, they decided that they would go out through contacts of their own and seek the appointment of Ms Oummih.

But on top of that, we were
talking to people at the Centre for Constitutional Rights, who had a fair bit of experience in this area, that could advise us on these things. And so it wasn't a static situation in that sense whatsoever.

MS EDWARDH: But all I'm really
saying, when $I$ talked about the lack of information from the U.S. authorities, while we can agree that MDC, which is just a federal

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holding facility -- that's all it is --
MR. PARDY: For the 9th floor, for
a very specific purpose.
MS EDWARDH: But it's a big
institution.
MR. PARDY: It's a big
institution, but I think the 9th floor, in terms of part of that institution, was there for a very specific purpose, so that people could be held and investigated by the $F B I$ with respect to any crime that they might have committed in the United States.

MS EDWARDH: My point only is
that, while you got some cooperation from the prison or the jail, it is obviously clear that through this time period in Mr. Arar's removal, that there was no cooperation, by being forthright and candid about who was holding him, what the nature of the process was, no dealings with the American authorities outside the jail?

MR. PARDY: But that is the
purpose of the appointment of counsel, is to get into and understand -- I mean, my understanding was that Ms Oummih was retained on the basis that she practised in the area of immigration law in
the United States, and that's the purpose.
It's to get her involved in the process. She understands that process and knows how to work in that process.

MS EDWARDH: But you tried, didn't
you, Mr. Pardy? I mean, isn't there --
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: -- ample evidence of senior officials from the Government of Canada trying to get information?

MR. PARDY: Oh, absolutely.
But I think in terms of -- when
you get down to the level of detail that you're suggesting here that might lead us to change our operational assumptions here, what we were looking for was the lawyer to help us out on this process.

And I think, as is recorded in one of the chronologies, and certainly was not necessarily evident at the time, but the lawyer, in her advice to Mr. Arar, was exactly the same as ours -- or our understanding, if you like, as to how American law was going to play out here.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. Certainly, in addition to the lawyer, you got no help from U.S. authorities that were not prison officials between

October 3 to October 8?
MR. PARDY: No, but we did not think that those officials that were involved and Ms Girvan was talking to, that they were sort of just images of no consequence.

I mean, they were making
decisions, and one has to assume that decisions that are made by American officials, in cases such as this, they are not idiosyncratic, they are coming based on some consultation within their system.

And what gave us some measure of confidence here was the conclusion by American officials that Mr. Arar was a Canadian, he was travelling on a Canadian passport, they acknowledged all of this through consular access, and the right to have access to counsel.

MS EDWARDH: And that's why you considered their conduct duplicitous?

MR. PARDY: No. Following all of this, in terms of what they did with respect to the deportation -- or the exclusion to Syria, yes. MS EDWARDH: Well, I think I pursued that area with you, and we're not going to go any further.

I wonder what your views are,
Mr. Commissioner --
THE COMMISSIONER: We'll take a lunch break. We've gone a bit over, so we'll go to -- 2:20, we'll resume.

THE REGISTRAR: Please stand.
--- Upon recessing at 1:11 p.m. /
Suspension à 13 h 11
--- Upon resuming at 2:27 p.m. /
Reprise à 14 h 27
THE REGISTRAR: Please be seated.
Veuillez vous asseoir.
MS EDWARDH: Good afternoon,
Mr. Commissioner.
THE COMMISSIONER: Good afternoon.
MS EDWARDH: Good afternoon,
Mr. Pardy.
Let me just move on to another
area and try and link them.
I think it's fair to say from what
you have said that your working assumption with respect to the early stages of Mr . Arar's detention in Syria is that he was the victim of ill-treatment.

I want to now turn to what I
consider a link in an important area -- that's a fair statement?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: -- which is the
sharing of information. And $I$ want to first ask you about the sharing of this kind of working assumption.

Would Mr. Martel, who of course you would have known $I$ am sure as a colleague over a number of years, would he be alive to the working assumption that you approached this case on?

For example, would you have had an
opportunity to talk to him and reflect on his observations and reflect on the public record, and share this view that it was obvious or clear or likely that Mr. Arar was the victim of treatment that fell below the standard set in CAT early on? MR. PARDY: I can't recall that I had any direct conversations with Mr. Martel. It would have had to have been by telephone.

But certainly $I$ had conversations
with the ambassador, and in talking to the ambassador, quite literally you are talking to everyone in the embassy.

But I think the tenor of the questions, the written questions, that went out to the embassy, I think, in terms of the -- I can't remember the first set or the second set. Certainly one of the elements in that was just exactly this point.

MS EDWARDH: The change in demeanour and --

MR. PARDY: That sort of thing, and that was the underlying reasons for asking these questions, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And would it be fair for us to assume then that -- I don't want to talk about this code. It's like lawyers speaking to lawyers. When you ask those kinds of questions, it's clear to the recipient that you are looking for information about those kinds of issues, about ill-treatment?

MR. PARDY: Oh, absolutely.
MS EDWARDH: I don't want to leave it just at the implied level.

Were you saying, sir, that
Ambassador Pillarella would have had an understanding that, from your perspective, given your extensive knowledge, that was your view?

MR. PARDY: Yes, I think that would be a fair assumption to make, yes. MS EDWARDH: He would have known that?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: You are all involved in a pretty close circle of providing consular services to Mr. Arar. Now I want to talk about up the chain of authority.

There are other people above you, and while you may have been alive to these issues in October, in November, I have not seen any document, Mr. Pardy, that clearly expresses your concerns about this issue to your superiors, right on up into the Minister's office.

But would it be clear from your briefings -- and $I$ know you spoke to all these people in addition to providing written information.

Would they have been aware of the working assumption you had about Mr. Arar's treatment in October and November of 2002?

MR. PARDY: Yes, I think both horizontally and vertically that that was the case.

I would just explain to you that, like in New York, I had a dual reporting relationship. Ms McCallion, who ostensibly was my theoretical boss, every time we had a major case involving a country, like this case, then $I$ went over to the political side. And it wasn't so much as the boss but the people on the Middle East side of things, Mr. Sinclair was there as the Director General and Mr. McNee was the ADM. And that's the route that we would go upstairs on this kind of an issue. It wouldn't go up the other route at all. MS EDWARDH: And the other route would be?

MR. PARDY: Through Ms McCallion, although her name shows up occasionally on the thing, but it would be on the other side.

The people on the political side were certainly as familiar as $I$ was in terms of what kind of conditions might prevail in a country like Syria.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And I
appreciate that they would be aware in general. But it's important in a sense to know that you had, from your own experience and from your talking to the ambassador and talking to

Mr. Martel, you had formed a view that allowed you to draw certain conclusions or tentative conclusions in this time period of October-November.

MR. PARDY: Yes, and I think -MS EDWARDH: They would have known
that?
MR. PARDY: Yes, I think these
views were shared, that that was a good solid working assumption that one made in dealing with cases such as this.

I should point out, as well, we had another very prominent case going that $I$ was dealing with the same group of people on in another country in the region, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And $I$ think
we all know what that case was.
Let me just ask, because I always
get lost in these organizational charts -- I can't figure out what's up and what's down.

We know that Mr. Livermore held a
senior position. He was the director of what, intelligence and security?

MR. PARDY: Director General.
MS EDWARDH: Director General. So
he was, in a sense, on a line with you?
MR. PARDY: Yes, roughly.
MS EDWARDH: So when you say
"horizontally and vertically", would it be your view that, in light of Mr. Livermore and Mr. Solomon's involvement in this case, they too would have been alive to the working assumptions you had?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Thank you.
I don't mean to rehash old areas,
but let's take a look at some of these issues in the context of information-sharing within the department.

Mr. Cavalluzzo raised with you the
statements set out in the information provided to Canadian citizens or indeed landed immigrants, that their communications were confidential. I don't have to go back over that.

You said it needed updating, as I recall your answer.

MR. PARDY: Yes, in light of experiences on some of these high-profile-type cases involving terrorism and national security, yes.

MS EDWARDH: So I take it there needs to be some clear communication to persons that there are exceptions to the principles of confidentiality. That's really what you are saying. They need to be told that.

MR. PARDY: I think we just made specific -- we just said the Privacy Act, and I think in these circumstances perhaps what would go on under the authority of the Privacy Act there are provisions for the sharing of information in the following circumstances, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Right. Because what
it says is it's protected by the Privacy Act, which at least to an ordinary reader would convey that there was a non-sharing.

MR. PARDY: Yes, I think perhaps too much shorthand was used in that sense.

But certainly I would come back, fall back upon the fact that this was really an exceptional case. And I think exceptional cases, of course, always lead to changes in terms of operational procedures and the information one provides to clients.

MS EDWARDH: Right. You have said three things $I$ want to explore.

Are the RCMP and CSIS clients of the Department of Foreign Affairs?

MR. PARDY: No.
MS EDWARDH: Okay.
MR. PARDY: Except in one -- no, I
am sorry. I would amplify that.
In the sense that when they are operating in an overseas capacity, then quite clearly the Department of Foreign Affairs has a role to play in terms of what they are doing overseas, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. And we have heard about the hierarchy and the responsibilities of the ambassador in respect of either CSIS operatives or the RCMP that could be operating in the country. In other words, in theory they are supposed to report to the ambassador who is largely a person who has knowledge and, I suppose, some direction.

MR. PARDY: I think it's more than
theory. I think the practice has been that that is the case.

MS EDWARDH: All right. So the client you were referring to is the person receiving consular services, in your answer?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: We will come to this. What is troubling is that if in fact the -- and we will come to Mr. Livermore's phraseology -- the promise of confidence to persons facing charges, or detained without charge, could readily be, not by any rule that said that criminal intelligence or security interests could result in disclosure. MR. PARDY: I don't think that's a fair interpretation of Mr. Livermore's testimony. I listened to it very carefully, and I know there were a number of subtleties that were there. What Mr. Livermore was talking about when he was talking about the sharing of information was information for which he had responsibility. That did not include consular information. These were not decisions for him to make, and $I$ think he made that clear, I think, on the last morning of his testimony.

MS EDWARDH: Well, we are going to come to that in a little bit more detail, because I think it's very important for the Commissioner to understand.
forget to come back to that specifically, because I had thought you had merged the two, i.e., information received by the ambassador from Syrian Military Intelligence and information received by the ambassador through the consular process. We will come to try to separate them out then.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: But I want to start out with something you said, because $I$ would just like to have you review it with me. I am going to put to you it doesn't get you there.

It is tab 30, Mr. Pardy.
It is clear, if you look at tab 30, the purpose of the conversation recorded by Ms Girvan allows us two things, gets you two places.

Ms Girvan is quite properly making a record which discloses that she has informed Mr. Arar of the provisions with respect to confidentiality and is seeking his consent to the release of certain information.

Is that fair?
MR. PARDY: The first sentence in the first paragraph, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes. So we do know that the promise of confidentiality was held out to him and he was asked to give consent to the release of information; fair enough?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Now, the list of persons Mr. Arar gives consent to are his brother, his mother-in-law, his wife, and anyone who could help him, including his company, Mathworks.

I am going to suggest to you that when you look fairly at that consent, that it is clearly a list of persons that are close to Mr. Arar?

MR. PARDY: The first part, yes. The first part of the construction there, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Well, embedded in the construction, anyone who could help, including the company, Mathworks, that employs him, still forms a circle of persons who he knows and who have worked with him or with whom he is in a relationship with.

MR. PARDY: I took the words to
mean, as $I$ explained when this came up with Mr. Cavalluzzo, was that this was a -- the words I took at face value, "anyone who would help him".

And the fact they included Mathworks in this construction suggested to me that Mr. Arar himself was possibly thinking about that maybe something happened in the United States that gave rise to his detention by the American authorities.

I mean, it's an interpretation of the words, and I interpret them and acted accordingly.

MS EDWARDH: I want to say, sir,
that $I$ find it troubling, because clearly if $I$ tell you that you can speak to my mother and father and spouse and child and the men and women I work with, it is a circle of people with whom I have personal dealings.

We can agree with that?
MR. PARDY: But if you use the words "anyone who can help me", then in effect I would take those words at face value and act accordingly.

MS EDWARDH: The trouble with that
is I asked Ms Girvan the question about whether she thought that these notes that she made of Mr. Arar's consular visits were shared -- whether she knew they were going to be shared.

MR. PARDY: Yes, I think I can

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remember the exchange, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And she said she was unaware of any such sharing.

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: So certainly you will
agree with me that it was not within her contemplation when she made these notes that the sharing or the consent extended to third party agencies who had no personal dealings with Mr. Arar.

She didn't think she was asking that question?

MR. PARDY: But I think the issue
that was facing me, sitting in Ottawa and attempting to provide assistance to Mr. Arar, was to make a decision as to who the people might be that could provide assistance to him.

And that's why it came to the conclusion that I did.

But I would come back as well here, and it's important to realize that in the Privacy Act itself, in addition to being a specific grant, if you like, of permission, as contained in this message, there is also the general grant of permission that the information
can be used for which it has been collected.
MS EDWARDH: Or that you can make the decision on a calculus of benefit and harm. MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: Which you referred to
yesterday.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And $I$ was going to
say to you, Mr. Pardy, that $I$ think it is clear that Mrs. Girvan did not have in mind, when she wrote this down -- forget what you were thinking -- when she wrote this down, it is clear that the consent did not extend beyond a circle of persons who had personal dealings with Arar.

That's what she meant.
MR. PARDY: But I think that $I$--
MS EDWARDH: We will come to the calculus.

MR. PARDY: I can't impute to Ms Girvan. I think it was an area not totally explored in the detail that you are suggesting right now.

MS EDWARDH: Certainly there is no evidence that any discussion occurred with Maher Arar that the information would go beyond the
circle of persons who knew him. That's not discussed. There is nothing to suggest it was discussed.

MR. PARDY: No, but I think there is implicit -- and I am not saying I would use the expression that implicit in what he said there, there was a plea to the Canadian authorities to do whatever they could to help him out of this very difficult situation.

MS EDWARDH: Well, what I am struggling with is the Privacy Act has different branches which give you different authority. MR. PARDY: Yes. MS EDWARDH: There are a number of them and I am going to come to them, Mr. Pardy. But the first fundamental
principle is you can give confidential information with a person's consent. That's the first principle; right?

MR. PARDY: No. The first
principle is that you can use the information for the purpose with which it was collected.

I think that is -- again, we may be talking of a hierarchy here, but certainly in terms of my reading of the Privacy Act is that

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they are almost co-equal in use.
    MS EDWARDH: We don't have to
    argue --
    MR. PARDY: Okay.
    MS EDWARDH: -- very much here.
    It says:
    "Personal information under
    the control of a government
        institution shall not,
        without the consent of the
        individual to whom it
        relates, be used by the
        institution except ..."
    So the fundamental overriding
    principle, I am going to suggest to you, is really
    it must be used in accordance with the statutory
    regime, unless you have consent?
    MR. PARDY: You are the lawyer. I
    will accept your interpretation of this.
    MS EDWARDH: Thank you.
    MR. PARDY: But, again, in
    operational terms, in terms of the way you would
    operate, I didn't see this as a hierarchy.
    MS EDWARDH: That's fair enough.
    MR. PARDY: In the way that you
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constructed it now.
MS EDWARDH: I want to put to you, and $I$ think you will be sensitive to this, Mr. Pardy -- and we can go to other provisions of this Act that may or may not authorize the release of information.

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: But the consent given here could not realistically be understood as informed consent, in the sense that Mr. Arar knew he was consenting to the release of information to policing and intelligence authorities. He didn't know any of the risks or benefits.

All he knew was that there would be a confidence maintained unless he permitted people within his inner circle to get access to information. There is no informed consent. MR. PARDY: Well, as you know, informed consent has been the subject of great debate within the Canadian courts.

But what $I$ took it to mean was
that Mr. Arar, who found himself in a very difficult situation, was appealing to the Canadian government, through the consular services, to do what they could to assist him out of this
particular set of circumstances.
And we took that to mean -- or $I$ should say $I$ took that to mean that $I$ could share information as $I$ deemed appropriate to help Mr. Arar.

MS EDWARDH: So even though Mr. Arar was alone, without the benefit of counsel, held incognito for several days by the American authorities in a secure, isolated position, even though it's not told to him who these other entities are, $I$ take it, sir, it's your view that this is a consent that you could actually act on under the Privacy Act?

MR. PARDY: Yes. The question would not have been put to him otherwise -- and I should say that consent being given in these circumstances is not a unique one in terms of Mr. Arar. It's a set of conditions that we found quite often in terms of the work that we were doing.

MS EDWARDH: But you didn't use those consents to transmit the information to the Mounties and CSIS because you have told --

MR. PARDY: I am sorry?
MS EDWARDH: The conditions in
which you found Mr. Arar, even if they are not terribly unusual, you have told the Commissioner that the transmission of information to the Mounties and to CSIS was unusual; it wasn't a common event.

MR. PARDY: Oh, absolutely not.
MS EDWARDH: Right.
MR. PARDY: To that extent
Mr. Arar's case was not common.
MS EDWARDH: Would you have
obtained any legal advice from the legal
department, or from the Privacy Commissioner, as to whether the consent you had obtained, based on this representation, justified the release or was a real consent that made release possible?

MR. PARDY: No, I would not go
to -- certainly one of the lawyers that was involved with us, or a person that was involved with us was a lawyer on these matters. I would not go to the Privacy Commissioner unless $I$ clearly felt that there were unusual circumstances about sharing information which I thought was going to be helpful to Mr. Arar.
were unusual circumstances in this case.
MR. PARDY: The consent that we were given was not different than the consent we get in many cases.

MS EDWARDH: Okay.
MR. PARDY: People who find
themselves in prison, they are looking for assistance here, and they are not going to make a deeply convoluted decision with regards to the use.

It would have been nice if, say, following the October 3rd visit, if we had the opportunity to go back to Mr. Arar and go over this in some detail or were able to do this following his removal to Syria. It would have been very nice to have been able to go back and explain to him exactly what we were doing, but the circumstances were such that that was not possible.

But at the same time we still had the responsibility to try to help Mr. Arar, and we made decisions based on that set of circumstances.

MS EDWARDH: Certainly, Mr. Pardy, you will agree that no one who might reasonably be regarded as having Mr. Arar's interests in their
heart, such as his spouse, was ever asked whether or not she had any concerns with sharing information with CSIS and with the RCMP?

MR. PARDY: But $I$ think his family
members, in terms of their retention of
Mr. Edelson early on in the process, and
Dr. Mazigh's efforts to try to speak with the people on that side of the Canadian government I think speaks to the fact that there was that realization that they could have been a source of help to Mr. Arar in his circumstances.

MS EDWARDH: You did not, though, ask Mr. Edelson, nor did you ask Dr. Mazigh, what view she had of the sharing of information with CSIS and the RCMP?

MR. PARDY: No, I did not.
MS EDWARDH: Mr. Livermore
testified that after 9/11 there was a recalibration of the need to share information, and the information that fell within -- and $I$ will read you the pages, if you would like to hear them. But information was liable to be shared if it fell within the category of criminal intelligence or national security, and it would be liable to be shared to the appropriate
authorities.
And then he referred to the existence of 20 to 40 cases of detainees in that category.

Do you recall that evidence? MR. PARDY: But again I come back to his subsequent testimony in this area where he was quite categorical when he referred to these matters. He did not have responsibility nor control over information, consular information, with respect to those 20 or 40 cases. That responsibility remained with me.

MS EDWARDH: Okay.
MR. PARDY: And so any sharing of information that could be broadly categorized as consular, then it was my responsibility to make that decision.

MS EDWARDH: All right. So let's deal with that.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: So when Ambassador Pillarella meets Syrian Military Intelligence, converses with them, assesses where the state of the investigation is, what the allegations are, is he doing that as an adjunct to the provision of
consular services?
MR. PARDY: He is doing it -- as I explained yesterday, he has at least two responsibilities in this area. One of them is the consular responsibility, and the second one then is his responsibility as the Canadian ambassador, who has the responsibility to report back to his government information that relates to the security of Canada.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And that would go to CSIS and to the RCMP?

MR. PARDY: No, it would go to the ISI, and then they would make a decision in that second category as to whether or not that information would go directly to CSIS or the RCMP.

MS EDWARDH: Right. So then
Mr. Pillarella wears the two hats in all of those interactions with the Syrian Military Intelligence persons that he interacts with?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Mr. Pillarella
sometimes -- no, Mr. Martel sometimes goes to meet with Mr. Arar, and we have seen the dissemination of consular materials.

It is your evidence, Mr. Pardy,
that in those cases you have a specific recollection of approving the dissemination of consular materials, notes of consular interviews? MR. PARDY: Yes. The reports that we are talking about here, if you like, and for shorthand we can refer to them, the eight reports prepared by Mr. Martel of his visits.

MS EDWARDH: Yes.
MR. PARDY: And then we had the ninth one in terms of visit by the MPs.

MS EDWARDH: Yes.
MR. PARDY: I would regard those almost as -- these were exclusive. The eight reports by Mr. Martel, in particular, were exclusive consular information. MS EDWARDH: Yes. MR. PARDY: And there was, I can remember -- I mean, if you ask me for the date and time when they came up, that I remember that Mr. Solomon -- and this was the arrangement we had with Mr. Solomon. He would approach me and say or he would make the suggestion that perhaps this could be useful. I would look at those reports and do the assessment of benefit and harm/injury, and then gave him, in a limited number of cases,
permission to share with the RCMP and CSIS.
MS EDWARDH: So the RCMP got three of them on that basis -- by the way, how would Mr. Solomon know about them?

MR. PARDY: Because, in effect, the incoming reports were copied to ISI, as you can see in many cases. They came back to Ottawa, not in the consular system, necessarily, but through the regular departmental e-mail or the C4 system.

MS EDWARDH: So while there was, in your sense, an understanding that Mr. Solomon would discuss the matter with you, he as a matter of course got the consular reports?

MR. PARDY: Yes, because $I$ think ISI had other responsibilities in this area that were not directly related to sharing that information with the RCMP and CSIS. They had a departmental responsibility in these areas as well.

MS EDWARDH: Right. What would have been, if you can help us, the departmental responsibility of ISI?

MR. PARDY: The departmental
responsibility was to provide the Minister and the
senior management of the department with information about the activities of Canadians overseas that could affect the security of Canada or the security of other countries in which Canada had relations.

MS EDWARDH: So that would mean, from ISI's perspective, they might consider the matter and determine that, not only material received from Syrian Military Intelligence given to the ambassador should be sent to CSIS or RCMP, they could, as well, look at the consular reports they got and, assuming they are working within the protocol, touch base with you, get your views, and then hand those over. Or they could, on their own, send them upward?

MR. PARDY: Yes, but there would be consultation with me in terms of -- if there was consular information reported upwards to -but again you are talking about the readership upstairs, of course, is the same readership that I am going to in terms of when $I$ send a memo to the Foreign Minister or to the Deputy Minister or to anybody else above. It is the same readership. As you can see from the file here, there was a sharing of tasks to a certain extent.

But the sharing of information outside of the department is a different issue entirely than that.

MS EDWARDH: Well, ISI sent
information outside the department with --
MR. PARDY: In these three specific instances that are reflected in the files, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Well, with respect, sir, it is a minimum of four specific incidences because there were three, according to you, consular reports sent to the RCMP: October $22 n d$, April $22 n d$, and August 14 th. And with respect to CSIS, there was a January 7 th and again an April 22 nd.

MR. PARDY: I am not familiar with
the January 7th.
What I had seen and all $I$ was
aware of were the three reports: the October 23 , April 23 --

MS EDWARDH: If you could, Mr. Pardy, either I misspoke myself, or I didn't understand it.

MR. CAVALLUZZO: No, there is some confusion which I might clarify if $I$ have a minute
to speak to government counsel?
THE COMMISSIONER: Okay. Do you want a break?

MR. CAVALLUZZO: No.
--- Pause
MR. CAVALLUZZO: Commissioner, this is an area where there are some NSC concerns, and if Mr. Pardy is going to return, if my friend has not finished her cross-examination by the end of the day and there is a possibility he may be returning either Tuesday or Thursday of next week, hopefully by that time we will have a clear direction in respect of the documents we are talking about. We are discussing that with government counsel.

MS EDWARDH: Mr. Commissioner, I
had made these notes of the remarks made by
Mr. Cavalluzzo in examination-in-chief, so I thought the matter was without doubt not a problem.

So let's deal with the RCMP then. You do concede that we have three consular visits, October 22nd, April $22 n d$, and August the 14 th, but on your then approval were provided to ISI for distribution to the RCMP and
to CSIS?
MR. PARDY: I gave permission to ISI to share, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And it's also clear
that there was other information provided by Syrian Military Intelligence to Mr. Pillarella on November 3rd, and Mr. Martel came home with some information on his -- you are looking very troubled, Mr. Pardy.

You don't know what $I$ am talking about?

MR. PARDY: No, I don't. Your reference to Mr. Martel coming home with certain information.

MS EDWARDH: So in the documents
that you have reviewed, you have not seen anything that indicates that certain information was brought home after Mr. Arar was released? MR. PARDY: No. As you know I was --

MS EDWARDH: You are gone? MR. PARDY: I am gone. MS EDWARDH: And there is nothing you have seen in your review of the record that tells you that.

MR. PARDY: I think $I$ have gone through the record. I have seen the public release of documents here. I know that I have seen reference in the -- I had the disc and I reviewed everything that was there.

There was reference to the question of whether or not there was a report from the Syrian authorities that was supposed to come to the Government of Canada following Mr. Arar's release.

MS EDWARDH: All right. Well, we will --

MR. PARDY: But $I$ have not seen any of the material. I have just seen references to it.

MS EDWARDH: We will hear from Mr. Martel, but $I$ would like you to assume as a fact that he brought some documents or materials home with him when he accompanied Mr. Arar; and furthermore, that there were then efforts to obtain a further file, a "completer" file, upon Mr. Arar's return by Mr. Martel and others, perhaps the ambassador -- I can't precisely remember.

But that continues.

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: Now, I take it that whole chain, of obtaining information from Syrian Military Intelligence to the ambassador, to the head of consular affairs -- and the embassy, really, right? Mr. Martel, he is the consul. I mean, he provides the services, right, consular services?

MR. PARDY: I am not quite sure whether you are telescoping too much here, but anyway ...

Can I answer the premise of your question, the first part?

MS EDWARDH: Let's try it. If I can't ask it, you answer it.

MR. PARDY: This might explain.
If we refer to the November 3rd visit, a meeting between Mr. Martel and the General, they discussed in effect information that the General said that they had obtained and that Mr. Pillarella, being the astute one rather than just committing this to memory, asked for a piece of paper, which was delivered to him within a few days.

Then that is what $I$ know as being
the only written piece of paper that was supplied during this whole process by Syrian Military Intelligence to the Government of Canada. MS EDWARDH: All right. But $I$ am just trying to understand the channels of authority in which it was shared.

I would take it that
Mr. Pillarella did not have to seek your consent to the provision of that information outside of consular services?

MR. PARDY: No, not at all. MS EDWARDH: He did that as a matter of his own prerogative in wearing a number of hats that he wears?

MR. PARDY: No, it wasn't Mr. -and I think I mentioned this in previous testimony. It wasn't Mr. Pillarella's responsibility to make a decision on the sharing of that information. His responsibility was to get it back to the Department of Foreign Affairs, and in this case to ISI, and then they made the decision as to whether it was going to be disseminated further within the Government of Canada.

MS EDWARDH: Fine. And the
person, of course, we are talking about is Mr. Livermore?

MR. PARDY: That's correct, yes.
MS EDWARDH: He wears that
responsibility?
MR. PARDY: Yes, he does.
MS EDWARDH: So let's start for a moment with the issue of the consular information that you consented to be shared.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And $I$ want to know
that when you approved that ISI forwarded on to the RCMP or to CSIS, that you were aware, when you did that, given your experience, that they could choose to send it where they wanted if they saw fit in accordance with their own mandate?

MR. PARDY: No. My understanding
in this area is that when the Department of Foreign Affairs provides information to the RCMP or CSIS, that information cannot move beyond those organizations without the permission of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

MS EDWARDH: Now, we have heard of such things as caveats. MR. PARDY: Exactly.

MS EDWARDH: And indeed it is my understanding that the sharing of information that is subject to caveats and control usually carries with it some kind of description on the very document -- there is an expression of this qualification right on the document, so there can be no doubt.

MR. PARDY: No ambiguity, right.
MS EDWARDH: No ambiguity, correct? And you are familiar with those?

MR. PARDY: Yes. I probably
invented the system.
MS EDWARDH: And indeed if I look at the faxes -- we can look at them, if you care to. But if we look at the faxes where you provided the information or consented to its provision to the RCMP, there are no caveats written on those documents. There is nothing that suggests that there is any control on the use of that information?

Would you like to look at them?
MR. PARDY: I take your word for
that. I think $I$ have seen one or two of the covering pages --

MS EDWARDH: No, I --

MR. PARDY: I am not disputing your assertion here whatsoever. All I am saying is that the responsibility of ISI would have been to ensure, either in a general sense, or in the way that you suggest, that the documents are stamped, that they are caveated in an appropriate way.

MS EDWARDH: I got the sense from Mr. Livermore that post-9/11 caveats were down in the sense that, as he said it -- let me just find his language -- "that after 9/11 this kind of information was liable to be shared".

In other words, the presumption
was in favour of sharing.
MR. PARDY: But in the aftermath of 9/11, the government did not repeal the Privacy Act. It did other things, mind you, and it made a number of policy statements, that both within government and between governments every effort should be made in effect to share appropriate information to deal with the threat as it was seen by the Canadian government, and other governments for that matter.

MS EDWARDH: I take it, sir, then, you are not aware of any either general or
specific caveat or control placed on these particular documents that Mr. Livermore forwarded? MR. PARDY: At a minimum, I made the assumption that there was a general caveat in place for all information going from the department that was, if $I$ can use the term, information that was owned by the Department of Foreign Affairs in its various manifestations and went outside. That information was protected by caveat, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And $I$ am going to say
to you certainly that there is nothing that $I$ can recall in the MOU governing sharing of information between the Mounties that would impose a general obligation of the kind that you are saying; that you, at best, are saying that there is a control through the Privacy Act?

MR. PARDY: No, I can't remember what MOU you are referring to here.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. Maybe I am mistaken.

Is there an MOU that governs the sharing of information, or was there in 2002, between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the RCMP?

MR. PARDY: No. The only MOU that has been in place between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the RCMP is the MOU with respect to the foreign operations of the RCMP, if you like, and the role there.

MS EDWARDH: I misunderstand.
MR. PARDY: And the sharing of
information, I think, is governed by -- I am trying to think of whether or not there are Treasury Board regulations, which would be the source of such caveats, if you like, in terms of the sharing of information.

But again, I would have to refresh my memory on that to be more specific.

MS EDWARDH: Well, it would appear, though, at least from the record we have, that there is nothing that controls, expressly either on the face of the document or through any agreement, the use and dissemination of this kind of information?

MR. PARDY: Apart from that general understanding out there that the owners of the information have to be consulted before there is further dissemination outside of a given channel.

MS EDWARDH: Right. And of course if the RCMP have been given it, if they are using it for a consistent use, that would be appropriate?

I mean, the consent to give it to the Mounties would in fact be a consistent use consent, would it not?

In other words, they could provide it to the Metropolitan Toronto Police or to the OPP?

MR. PARDY: I am not quite sure how you would define consistent use. Your examples that you gave would not fall within my understanding of what they could do with the information.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. So you would be surprised to learn then if the RCMP shared the information with anyone else without your permission.

MR. PARDY: I would be very
surprised, yes.
MS EDWARDH: And I take it one of the things we should do is to go through the specific things you chose to share with the RCMP and have you identify, sir -- and maybe we should
start with the October visit.
THE COMMISSIONER: What tab is
that?
MS EDWARDH: I was going to
actually go through the -- I am sorry,
Mr. Commissioner, I have P-93, 94, and 95.
Thank you, $\mathrm{T}-131 ?$ Or $\mathrm{T}-130$ ?
It's T-130, I think.
And we know that that was sent to
the RCMP.

Mr. Baxter.
And that's P-93. Thank you,

THE COMMISSIONER: P-93?
MS EDWARDH: Yes, the fax to the
RCMP.
THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. MS EDWARDH: I suggest to you, sir, that this fax was sent on October the -- I am sorry, November the 4 th, 2002.

That would appear to be the case?
MR. PARDY: I am sorry.
MS EDWARDH: It's P-93.
MR. PARDY: I have P-93. Is that
correct?
MS EDWARDH: Yes. That was the
first.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: It was forwarded to
the RCMP on November the 4th, 2002; correct?
I am confident your French is
better than mine.
--- Laughter / Rires
MR. PARDY: Oh, yes, I see, on the 4 th of November, 2002, at the top of page 2 of the fax, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Yes. There is that and the front facsimile, the front page, it has that date on it too?

MR. PARDY: Oh, yes. Now I see it, yes.

MS EDWARDH: So this would have been sent the same day as the products of Mr. Arar's interrogation in Syria arrived in Canada.

MR. PARDY: You are talking the --
Ambassador Pillarella's conversation with the General, yes. That occurred on the 3rd. MS EDWARDH: Yes.

MR. PARDY: I am assuming that
your dates are correct, that that information then
came back in a written format on the 4 th. Or did Mr. Pillarella bring it back with him direct?

I am not sure what the sequence of events was. I was in Beruit at this point. MS EDWARDH: It had to be translated.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: But this all happens within a couple of days of one another?

MR. PARDY: Yes. There was the -the reporting message of Mr. Martel's visit was dated the $23 r d$ and then it appears to have been transmitted on the $4 t h, y e s$.

MS EDWARDH: Sir, in light of the nature of what is being shared, can $I$ ask whether any record is made of your consent to distribute this consular information to the RCMP?

MR. PARDY: Not on my part. It would be whether or not ISI kept a record of this information in terms of the movement of documents through its system.

MS EDWARDH: So logically, having obtained your approval, which was a prerequisite for distribution --

MR. PARDY: That's right.

MS EDWARDH: -- you would expect
the record to be kept there?
MR. PARDY: Yes, they have a special registry for their material and I don't know what happens in that sense within their system any more. It used to be there was a fairly tight record kept of information that went out of the department, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Can $I$ ask the question, because $I$ think it bears on the purpose of the distribution of the information, and $I$ believe it's on the record -- no, I will wait until I get to another visit; thank you very much.

I was going to ask the question of whether the material had been provided to CSIS, but --

THE COMMISSIONER: Can I just ask, though, even on the RCMP, Ms Edwardh, just looking at it, it says "Description: Task 42" on the front, the first fax.

MS EDWARDH: Yes.
THE COMMISSIONER: That's the fax, the one that is in French that goes from DFAIT to somewhere where it's blanked out at the RCMP.

Is that right?

MR. PARDY: Yes, I assume so, yes. THE COMMISSIONER: Do you know
what "Task 42" means?
MR. PARDY: No, I don't --
MS McISAAC: Excuse me, sir. I
think that's an internal RCMP, from "A" Division to "C" Division.

THE COMMISSIONER: That's the next
page. I read the next page from "A" Division to "C" Division.

MS McISAAC: Task 42, remember when they enter material into their document management database, they have various tasks?

THE COMMISSIONER: Right.
MS McISAAC: And I think task 42
relates to the RCMP's document management database.

THE COMMISSIONER: What we don't have here then is -- am I right? -- we don't have the fax which accompanies it going from DFAIT, presumably to "A" Division, because "A" Division sent it to "C" Division.

Tut we don't have the DFAIT fax. Is that right?

MR. PARDY: That would appear to
be the case.
THE COMMISSIONER: That's what I wasn't clear on.

MS EDWARDH: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. It's an important observation.

THE COMMISSIONER: Is there a fax? MR. CAVALLUZZO: There is. --- Off microphone / Sans microphone

MR. PARDY: That's the standard Department of Foreign Affairs fax covering sheet.

MR. CAVALLUZZO: There doesn't
appear to be a DFAIT fax for the previous --
THE COMMISSIONER: For the consular, the notes the consulate made. That appears to relate to the last page.

MR. PARDY: That's right. There
are two pages in that fax.
THE COMMISSIONER: What we don't have then -- sorry to interrupt.

MS EDWARDH: No, that's fine.
THE COMMISSIONER: What we don't have is a fax sheet accompanying the notes of the consular meeting.

MR. PARDY: This is all I have
seen is this, yes.

THE COMMISSIONER: I don't know if anything turns on that.

MR. CAVALLUZZO: There is an
answer to that in the in camera evidence.
THE COMMISSIONER: Which I should have known about.

MS EDWARDH: Well, I take it that it's no surprise to anyone that the liaison officer from time to time, in fact quite regularly, attended at $A-O C A N A D A$ and chatted with the officers involved in the investigation.

You were aware of that?
MR. PARDY: No, I was not.
MS EDWARDH: And if the liaison
officer was providing consular information, would you have expected Mr. Solomon as well to come to you, or come to whoever was standing in if you happened to be out of town, and say, "Can I provide this information?"

MR. PARDY: Yes if it was, I guess, a written format because you will recall as well that we had meetings with the RCMP and CSIS where we sat down trying to work out whether or not we could get a consensus within the Government of Canada here. And within those meetings
certainly there was a sharing of information. I was present for those.

MS EDWARDH: I am not talking
about when you were present or supervising.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: I am talking about
the sharing of information, whether verbal or in writing. And in either case if it comes from consular information, it can only be properly shared with your authority.

MR. PARDY: Yes, and in all cases
it related to written information.
MS EDWARDH: I am sorry, I am not
quite sure.
So you could transmit it otherwise
than written without your approval?
MR. PARDY: No, no, I am saying
that coming to me, there was a specific document under consideration, and my approval related to that document in terms of whether or not it could go beyond the Department of Foreign Affairs. MS EDWARDH: And what if $I$ just wanted to transmit, if $I$ was someone working and $I$ just wanted to transmit some information to the Mounties so that they were aware of it, but it
derived from a consular note and I don't want to give them the note because it isn't necessary. I just want to tell them $I$ have the information and give them a heads up.

Now, do they have to come to you for that authority if it comes from a consular note or from information?

MR. PARDY: I would expect so. That being the case, and it's clearly consular information, $I$ would expect to be consulted on that, yes.

MS EDWARDH: Is it your position, Mr. Pardy, that each of the documents that you knew you were sharing -- and we will come to others -- and there are only three for the RCMP. And I take it you are not aware of any other sharing from consular information?

MR. PARDY: Well, in preparation for my testimony, I was only told about the three that I am aware of, yes.

MS EDWARDH: I am not so much
interested in what you were told as what you did.
MR. PARDY: Well, again, you are back here -- I mean, in terms of the way this procedure worked, I am assuming here, when I gave
permission, there was a consequential action. MS EDWARDH: Right.

MR. PARDY: That's what reflected, as $I$ understand the documentary files. MS EDWARDH: And you have conveyed to the Commissioner the very clear impression -- I want to confirm it with you -- that you would only share information piece by piece, document by document. You wouldn't have given a general authority to Dan Livermore to say, you know, this could be a very serious case; share as you see fit?

MR. PARDY: No, I did not. MS EDWARDH: And you would never say that?

MR. PARDY: No. And I think Mr. Livermore's testimony on that point, I think, is clear, particularly his testimony on the final morning.

MS EDWARDH: I am puzzled because it's clear to me that other consular material was shared.

I am going to start with tab 31
and I am going to see if you can help us understand whose decision it was, where you were
at the time, and whether you were subsequently informed of sharing.

Sir, if you look at tab 31 and tab
32, can we agree -- and if $I$ can just find the
line -- that one of the things that Mrs. Girvan
does is she obtains from Mr. Arar details of what the FBI were interested in?

Can you agree with that in
general?
MR. PARDY: I am sorry, we are
back now to tab...?
MS EDWARDH: Tabs 31 and 32.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Right? What
Mrs. Girvan is doing is she is getting from
Mr. Arar the gist of what the FBI wanted to know from him, as best as she could get it down?

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: And at tab 32 -- and this is the second of these kind of notes that came out of this consular visit.

Let me just read you the first sentence:

> "Mr. Arar has been trying to understand why they would

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have arrested him. He says that they kept asking about a man called Abdullah, who lives in Ottawa and is also of Syrian origin."

Do you see that?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: So Mrs. Girvan has obtained from him important information about what the police in the United States or the security services in the United States want.

Now, you will agree with me -- and it's a comment $I$ just want to draw your attention to. When Mrs. Girvan is making these notes with a voluble and distraught Mr. Arar, she doesn't think she is a police officer writing a confession down, does she?

MR. PARDY: No, not at all.
MS EDWARDH: So when we jump then to tab 61 in this volume, we have a document.

Can you just tell us something
about -- just a minute.
This is a document from
Mr. Livermore?
MR. PARDY: Yes, it is.

MS EDWARDH: Oh, yes, yes. I am sorry, I have to take you to a blank, but I am going to fill it in.

If we go down to the third
paragraph, this is Mr. Livermore. Who is he talking to?

MR. PARDY: I am sorry, which -MS EDWARDH: This is a letter or an e-mail.

MR. PARDY: We are on tab 61? MS EDWARDH: Yes, 61. MR. PARDY: Yes.

MS EDWARDH: Signed by Daniel
Livermore, Director General, Security and Intelligence Bureau.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Going to ...?
MR. PARDY: This is going to
Damascus, the Head of Mission in Damascus.
MS EDWARDH: Right. And it's
copied to yourself, but also to Mr. Solomon?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: To yourself?
MR. PARDY: GMR, the political
division.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, okay.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Let's go to the third paragraph. "On 26 or 27 September he arrived in the airport using his Canadian passport and was detained and transferred to the high security section of the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn..."

Well, that is clearly information
from Mrs. Girvan; correct?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: It goes on:
"... where he was questioned.
Some of the questions dealt with his relationship with..."

And I am going to fill it in:
"Abdullah", because he is the only one that Ms Girvan mentions.
"DFAIT was granted consular access..."

So now you have this consular
information on October $10 t h$ going from Mr. Livermore; correct?

So he has obviously had access to
it.
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: Did you consent to
him having access to the consular information from
the October 3rd visit?
MR. PARDY: I think on the direct
examination this point came up. I was in
Washington at this point, and I spoke -- and I
think it's Ms Harris that has spoken to him. I don't know why he did this particular message, but for reasons -- probably good reasons -- he did this message and she did the one to Amman, Jordan, which is a match of this one.

The issue here for us -- and I had already spoken to -- when $I$ was in Washington, I had called Mr. Heatherington and we were enlisting the assistance of the ISI division to try to find out where Mr. Arar was located. I think it was in that sense there was an exchange of information with them.

They used this information for the very specific purpose here of trying to find out
where Mr. Arar was.
MS EDWARDH: Well finding -- my
problem is noting what the interrogation is about, who is named in the interrogation has nothing to do with locating Mr. Arar. Nothing.

MR. PARDY: In the sense that there was -- I am not quite sure. There was an issue of names here as well, in terms of what name was being used here, and $I$ think there is another message --

MS EDWARDH: That was about
Mr. Arar's name, though, surely.
MR. PARDY: Yes. But again, in terms of Abdullah here, we were trying to figure out just what we were dealing with. We had very little information that was of any specificity to us, and we were casting about here with the fundamental consular responsibility of trying to find out where Mr. Arar was.

I don't think any of us were prepared, in effect, to cut the salami so thin as to leave out a piece of information that might have been germane to other people.

MS EDWARDH: Well, you left out the name of Nisam. The reason it's so important
is that everyone knows in the intelligence world, if they want to flip open their file here really quickly, that this is Abdullah Almalki. And it is only his name that is being disseminated.

MR. PARDY: But again, is that
the -- is it completely Abdullah Almalki underneath the tab here, underneath the deletion? I am not sure.

MS EDWARDH: By my calculation of the number of letters you could fit in the page, it is.

MR. PARDY: I take advice on that.
MS EDWARDH: But I don't think
it's a privacy issue, and $I$ think it's wrong, because it's relevant to the -- it's relevant to an issue before you, Mr. Commissioner, about how information was moved and whether there was authority to move it, and indeed whether or not it was moving within proper channels for proper purposes.

So I would ask for confirmation that Abdullah Almalki's name or Abdullah's name is set out, again, duplicating the consular note of October 3rd in tabs 61 and 82.

THE COMMISSIONER: Is it correct

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that this is a privacy claim rather than an NSC claim?

MS McISAAC: I think it originally
was both, Mr. Commissioner; not an NSC claim so much as the investigative interest claim, but the investigative interest to the A-OCANADA investigation seems to have become quite public. But it was still intended to be, at least in part, a privacy issue. That seems to have gone by the way as well.

But I am not prepared to confirm what is under there until I actually see the document, though my colleague points out that if you look at the note at 63, the name Abdullah is there and it's the last name.
--- Laughter / Rires
THE COMMISSIONER: It seems clear from the other documents what it is.

MS EDWARDH: Well, I think it's
important because I am going to proceed on the basis that if tab 63 has the last name, or the first name, or the repetition of Abdullah, then it's quite clear that what is being transmitted is the proceeds of the consular interview.

THE COMMISSIONER: I take your
point.
Carry on with the line of
questioning.
MS EDWARDH: And I want to just
establish this: It is quite clear that the RCMP had an expectation that they would know about consular access.

Would you agree with that?
MR. PARDY: They would know that a standard feature of the way we operated was to get to see the individual. That's fundamental to our work, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And they would expect that they would know that you had done this, that you had access --

MR. PARDY: No, I don't think one follows the other.

MS EDWARDH: Then can you explain to me why Deputy Commissioner Loeppky seems so out of joint when he doesn't know, or says he doesn't know, about the October 3rd visit?

Let me take you two tabs, if you could: tabs 547 and 548 where Deputy Commissioner Loeppky makes his complaint and Mr. Solomon from ISI responds.
--- Pause
MS EDWARDH: At page 2 of tab 548, paragraph 7, there is a complaint by, I think, the Deputy Commissioner, and this is a complaint that is dated September 8th, 2003, so it's almost a year after these events.

It says:
"Loeppky complained that the RCMP had learned only two weeks ago that while he was in detention in New York in September/October 2002, a consular official from our Consulate General had visited Arar in the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn where he was being held, and during that consular interview Arar had told the consul that he expected to be deported to Syria. Loeppky said that DFAIT had not said publicly that we had made a consular visit to Arar in New York and he asserted that it

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would have been helpful if the RCMP had known this earlier so they could have briefed their Minister."

So Mr. Solomon responds, and you will find that at 547.

Oh, I am sorry, it's Mr. Saunders. And he is writing through ISD? Do you see that at the top?

MR. PARDY: Yes, to Mr. Wright as well.
with ISI?
MS EDWARDH: And Mr. Saunders is

MR. PARDY: Yes, he is.
MS EDWARDH: So I misspoke when I attributed this to Mr. Solomon, but it is the same branch of the unit.

> So starting at the top:
"At the meeting between MJW
and Deputy Commissioner
Loeppky on September 5, the latter asserted that the RCMP had not known until two weeks ago that a consular official had visited Arar while he was
in detention in New York, prior to his deportation to Syria, and that during that visit Arar had indicated that he expected to be deported to Syria."

Then going down to point 3: "As for Loeppky's assertion that the RCMP only learned about this consular visit some two weeks ago, the facts strongly indicate otherwise. We shared most of the information we had on this case with our RCMP Liaison Officer who passed it on to his headquarters. We also met with a group of RCMP and CSIS officers on October 21 to discuss the case."

So this is obviously a separate meeting than the one you had on the 18th. MR. PARDY: Sixteenth. MS EDWARDH: On the 16th. So this is a second meeting they
have.
MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: Were you aware of
such a meeting?
MR. PARDY: At this point $I$ am not
sure whether the -- normally $I$ would have been at that meeting, but I can't recall specifically.

I very much remember the meeting on the $16 t h$ because in effect $I$ dictated questions to Superintendent Pilgrim, which he then responded to on October the 18th.

I knew that there was more -- I think my recollection is that there was more than one, but that was nothing more than to seek amplification on some of the answers that were provided by Superintendent Pilgrim in his October 18th letter.

MS EDWARDH: Certainly the way $I$ read this memorandum from Mr. Saunders, it is a statement that the RCMP needn't feel out of joint about knowing about the first consular visit because indeed they knew about it and most of the information on the case had been shared by the Department of Foreign Affairs?

MR. PARDY: Well, the fact that we

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made a consular visit in New York was in every newspaper that commented on this case.

This was a piece of information
that was used in the public domain almost immediately.

MS EDWARDH: Well, it's not so much, sir, the suggestion that they knew about a consular visit, or they needed to know; it's the contents of the consular visit that go beyond just the statement about going to Syria, "being told by the INS that he was going to go out to Syria".

But the question that this gives rise to is a different kind of access to the content of consular communications, and indeed your view that the only ones the Mounties ever got was the first one. That's clearly not the case?

MR. PARDY: No, and if you read the sentence here, this is a memo from the Security and Intelligence Division, Mr. Saunders. He is saying "we shared most of the information we had on this case", and that does not, in my mind, read that they were sharing information that belonged to the consular bureau.

MS EDWARDH: But the very
information that is of concern to them is
information that comes from the consular note.
It is that Mr. Arar said he was
going to Syria, or he had concerns about it because the INS had told him.

MR. PARDY: But in this context here, this was all public information. The Syrian issue, I mean, this was public. It was all out there. There was nothing confidential about this one way or the other.

It was in the press almost immediately, the Syrian issue. Is it The New York Times article on October the 12th, I think might have made reference to that fact.

MS EDWARDH: Even if -- I just
want to put it to you. Even if there is information in the public domain, it doesn't change the confidential character of the record made of the consular visit. It doesn't become something that goes into the public domain without regard to the Privacy Act.

MR. PARDY: Yes. But when you come down here, we had a series of press lines at that point. And as you know, in the press lines these were things that were developed for use by the Minister and by our press office to respond to
inquiries from the media.
And basically in terms of our
response to those inquiries, there was, if you want, a deprivatization of that information.

MS EDWARDH: But you are not allowed to deprivatize it just because it is in the media.

MR. PARDY: No. But what we were doing is that in order to respond to issues in the media, we needed to be able to -- you mean did we say, the media called up. "Where is he? We don't know. We are not going to tell you."

No. Basically, there is a reasonable expectation that we will respond to reasonable questions from the media, and the whole issue of questions and answers is geared to that basis.

Cases that are in the public domain, here the issue -- and maybe the Privacy Commissioner might have some views on this. But certainly it was our practice that we would respond to questions from the media and provide them with facts about the case that we obtained as a result of consular visits.

MS EDWARDH: Certainly the one
thing I didn't see in any of the media lines -and maybe you can make a note and look for this -at this time, or much thereafter, and in the first chronologies, was a matter that Mr. Cavalluzzo pointed out to you.

I am not sure that anyone has ever stood up and said, "Mr. Arar told us that the INS was going to send or deport me to Syria."

I don't think that's there. I am
sorry, Mr. Pardy. We know he went there.
MR. PARDY: Sorry?
MS EDWARDH: We know he went
there.
MR. PARDY: But I think if you go back -- I would need to check the media record that's out there. I mean, the family were aware of this because they were the original source of this information, because it was said by Mr. Arar to his mother, I think it was, in that first telephone call --

MS EDWARDH: Mother-in-law.
MR. PARDY: -- and essentially
that information was out and I -- again, I stand to be corrected, but my understanding was that that point was in the media quite early on.

MS EDWARDH: Right.
But you will agree with me, any fact stated in the media does not, merely by its existence in the media, relieve you of your duty under the Privacy Act?

MR. PARDY: I would have to take counsel on that particular issue --

MS EDWARDH: Particularly when Mr. Arar didn't put it there.

MR. PARDY: Or his family might have put it there?

I mean, again, $I$ would take issue with all of this -- when you're dealing with high-profile cases here like this, in effect, there is an expectation that the government will respond to questions from the media, and our whole question-and-answer procedure is geared upon that fact, that the Minister can stand up, either in public or in the House, and respond to legitimate questions.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. I want to draw your attention, if $I$ could, to one other exchange. You'll see it in the Garvie report. Exhibit P-19. Thank you very much, Mr. Registrar.

And $I$ will start with page 25.
--- Pause
MS EDWARDH: Page 25. And I want
to read you an exchange and have you comment on it.

MR. PARDY: Page 25?
MS EDWARDH: That's correct.
MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm?
MS EDWARDH: Mr. Pardy, midway
through the page, and it's under the heading
02/10/08. Do you see that? 9:45 hours?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH:
"Insp. Roy was updated by $A-O$ Canada..."

And, of course, Inspector Roy is
the DFAIT liaison officer?
MR. PARDY: The RCMP liaison
officer in DFAIT.
MS EDWARDH: In DFAIT?
MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: But he sits, as we
understand it, literally next door to
Mr. Livermore.
MR. PARDY: That's correct, yes.

MS EDWARDH:
"...was updated byA-O Canada investigators about ARAR's situation as they knew it at the time. Insp. Roy told the investigators he was unaware of ARAR's imminent
deportation to Canada, however he stated that he knew that ARAR was still in custody and that there was a possibility that ARAR would be sent to Syria. Insp. Roy is only able to confirm that the information that he received most likely came
from a DFAIT colleague.
Insp. Perron commented in his
report that is discussed
later, that Insp. Roy had
obtained the information
having read a consular visit
card that documented ARAR's
fear of being deported to
Syria."

Okay. So now we have, on
October 8 -- we certainly get the impression that sometime prior to October 8, because it's 9:45 in the morning --

MR. PARDY: Mm-hmm.
MS EDWARDH: -- that Inspector
Roy, the RCMP liaison officer, had had access to some consular record of the communication between Mrs. Girvan and Mr. Arar. That's the only explanation for that entry.

MR. PARDY: But, again, I think you've got to put this in the context of what we were trying to do on the 10th of October, early in the morning. We were still trying to establish what had happened to Mr. Arar --

MS EDWARDH: It's not the loth, sir. It's the 8th. 9:45 on the 8th -- you don't even know he's gone.

MR. PARDY: Even on the 8th of October, he went missing -- I guess we found out later that day, and I don't know about what he means by a consular visit card.

I must say that they did not have access, of course, to our consular records, and when he says a consular visit card, I find that
troubling.
What I find equally troublesome is
the information Inspector Roy told the investigators that he was unaware of Arar's imminent deportation to Canada.

MS EDWARDH: Why does that bother you?

MR. PARDY: Well, I don't
understand the context, because on October 8, there was no suggestion of Mr. Arar's imminent deportation to Canada --

MS EDWARDH: Not that you knew.
MR. PARDY: That $I$ knew or that --
what we had learnt on the $3 r d$, and $I$ guess Ms Girvan spoke to the lawyer a little later that day, $I$ think, when the confusion then arose as to Mr. Arar's location, yes.

MS EDWARDH: And for someone to
know, in the early morning of October 8, that there was a possibility that Mr. Arar, one, would be sent to Syria and that he had a fear of being deported to Syria, one could only have got that by having access to the actual description of the consular visit. Will you agree with that as a principle?

MR. PARDY: That, in effect,
information was shared with him. But again $I$ come back to the --

MS EDWARDH: Can we just establish
first that the information was shared?
MR. PARDY: If I take
Superintendent Garvie's report here as being accurate, yes, okay.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. Now, feel free
to make your comment.
MR. PARDY: And my comment is
that, on the 8th of October, we were still trying to establish what we were dealing with here.

Ms Girvan had been in to see him on the 3rd. He had provided us certain information. We had conversations with family members who reported earlier that there was this fear that the deportation was going to be to Syria.

We were then working with his
lawyer. And sort of using Mr. Arar's own words here, on the October 3 visit, to Ms Girvan, he was puzzled what this was all about.

Now, I mean, we were casting about to try to come to some understandings ourselves as
to what this was all about.
Why did the Americans detain him
in the way that they did, what their future intentions were likely to be.

MS EDWARDH: I take it, sir, you have no recollection of giving --

MR. CAVALLUZZO: I don't like to
interrupt my friend, but just to be fair to the witness, it was put to the witness that the only way this information could have come about is the transfer of the consular visit of October 3.

There's also a CAMANT note of
October 1 wherein Mr. Arar's brother had phoned DFAIT saying that he had learned that his brother was threatened to be deported to Syria.

So it's not just the consular
visit in which that threat is declared, but it is also the October 1 CAMANT note -- I can get you the exhibit number -- but to be fair to the witness, he should know that.

MR. PARDY: Thank you.
MS EDWARDH: And that's fair
enough.
Thank you, Mr. Cavalluzzo. But my problem still remains the
same. This is not information -- if you were to look at the telephone call from a family member about a problem and couple it with the October 3 visit, you would expect to give permission in order to have that information go into ISI and then on to the Mounties?

MR. PARDY: Yes. What troubles me about all of this is there's no acknowledgment of what we are trying to do here.

And what we are trying to do is establish what's happening to Mr. Arar, and that information was not available -- you mean, in our domain.

MS EDWARDH: Mm-hmm.
MR. PARDY: There was a need here to go outside of our domain to see whether others within the system might have some information that would be helpful to us so that we could help Mr. Arar.

And I think to divorce the issue of information-sharing from what we were trying to do, our consular purpose here, I think distorts the record.

MS EDWARDH: Okay. It may distort the record from your perspective, but the
difficulty is, as I read the record -- and $I$ want to take you to one other point. When your Inspector Roy, who is the RCMP liaison officer, can't get back and forth to A-OCANADA fast enough on the 7th -- and let's take a look at that. It's page 16. And this is -- I'm sorry, the 2nd, October 2.

And it would appear that you have the outline of what is alleged against Mr. Arar. Don't be misled by the date, because that comes from a document that has its source on the $3 r d$. But I am interested in the notation under 4:45. So:
"Insp. Richard Roy, RCMP Liaison Officer, attended A-O Canada and met with..." Obviously, two people. "Insp. Roy asked if they were aware of Maher ARAR's exact location. Insp. Roy was informed that they had last heard that ARAR was in New York, and he was to be returned to the country he had flown from, Zurich,

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Switzerland."
Now, it doesn't appear to me that
the Mounties do anything. Right?
MR. PARDY: I don't know. But I
do not accept the premise that you're saying -that you're suggesting that the dates may be wrong on this.

MS EDWARDH: Well, let me stop you. To be fair, on the 2 nd of October, the RCMP did not know, 24 hours before Mrs. Girvan knew, what the allegations were alleging Mr. Arar was inadmissible. That's all my point is.

MR. PARDY: No, but I think in Ms Girvan's report, Mr. Arar told Ms Girvan that he was given this paper, that $M s$ Girvan quotes from on the 3rd, he was given this paper at least on October 2.

MS EDWARDH: Yes, he does say that.

MR. PARDY: Yes.
MS EDWARDH: So is it your
understanding -- I'm sorry. I have been perhaps mistaken.

I assumed there was an error, because that would entail the inference that when

Mr. Arar received the document on the 2 nd, information was transmitted back to the RCMP as well, and I believe my friend pointed to the source documents which were -- yes, why don't you help us?

MS McISAAC: My recollection is that the explanation $I$ gave is that -- Inspector Garvie, of course, is writing his report well after the fact.

MS EDWARDH: Yes.
MS McISAAC: And he is
reconstructing the sequence of events. The source for his statement, that Mr. Arar received the notice on the $2 n d$, is after-the-fact interviewing Ms Girvan or receiving written responses from Ms Girvan.

So I don't think we can possibly draw the conclusion that the RCMP knew that this had happened on the 2 nd or the $3 r d$; rather, that in reconstructing the sequence of events, Inspector Garvie is simply putting it into the sequence of events on that date.

THE COMMISSIONER: That didn't come through Inspector Roy. That came as a result of Superintendent Garvie's interview with

Ms Girvan.
MR. PARDY: May I comment as well on that point?

I was also interviewed by
Superintendent Garvie, and I provided him with a copy of the complete removal order with this kind of information there.

So I'm not sure whether I can accept the premise of a question here because I don't have the information, quite literally.

But you're making an assumption here that this is something that happened within the consular mandate, if you like, and I'm not willing to accept that as a conclusion.

MS EDWARDH: So, if I could then, we can't exclude then the fact that if Mr. Arar received this from the INS on October 2 , so did the RCMP? That's left open.

MR. PARDY: You take the dates as given by Superintendent Garvie.

He was a -- what's the word here? -- I mean, he was looking at a lot more information than certainly was available to either -- that was available to me and certainly available to me today.

MS EDWARDH: Right.
THE COMMISSIONER: Is this good
time for the afternoon break?
MS EDWARDH: Yes.
THE COMMISSIONER: How are we
doing time-wise?
I'm just looking ahead as to
what -- we can sit until about 5:25 today, but no later.

Do you know how much longer you'll
be, Ms Edwardh?
MS EDWARDH: Mr. Commissioner, I
received a set of documents that relate to questions from the intervenors that $I$ have been asked to pose to the witness.

THE COMMISSIONER: Right.
MS EDWARDH: Some of them $I$ will
have wound in my cross-examination.
THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, from your
own, yes.
MS EDWARDH: Yes. Others, I have
not. And, quite frankly, it will take me some time to --

THE COMMISSIONER: Sure.
MS EDWARDH: -- to pose these
questions to Mr. Pardy and have him, you know, have an opportunity to consider the answers.

So I think $I$ will need an hour for these questions, an hour and 15 minutes.

And I might also ask one other indulgence. I'm not feeling well, and if we could just cut it a little early, I would be very grateful.

THE COMMISSIONER: Sure,
absolutely. I have the intervenors' questions. How much longer would you be on your cross-examination?

MS EDWARDH: An hour and 20 minutes, an hour and a half?

THE COMMISSIONER: So we're probably talking, really, a maximum of three hours?

MS EDWARDH: I will make it a maximum -- yes.

Thank you very much.
THE COMMISSIONER: If we could do that?

Mr. Baxter, at this point, $I$ know you haven't heard all of the cross-examination, but how long do you think you'll be?

MR. BAXTER: Likely 45 minutes to an hour.

THE COMMISSIONER: Okay. And
that's it. What are the alternatives for next week?

MR. CAVALLUZZO: The most feasible alternative will be Thursday, June 2. There is also a possibility that Mr. Manley, on Tuesday, May 31, may be less than one day.

But in light of the time we're looking at, it looks like June 2 is the more feasible date.

THE COMMISSIONER: Okay. Is there any reason we can't do it on June 2?

MR. CAVALLUZZO: Let me discuss it with counsel during the break. There may be a problem with that.

THE COMMISSIONER: Do you want to carry on at all this afternoon?

MS EDWARDH: I would be pleased to
carry on till -- yes, I'll carry on.
THE COMMISSIONER: Well, if you
feel up to it. You just let me know when you want to wind it down.

Okay. We'll take 15 minutes then.


Lynda Johansson, C.S.R., R.P.R.

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