

Witness Name: Jason Pye

Exhibits: N/A

Dated:

THE SOUTHPORT INQUIRY

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SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF  
DETECTIVE CHIEF INSPECTOR JASON PYE

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**Introduction**

1. I am Detective Chief Inspector Jason Pye.
2. This is my second witness statement to the Inquiry, which made is to assist the Inquiry with matters that are within my knowledge.
3. In this statement I will deal with four matters as follows: -
  - a. The recovery of a third machete from 10 Old School Close Banks;
  - b. A correction to my first statement;
  - c. Images found on a Lenovo tablet;
  - d. Smoke devices.

**Recovery of a third machete**

4. After the conclusion of AR's criminal trial in February 2025 I was made aware that a third machete had been recovered from AR's home address.
5. As I understand it, the circumstances of this recovery were as follows: -
  - a. AR's address was held as a scene between 29 July 2024 and 22 August 2024.
  - b. During that time it was subject to a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) search and a Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) search.

- c. Following the conclusion of the search, as AR's family were not going to return to the property, the house was cleared and the contents taken into secure storage and held there.
  - d. After the criminal trial ended in February 2025, the items in secure storage were reviewed.
  - e. At that time a further (third) machete (with exhibit number CKW/3) was found. It was in its original grey packaging and was unopened. **[MERP008292]**
  - f. The machete and its packaging were booked into Merseyside Police property on 26 February 2025. It was further wrapped in cardboard and bound with duck tap for safe storage at this time.
6. This machete is the knife that was evidenced in the statement from J Wheeler, the owner of Knife warehouse dated 1 October 2024 **[MERP001253]**. It was purchased on 3 October 2023. It was described as a black panther machete, and was purchased in the name of **DPA** Olakunle, with a driving licence used as proof of ID. It was sent using Royal Mail Tracked 48 service to 10 Old School Close, Banks, and was signed for on 6 October 2023.
7. I know that this is one and the same machete, as the tracking number on exhibit JW/03 **[MERP000339]** matches the barcode on the packaging.

### **Correction**

8. In paragraph 85 of my first statement, I cover AR's use of electronic devices on the 29 July 2024. I refer to this usage being on a Lenovo tablet with the exhibit number SMG/3. This is an error. The reference should refer to the Lenovo tablet M10 with exhibit number SMG/2.

### **Images found on AR's device**

9. In paragraph 70 of my first statement I cover the downloaded PDF documents which were found on the SMG/2 Lenovo tablet, and which were suggestive of an interest in violence, religions and conflict. The SMG/2 Lenovo tablet also contained a number of concerning and offensive images as JPEG files **[MERP007518]**. The nature of these images includes, variously:
- a. Slavery of women
  - b. Anti-Islamic material

- c. Antisemitic material
- d. Extreme violence, including torture
- e. Bodies of the deceased following atrocities
- f. Nazi era imagery, including images of those killed by the nazis
- g. An image of the twin towers

**Smoke device**

10. On paragraphs 47 to 52 of my first statement I covered details of purchases AR made through Amazon. I omitted to include the purchase of a pack of orange smoke devices. On 8 January 2023 at 18:53 UTC AR made an online order for two 'Inevitable Party Pack of 4 Ring Pull Smoke Grenade Effects for Paintball, Weddings, Photoshoots & Special Effects (Orange)'. The payment card for this transaction is in the name full name for AR with billing address 10 Old School Close, Banks. The shipping address is recorded as 10 Old School Close, Banks. **[MERP007637]**. The items include a warning of 'for adult use only', and to wear gloves and goggles when using them **[MERP007641 page 30]**.

**Statement of Truth**

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings many brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_