

Transcript of Schapelle Corby Verdict

<http://phorums.com.au/showthread.php?116757-Transcript-of-Schapelle-Corby-Verdict>

Transcript begins:

At the checking counter, the witness asked the suspect to put the bag on the table and open the bag. He said nothing else. Then the suspect was asked to open the big zip. The suspect looked very nervous about opening the bag.

Then both the officers took the suspect to another room, opened the bag and found a boogie board and one plastic container of marijuana.

They then asked "What is this?" The suspect replied "It's mine". Then they coordinated with the superintendent to hand the matter over to the police.

It's true the suspect admitted the marijuana was hers. It's true the police came in the special room. It's true the police checked the boogie bag and the suspect's name is Schapelle Corby.

The police asked questions of the suspect. Then, based on the statement given by the customs officers who also asked questions of the suspect, they said the suspect admitted the bag was hers. When they opened the bag they found marijuana there.

The police did a second test on the marijuana. After the two tests were done, the police had the appropriate evidence. They considered the witness statement suspect.

It is true when the witness asked the suspect to open the bag, the suspect said "No". It is true one of the witnesses and police officers opened one of the bags. They found three items in there. They did a test for marijuana in the special room. It's true they checked the plane tag on the bag and it was the same as the name on the passport.

It is true that at approximately 7pm the suspect was taken for more investigation.

It is true that one of the witnesses asked if the suspect has any permit or licence to bring marijuana into Indonesia.

Based on the statement of the witness, they didn't do any fingerprinting on the suspect.

This is the statement given by an expert customs witness and it is right that the suspect was caught taking marijuana into Indonesia. This is what is customary in Indonesia. It is true that a party must have a licence or permit from an appropriate Indonesian ministry to bring in any drug or marijuana into Indonesia.

It is true all the baggage from the plane was taken into the airport security area.

Then, according to the statement given by the expert witness, the suspect said she doesn't know anything about Indonesian customs.

The second witness was a professor, an expert witness.

If somebody brings narcotics or drugs into Indonesia, it's a crime. In front of the court this is the truth.

Further investigation must be done to present the truth in front of the court. Doing fingerprinting is necessary to get to the truth of the case.

The witness came to Denpasar, Bali, together with the suspect that morning. One pair of flippers belonged to the suspect. In Brisbane airport the witness went together with the suspect. The last item the suspect checked in was the boogie board bag containing one boogie board and one pair of flippers.

All the passengers went to Sydney. Then they flew on to Denpasar. The witness asked the brother to get the bag. When the baggage was checked in Brisbane, the witness didn't see anything suspicious. The witness said the suspect is a very good person and doesn't think the suspect has done anything. When they arrived at Sydney airport, there was a discussion about boys. At all times the suspect felt very down. It is true that the boogie board bag belongs to the suspect. It was true that at the time of checking in there was only a boogie board and one pair of flippers in the bag.

It is true that the suspect and the witness stayed at Sydney airport for two hours before going on to Denpasar. The witness saw the suspect and brother carry the bag. The witness said they didn't know which was the green line or the red one.

The witness said that at the check-in counter, the suspect opened the bag and when she saw the plastic transparent bag, she was shocked and stepped back.

A friend came to see them at Sydney airport.

The witness said that "as long as I've known the suspect, she's never been involved in any drugs or narcotics". It is true the suspect is a beautician in Brisbane.

According to the witness Scott, the bag weighed three to four kilos. When they found the bag weighed more than four kilos, they did some more checking on the bag. Brisbane airport is different for domestic flights and international flights.

She has never been in court before and has no prior record. It's clear she's a person that's not involved in narcotics. It's possible she's a victim of drug trafficking. There must be an investigation on the basis of this evidence.

As there are no other witnesses that had been brought forward by the prosecution, Corby gave the following testimony.

Prior to the incident she lived in her father's home with Katherine. Katherine and the suspect came to Bali to have a holiday at the House of Ali. They only carried a bum bag. When they were getting ready that night, they packed the rubber flippers and the boogie board to take to the airport with their baggage. They checked in and went to the waiting room. Katherine and James went on to another plane.

As the boogie board was overweight, it couldn't be carried onto the plane and had to be checked in.

The plane flew to Sydney, where there were many check-in counters. At Brisbane there was an oversize-baggage handler. She says she doesn't have any idea what happened to it after that. The weight of the bag wasn't recorded. The plane transited Sydney. They went from Brisbane to Sydney, then Sydney to Denpasar. She didn't know who got into the bag or who might have put something into it after she checked it into Brisbane.

She looked for her bag when she got off the plane in Denpasar. The bag was taken off the plane and left on the floor.

Thirteen years ago she graduated from high school. In Australia she's never been involved with anything to do with drugs. Marijuana is a prohibited drug. She came to Bali to visit her family and she took the opportunity for a holiday.

She has come to Bali four times. She was trying to take a Garuda flight

to Bali but it was cancelled, so she was forced to take a Qantas flight instead.

The suspect's bag was just one of the bags in a group of bags with her friends. There was evidence the bag in question belonged to her. Inside the boogie board bag was another package. The customs official said the suspect was surprised to find that in her bag. While it's true the boogie board was the property of the suspect, it was the first time she had seen the marijuana when the bag was opened.

When the bag was opened and they saw the marijuana, the customs officer asked "Whose is this?" and she said "It's mine". She was shocked when the bag was opened. She said she knew nothing about what was in the bag.

However, she knew it was marijuana that was in the bag because she could smell it. She says she did not put the marijuana in the bag and didn't know it was there and that she was not involved or never had been involved in anything like that.

The suspect very much respects her family and is respected by them. She didn't know definitely what was going to happen. Is there someone else who could have put it in her bag? She took two bags to the airport and didn't pay much attention to them. She knew that after the Bali incident that any bags would be inspected. She was shocked because she didn't put it in the bag.

She knew bringing anything like that into Indonesia was prohibited. Transmitting, possessing, trafficking is prohibited. Her income when she came to Bali was from working. Her father is sick. She brought only \$1300 to Bali. Someone else put the drugs into her bag, but she doesn't know who.

Her brother James was brought into the customs room. Interrogation was negative.

She denied owning it. She said 'I'm here because I love my father, nothing to do with drugs'. No history of narcotics. That she came to Bali because she loves it.

Because of her love for her family she can't be sentenced heavily. The request is for a sentence that's kind and fair.

She's asked they give her a fair judgement as she wants to go home.

According to the law she will respect any decision that's handed down.

The prosecutor read a clinical report in full. The report showed that the bag was tested in full and tested positive. This drug is a category one under the law. The suspect's legal advisor wants consideration under the code of criminal procedure. There is a request for the judge to reopen the case to allow John Patrick Ford to testify. He testified the suspect was a victim of drug trafficking in Australia. She understands the penalty for giving false witnesses.

The customs officer has been working for the government for several years.

Testimony of John Patrick Ford, who overheard in prison about drugs and trafficking.

The testimony given by the customs officials is being discussed. The testimony from the customs officer was that because the bag was suspect, it was put through the X-ray machine. All the bags came from the same flight and it wasn't clear who owned the bags.

After it was put through the X-ray, the customs officer testified the bag was collected by the suspect and taken through the channel for goods not to be declared through the green zone instead of the red zone. The customs officer is the main witness for the prosecution. His testimony was corroborated by one of his colleagues, however there were no fingerprinting or tapes, it's only their word. Importation of drugs is a danger to the Indonesians because of the current drug problems within the country.

The bag was tested to see if it was marijuana. The police witness saw the marijuana that was in the bag and testified the suspect said "No, no" when asked to open the bag.

When she was asked who owned it, she said "It's mine". The witness testified it was found to be marijuana. The witnesses at the airport have agreed with each other on the testimony, the fact that drugs were imported into Indonesia and it occurred at Denpasar airport. This has occurred without any licence or permit to do so. It's clear the importation of a prohibited drug did occur. The suspect carried the bag containing the marijuana through the customs area. Its true Schapelle Corby has imported drugs through the airport. Importing prohibited drugs creates an impression that Indonesia is a haven for drugs. The drug problem is a danger to humanity and it's considered to be a very serious offence. The Indonesian government is trying to eradicate drugs being brought into Indonesia.

She's a family person who loves her family. She only came to Bali for a

holiday and has no prior connection to drugs.

Professor Wilson's evidence isn't supported and the court isn't giving much weight to his testimony.

The testimony of the police has to be accepted because they're sworn officers of the law.

John Ford's testimony is based on hearsay as it was something he'd overheard in prison. He wouldn't name the person involved, so his testimony can't be given much weight. He wasn't able to say who was responsible for putting the marijuana into her bag and someone has to take responsibility for it.

There was no fingerprinting of the plastic bag.

Schappelle says she's a victim of drug trafficking and we've taken this into consideration because importation of drugs hurts the people of Indonesia.

Considering all of the above there's been a violation of Indonesian law.

The defence hasn't presented a convincing case. They made much out of little things and little things aren't significant things. There's no one who can refute that it was in her bag and that she owned it. The plastic bag had been handled by so many people, even if it had been fingerprinted, the evidence had been contaminated.

Consideration has been given to all of the following: the obligation of the court to find justice on the evidence presented; the actual evidence and not hearsay and allegations; the fact the suspect has never before come before a court; the evidence presented about drug trafficking and the fact that the drugs were brought into a prohibited customs area.

It's been proven that illegally imported drugs have been brought into Indonesia.

Verdict: 20 years

Suspect has till next Wednesday to accept the verdict or appeal.