Selection of Medical & Psychiatric documents relating to Peter Thomas Anthony Manuel located on Scottish Government file HH60/703/1

(Part 1)

Copy medical report by Dr David Alexander Robertson Anderson, Medical Officer, Barlinnie Prison, 29 Jan 1958
(NAS reference HH60/703/1/269)

Copy psychiatric report by Prof Thomas Ferguson Rodger, 18 Feb 1958.
(NAS reference HH60/703/1/270-271)

Copy medical reports by Dr John Baxter Gaylor, 20 Feb 1958 and undated.
(NAS reference HH60/703/1/272-275)

Copy psychiatric report by Dr Hunter Gillies, 26 Mar 1958.
(NAS reference HH60/703/1/276-278)

2nd Review 30-5-83 1.

SCOTTISH HOME DEPARTMENT

No. 9576

SUBJECT

PETER THOMAS ANTHONY MANUEL

COURT GLASGOW HIGH — AGE 30

OFFENCE 1 THEFT, MURDER 2 H.B.W/I. — SENTENCE DEATH

DATE 29. 5. 58 — PRISON BARLINNIE

DO NOT RETAIN THIS FILE UNNECESSARILY

REFERENCES

~~50yr~~

Previous Papers:-

Later Papers:-

CLOSED

FIRST PAPER DATED 1958

LAST PAPER DATED 1958

NO FURTHER ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON THIS FILE.

Con'd on Part

Other References:-

8950/2 - DING file.

9576/2 - Representations

9576/1, /1A, /1B - Press cuttings

CONTENTS NOT NOW CLASSIFIED

SIGNED ...

45yrs closure ~~50yr~~ FOR PRESERVATION S.R.O. RR 20/1/93

File No. 9576

IMPORTANT ARCHIVE FILE RETURN TO SCOTTISH RECORD OFFICE IMMEDIATELY AFTER USE

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Proto 143

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COPY MEDICAL REPORT BY DAVID ALEXANDER ROBERTSON ANDERSON
M.B., Ch.B. (St. A.).

H.M. Prison,
Barlinnie,
GLASGOW, E.3.

29th January, 1958.

The Procurator Fiscal,
Sheriff Court,
HAMILTON.

450 Peter Thomas Manuel: 30 years: 24.1.58. Sheriff Court, Hamilton: 1. Theft by H.B. 2. Murder. 3. Theft by H.B. 4. Capital Murder conform to Section 5(1)(b) of the Homicide Act, 1957. 5. Theft. 6. Theft by H.B. Untried.

I have examined the above named with a view to assessing his mental condi As far as can be ascertained there is no family history of mental disorder or epilepsy. He is a single man and normally resides with his parents.

He was born in New York in 1927 and was brought to Scotland at the age o eight. He attended Our Lady of Good Aid School, Motherwell, until about the of eleven. His family then moved to Coventry where he attended the School S.S. Elizabeth and Helen for a few months. He then won a scholarship to King Henry VIII Grammar School. He attended this school for about a year and then after having been found guilty of housebreaking was sent to St. Gilbert's Approved School, at Woodbridge in Suffolk. He absconded after six months and was sent to St. Peter's Approved School, Darlington. He again absconded and was sent to Birkdale Approved School, Southport. He absconded from this school also and then spent a year in an approved school at Market Weighton in Yorkshire. Further absconding led to his being sent to the Borstal Institution at Rochester in 1943 at the age of sixteen. He remained in the Borstal for two years and when he was discharged in 1945 he came to Scotland to live with his parents in Birkenshaw, near Uddingston. He was called up for National Service about this time but when his birthplace was discovered his case was referred to the U.S. Army Authorities. He therefore went to Blackpool to avoid them. He worked in Blackpool for a time at a fairground stall. He then returned to Scotland but in March 1946 was sentenced to one year's imprisonment for housebreaking and eight years imprisonment for rape. He was liberated from prison in October 1952.

He says he then worked as a checker with British Railways for two and a half years but was discharged when it came out that he had been in prison. He then worked with the Scottish Gas Board at Uddingston until October, 1956, when he was sentenced to Eighteen months imprisonment for housebreaking. He was liberated from prison on 30.11.57 and he tells me he has been idle since.

He is now in prison charged with murder.

He is properly orientated and he is not feebleminded. He appears to me to be above average intelligence and to be quite mentally alert. His ordinary conversation is quite intelligent and shows no confusion of thought or speech. He declined quite politely to discuss matters leading to his arrest but otherwise he discussed himself and his everyday affairs rationally and reasonably. His speech and manner are not remarkable. His memory is good and he was able to give a good account of his personal history. He admits of no depression and I can elicit nothing to suggest that he suffers from hallucinations or delusions. He appears to me to understand his charge and to appreciate his present circumstances.

I can find no evidence to justify this man being certified as of unsound mind and I am of the opinion that he is at present fit to plead.

I hereby certify on soul and conscience that to the best of my knowledge and belief this report is true.

(Sgd) D.A.R. Anderson,
(D.A.R.Anderson, M.B., Ch.B., (St.A.)

Forwarded
(Sgd) A.H.Anderson,
GOVERNOR.

Pro. No 145
270

COPY MEDICAL REPORT BY THOMAS FERGUSON MORE, M.B., F.R.C.P., Ed.)

UNIVERSITY of GLASGOW
Department of Psychological Medicine

Southern General Hospital
Glasgow, S.W.1.

TWR/AIL

18th February 1958

PSYCHIATRIC REPORT.

At the request of Mr. J. C. Patterson, Procurator Fiscal, Hamilton, I visited H.M. Prison, Barlinnie, on Tuesday, 11th February, 1958 and examined Peter Thomas Anthony Manuel, aged 30, an untried prisoner held there on charges of murder.

The prisoner proved quite co-operative and seemed to have no hesitation in answering my questions. He gave me a short account of his life history.

He was born in New York, of Scots parents, and returned to Motherwell at the age of 6 or 7. The family later moved to Coventry. He attended school there, passed an examination at the age of 12 and went on to King Henry VIII Grammar School where he said he intended to study architecture. Nothing came of this because at the age of 14 he was sent to an approved school having been implicated in a theft; with an older companion he broke into a gown shop and stole money. He was in four approved schools during the subsequent two or three years because he was given further detention for running away. At 16 years of age he was sent to Borstal and remained there until he was 18.

After his liberation he went back to his family in Motherwell where he worked for some months in labouring jobs before he gave this up and went to Blackpool where he leased a roulette stall and ran it for 6 months. He left there at the end of 1945 and came back to stay at Viewpark, Motherwell. In March or April of the following year, 1946, he was given 12 months imprisonment for theft and then, arising out of the investigation of this charge, he was given 8 years imprisonment for rape, the rape having occurred at the time he was on bail. He states that this was a trumped-up charge on the part of the police who, he infers, manufactured the evidence which convicted him. He states that from then on he had it in for the police who had framed him.

He was released in October, 1952 and for about 18 months he worked on the railway. During this time he states that he gave satisfaction to his employers and was in no kind of trouble but when someone broke into the booking office and tampered with the safe, he became suspect and lost his job. He then went to work with his father at the gas-works in East Kilbride. He states that in 1956 he received a further sentence of 18 months imprisonment for breaking into a canteen. Again he suggests that he was sentenced because of evidence which the police had manufactured. He remained in custody until November, 1957. He thereafter remained at liberty until he was arrested on the present charges.

Questions/

Questions directed to finding out whether there was any emotional basis for his anti-social conduct met with a completely negative response. He states that his father and mother have always been good to him and until he was 14 he was never separated from them. They were respectable people who, in his opinion, gave him adequate care. The explanation of his behaviour, he says, rests in the fact that he is a dishonest person and that some people are made that way. He has never had any periods either of depression or elation and while he harbours a resentment against certain officers of the Police Force, he says that he has no hostile feelings towards policemen in general who do their duty correctly. I could find no evidence of abnormal ideas or delusions of persecution.

I was surprised by the fact that the prisoner, a man facing so serious a charge, was remarkably relaxed and at ease and, at times, even jovial. I pointed this out to him but his answer to this was that while it might seem to an outsider that he was in a difficult position he had no doubt that he would vindicate himself without any trouble when it came to the trial. He expressed himself as confident that he had an answer to all the charges which had been brought against him.

He seemed to me to be sane and in my opinion he showed no aberration of reason or emotion which would suggest abnormality of mind amounting to or bordering on insanity.

On Soul and Conscience.

(Sgd) T. Ferguson Rodger.

(T. FERGUSON RODGER, M.B., F.R.C.P. Ed.)

Pro No 146 H26

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COPY MEDICAL REPORT BY JOHN BAXTER GAYLOR,
M.A., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.Ed., F.R.F.P.S.G.

9 University Gardens,

Glasgow, W.2.
20th February 1958

This is to certify that on the 17th February, 1958, from 4 o'clock in the afternoon, I carried out an examination of Peter Thomas Anthony Manuel at the Western Infirmary of Glasgow, at the request of the Procurator-Fiscal of Hamilton. Manuel had been charged with murder and arrived under escort from H.M. Prison Barlinnie. The following report is given on soul and conscience.

The main purpose of the following examination was to determine the possible presence of organic disorder of the brain by recording its electrical potentials and by assessing the relative importance of any facts of the history which might be disclosed to me by Manuel himself in the course of routine questioning.

HISTORY: In 1943 or 1944, during an air raid, he sustained a head injury - a piece of steel penetrated his scalp in the region of the right forehead and rendered him unconscious for some hours. He says that his mind was a blank for four or five days following this injury but apparently he was answering questions automatically. He is not quite sure of the actual date but, during or about 1944 and certainly after the air raid incident, he sustained an electric shock while at work. Three of his mates, he said, died from the same shock. He told me that he was given artificial respiration and felt his chest tight on regaining consciousness; that his feet and hands were burned as the result of the accident. Since these events there have been periods when his mind has been blank, or at least he has no memory for the events of a particular day. The first notable attack of loss of memory, apart from that which followed his air raid injury, was some time in 1945 when he drove a lorry from Blackpool to Preston - as far as he knows automatically. His last memory before the blank period was leaving the outskirts of Blackpool and the hiatus ended with the memory of being in an office in Preston. A further outstanding example of his loss of memory is that which started during a boxing bout with Hugh McHugh last year. He avers that he was not knocked out but that he had no memory of the events which occurred between the middle of the boxing bout on a Tuesday evening and being in a Bible Class the following Sunday. Some six months before this event, he says he had a loss of memory which started in a cinema when he was in the company of a young woman. He had no memory of the actual film nor of making a date with his companion who reminded him some time afterwards that he had failed to keep the date. For those lapses of memory he is unable to account, there being no particular set of circumstances and no particular emotio which brought on the amnesia. He has complained of intermittent dimness of vision lasting a few minutes and affecting the right eye only but there have been no flashes of light and he has no complaint whatever of headache. He denies having had any convulsion. At no time during the taking of this history was any reference made to the charge preferred against him, either by myself or the Accused.

EXAMINATION/

EXAMINATION: - He appeared to be an intelligent person and was quite co-operative in revealing the facts of his history in so far as direct questions evoked them; there was no attempt at any evasion. He was also co-operative in the special examination of electroencephalography which followed. I saw no reason to doubt his statements. There was a scar on the right forehead below the hairline and running parallel to it consistent with his account of the air raid wound. On the right hand he had a scar between the index finger and the thumb on the palmar aspect of the hand, consistent with a surgically inflicted wound to relieve a septic condition following a burn by electric shock.

Examination of his eyes showed no abnormality in the appearance of the fundi; his pupils reacted normally; ocular movements were full. Reflex activity and muscle power were intact throughout; there was no muscular inco-ordination and tremor of any sort was absent. Plantar responses were flexor in type.

Special examination technique: Electrodes were placed at intervals over the scalp and by means of an electroencephalographic machine the potential fluctuations between various areas of the brain were amplified and recorded. Generally speaking the basic activity, the so-called alpha rhythm, revealed a frequency of eleven per second, was more marked in the occipital region, had a voltage height of twenty to forty micro-volts during outbursts, and was inhibited by eye opening. These findings were characteristic of a normal brain at rest. During hyperventilation, a procedure calculated to increase the irritability of the brain and to bring out any latent abnormality, outbursts of theta activity of a frequency varying between five and seven cycles per second were seen in the temporal regions, particularly on the left side. Later on in the investigation electrodes in the form of needles were inserted in front of the ear to make contact with the base of the skull underneath the temporal lobes. Some theta activity appeared on the left side, particularly related to the tip of the temporal lobe of the brain; this activity occurred during the resting phase without any immediately preceding hyperventilation. Recording with a pharyngeal electrode inserted through the nose was unsatisfactory owing to the presence of artefact. In no area was spike activity seen
/any at/~~the~~ time during recording.

OPNION: The interpretation of the electroencephalogram in this instance does not indicate any particular pathologic state. Such a record as he has shown, even with the stimulation of hyperventilation, might well be displayed by a person without any history of epilepsy, amnesia or violent behaviour. The rather fast alpha rhythm may be merely an indication of anxiety, if indeed it means anything at all. The appearance of theta activity occurring paroxysmally does not suggest a basic organic cause but might well be the expression of frustration or some emotional tension not, in this instance, overtly expressed.

Taking/

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Taking his history quite apart from the E.E.G. findings, the periods of amnesia and automatic behaviour do not conform to the classical description of epileptic automatism, nor, in my experience, have I seen an epileptic with such automatisms as the Accused alleges he suffers from. The amnesic periods during which he is behaving automatically are far too long for epileptic phenomena and correspond more to fugue states. Such amnesic episodes are regarded as being precipitated by emotional causes and are usually significant of the intolerance of a life situation which expresses itself in loss of memory. The absence of organic nervous signs on routine examination conforms well with the absence of any diagnostic electroencephalographic abnormality.

(Sgd.) John B. Gaylor,

M.A., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.Ed.,
F.R.F.P.S.G.

Regional Consultant in Neurology, Western Regional Hospital Board.
Honorary Lecturer in Medical Neurology in the University, Glasgow.

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COPY MEDICAL REPORT BY JOHN BAXTER GAYLOR, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.Ed., F.R.F.P.S.G.

Rec. No. 147

9 University Gardens,
Glasgow. W.2.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on the 16th of March 1958 I carried out a re-examination of Peter Thomas Anthony Manuel at the Western Infirmary of Glasgow. This further report is given on soul and conscience.

He has been feeling well since the date of the last examination but had some headache for 3 days after the 17th of February. He attributed the headache to the special investigation which was carried out. Headache has never worried him. He had little to add to the history which he gave me before. He merely confirmed the story of the head injury in an air raid in or about 1944 and a subsequent electric shock. He also confirmed the period of amnesia which he experienced driving from Preston to Blackpool and added that he consulted a Neurologist in 1945. The name of the Neurologist he could not remember correctly. He said either Macfarlane or McKerlan. The reason for seeking an opinion about himself was the blank spell which he had experienced while lorry driving. The opinion of the Neurologist as Manuel remembers it, was that little significance should be attached to theepisode of amnesia. He also said that he had occasional episodes of experiencing a sense of familiarity about a scene. He gave an example of this while driving to Ayr about 2 years ago; when on a road over which he had not driven before, he had the sensation that the scene was quite familiar to him.

A further Electro-encephalographic recording was made but the technique of using needles as electrodes was dispensed with. The result of this examination was essentially the same as previously. Again some theta activity appeared in the temporal regions of the brain particularly on the left side during hyperventilation and immediately following. No spike activity was seen. X-ray examination of the skull and of the chest showed no abnormality whatever.

Opinion:

The interpretation of the second E.E.G. is precisely the same as that reported in my first examination. The continued absence of spike activity stands in further confirmation of the opinion that his amnesias are not of epileptic origin. His record also indicates that the suggestion of psychic attacks of experiencing a sense of detached familiarity is not of organic origin.

Further to the history given to me yesterday. Personally I do not know any Neurologist named Macfarlane or McKerlan. Nor could I find any record of such a name in the Medical Register. If he had had a neurological opinion in 1945, presumably it was that of some visiting Neurologist in Blackpool.

(Sgd.) John B. Gaylor,

M.A., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.Ed., F.R.F.P.S.G.
Regional Consultant in Neurology, Western Regional Hospital Board. Honorary Lecturer in Medical Neurology in the University, Glasgow.

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COPY MEDICAL REPORT BY HUNTER GILLIES, M.D., F.R.C.P.E.D.P.M.

5 Whittingehame Gardens,

Glasgow. W.2.

26th March, 1958.

Psychiatric Report

on

Peter Thomas Anthony Manuel - 30 years,
Formerly of 32 Fourth Street, Birkenshaw, Uddingston.

I certify on Soul and Conscience that, on the instructions of J.C. Patterson, Esq., Procurator Fiscal, Hamilton, I have made psychiatric examinations in H.M. Prison, Barlinnie of the above named man and I further certify that the following is a true Report of my findings and opinion.

I have examined Manuel on five occasions this year namely on the 8th February, 15th February, 22nd February, 1st March andon the 14th March. On the 14th February, 1958, at Stobhill Hospital I interviewed the man's parents and his sister. On the 19th March, 1958, at Stobhill Hospital I interviewed Miss Jean McVey who is a nurse at Dykebar Mental Hospital, Paisley and who formerly had some relevant acquaintanceship with the accused man.

I understand that the man is awaiting trial on charges of Murder.

It is relevant for me to state that this man was the subject of a psychiatric examination by me on the 8th October, 1955, and the findings that I shall describe in the present Report are substantially the same as those I reached on the 8th October 1955.

During my examinations the man gave me every assistance and he answered all my questions.

According to him, his past medical history shows no material abnormality, except that in 1943 at Rochester, Kent he sustained a superficial wound of the scalp during an air raid. He states that he was in a dazed condition for a day or so. In 1943 or 1944, at Rochester, Kent he sustained an accidental electric shock which produced superficial injuries to his hands and feet: however, he was in hospital for one night only.

During my first four interviews with him he made no mention of any other illness but on the 14th March, 1958, which was after he had undergone Electroencephalographic examinations at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, he told me that on several occasions in the past he has had attacks of loss of memory. Thus, he states that some years ago he was driving a lorry from Blackpool to Preston but had no memory of the journey from the time he left the outskirts of Blackpool until he arrived at Preston. He told me that he consulted a general practitioner who sent him to a neurologist who advised Manuel that the symptoms were not of any moment. He states that about twelve months ago after indulging in fisticuffs he had a loss of memory of several days' duration although he had not been knocked out nor sustained any serious blows. He states that

about/

about two years ago he was in a cinema in Glasgow in the company of Miss Jean McVey a nurse of Dykebar Mental Hospital, Paisley: he states that when he saw her next, a week or so later, she gently upbraided him for having failed to keep a rendezvous that they had arranged during the cinema performance: he told Miss McVey and told me that he had no recollection of seeing the film nor of arranging the meeting. When I interviewed Miss McVey on the 19th March, 1958, she had no recollection that there had ever been such an incident and she was of the opinion that if he had failed to keep such an appointment she would have remembered all the circumstances. There is thus no corroboration of his claim that he has suffered from attacks of loss of memory and, in any case, these claims have no apparent relevance to his mental condition at the time of the offences with which he is charged.

According to him, his family history shows no incidence of material psychiatric abnormality.

According to him, his personal history is as follows: he was born in New York and came to Motherwell, Scotland, at the age of 6 or 7. He states that he was a healthy, happy child except that he suffered from nose bleeds for some years. He had not attended school in New York where it is apparently the usage that children do not start schooling until they are almost 7 years of age: thus, he had some lee-way to make up when he started school at Motherwell but he claims that he was a good scholar.

He gave me what appears to have been a true account of his life since the age of 14.

The history he gave me, as noted above, was confirmed in its essentials by his parents and his sister when I interview them at Stobhill Hospital on the 14th February, 1958.

Neither Manuel nor his parents made any mention that Manuel had at any time made any complaints that he suffered from any psychological disability and indeed, on the evidence available to me, the man's physical and mental health has been normal throughout his life.

Physical examination of the accused man showed no abnormality: he is a well-developed man of healthy appearance and of stocky build. There is no abnormality of the secondary sex characteristics.

Examination of the man's mental state shows no signs of mental disease. He is above average in intelligence as was evidenced by his responses during my interviews with him and as was confirmed by a formal test of intelligence that I gave to him on the 22nd February, 1958. He was perfectly clear in his mind on all the occasions when I examined him and he had a clear recollection of immediate, recent and remote events in his life including his movements at the time of the alleged offences and since then. He told me he had a complete answer to the charges against him. His memory for details is remarkably good and clear.

He/

He has a clear appreciation of the charges against him and fully understands his situation as an accused person. On every occasion when I saw him his mood was cheerful and confident. On no occasion did he put forward any suggestion that he suffered from any medical disability and there is no evidence of such, neither from my interviews with him nor as a result of special tests I gave him that are designed to elicit psychiatric abnormalities of personality.

He showed no evidence of delusions nor of hallucinations and my enquiries of the prison officers show no suggestion that his behaviour since he was admitted to Barlinnie Prison on the 15th January, 1958, has been in any way abnormal.

I have seen the reports of Dr. John Gaylor on the two Electroencephalographic examinations carried out on the accused man at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow: in my opinion the results were within normal limits.

Conclusion:

In my opinion the accused man is sane and fit to plead. I find no evidence of mental disease. I have paid particular attention during my interviews with the man to the question of him having diminished responsibility for his actions and I find no evidence that his responsibility is diminished by any disease of the mind.

(Sgd.) Hunter Gillies,

Consultant Psychiatrist, Stobhill Hospital,
Honorary Clinical Lecturer in Psychological Medicine
University of Glasgow.