

IRA seventeen years ago I can honestly say that I have never overcome my grief. I have photographs of her in my lounge and although this may sound odd, but I speak to her memory and I get comfort from this. I have attempted to form other relationships but these have all been unsuccessful.

Pam was very special to me. I worship her. Pam and I went out for the first time to the Dolca Vita Club in Birmingham. I used to work three nights each week at the Dolca Vita Night Club and we would go there after a drink at such pubs as the Tavern or the Mulberry Bush. I suppose in total we would have visited those premises for about six months. I don't really know any of the staff or the other clients from the pubs. Pam and I used to spend time getting to know one another and we didn't take the time to get to know anyone else. I don't even remember anyone to describe them. Pam and I went out for six months and then she decided she would like us to have some space so we split up for a time. I can tell you that I was really cut up about this and when she phoned again for us to meet I was delighted and our relationship was closer than ever, so much so we had been into the jewellery quarter to look at engagement rings. We had not decided on one, but marriage was our intention. This was the

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beginning of November 1974 (001174).

On the evening of Thursday, 21 November 1974, (211174) I had arranged to meet Pam at the Swan at Yardley. I had been working during the day as a machinist at Braimes, Wharfdale Road, Tysley, and I returned home to digs in DPA, where I had tea, got changed

and then I walked to the bus stop on the Coventry Road to meet Pam at around eight o'clock. We caught the number 58 bus into Town where we had discussed on route about going to the Tavern in the Town but then we decided to go into the Mulberry Bush. We got off the bus, near to the pub, so we arrived in there at around 8.15 pm (2015). The place was packed. I am unable to estimate how many people were in the pub, but they seemed to be all congregated around the juke box some standing and others sitting in the alcoves. I did not take much notice about who was in the room but I do not remember seeing anyone that I recognised and no one that I can describe for you. I remember that we entered via the Worcester Street entrance and that I noted that the pub was more crowded than normal. I also recall that people seemed to be on edge. I am unable to describe how this was. I do know, however, that there had been a number of bomb scares in the city at that time and that there had been scares in the Rotunda, the timber

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yard along the Stratford Road and that McDADE had blown himself up the week before. I also knew that he was due to leave Coventry on route to Ireland on 21.11.74 (211174). Pam and I had spoken about this and had I thought there was to be any danger to her quite obviously I would never have gone near the City. As it was Pam and I used to have a drink in the Mulberry Bush on most occasions we met which was usually three times in the week on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and we would meet at weekends. Clearly we visited other places but we were regulars in the Mulberry Bush.

Going back to the evening of 21.11.74 (211174) Pam found a seat in the area opposite the juke box which I have indicated on the plan shown to me by Insp ARCHIBALD, Marked DGB 1 with the letter A. As I recall she sat with her back to the wall facing the juke box. There were other people in that area but none I knew. I walked to the bar where there were two barmaids talking near to the Worcester Street entrance so I moved back to the position I have indicated on the same plan as previously mentioned. This time I have indicated with the letter B where I was standing. I remember I was served by a female. I know that I had already been given the one drink of a pint of lager and the other drink a gin and tonic. The person serving me was getting some

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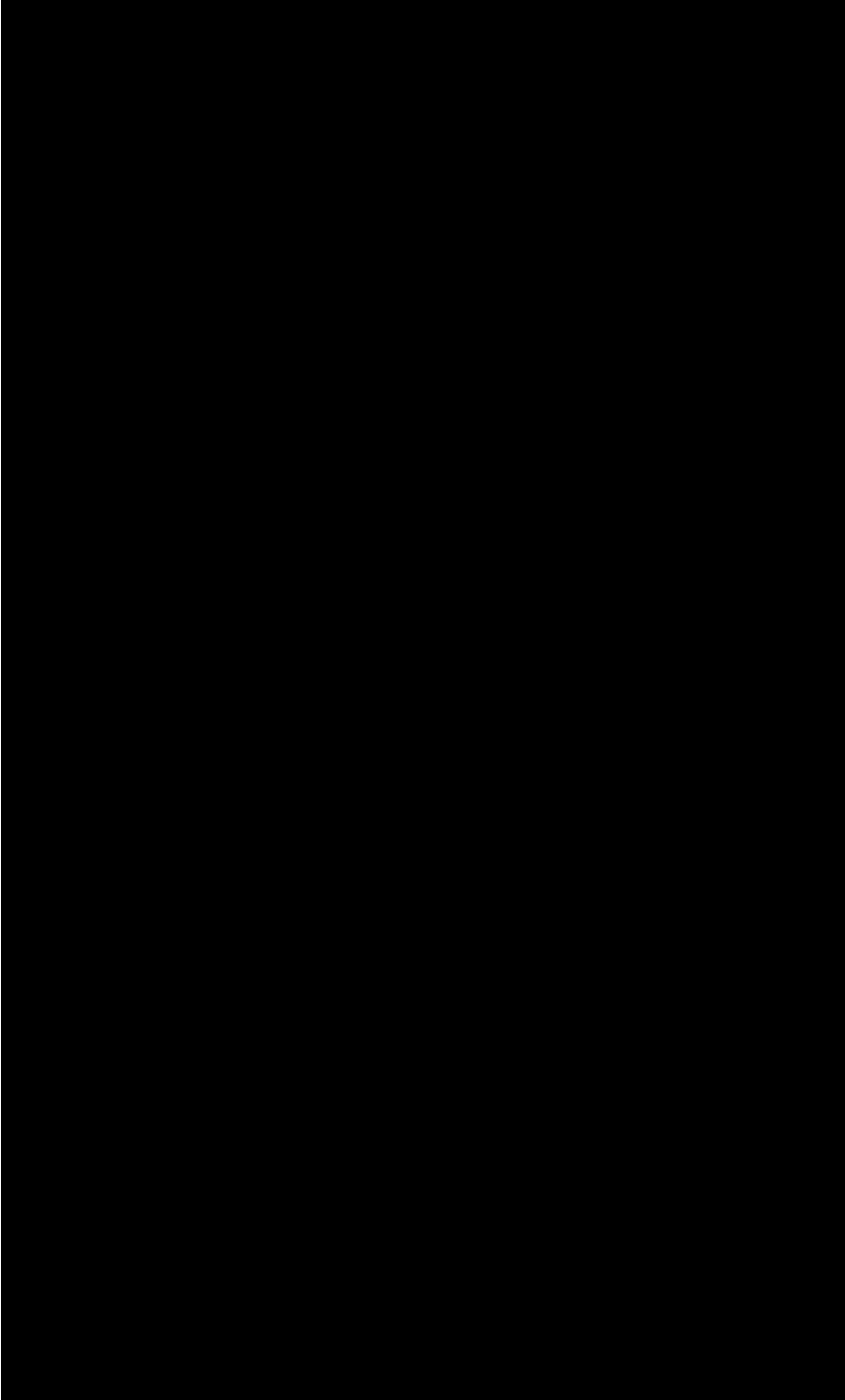
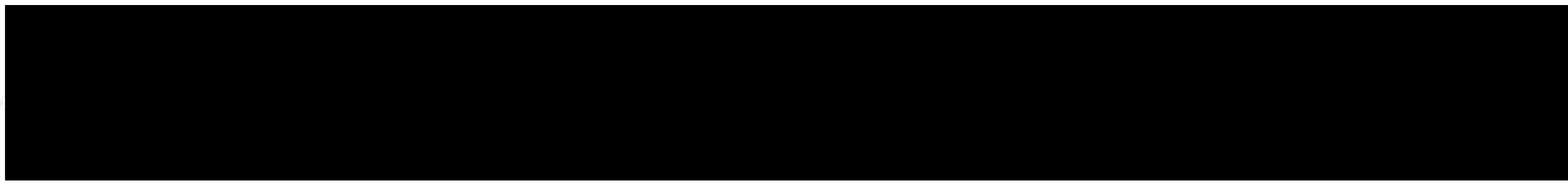
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ice so I took a couple of sips of my drink when I seemed to fall and there was a terrific pain to the back of my head. I was facing the bar and initially I thought that I had been hit. My ears went pop and I was unable to hear anything. There was a blue flash. I don't know which direction that came from it was all around me and in front of my face. There were balls of fire and within a matter of seconds there was a terrific bang. I felt panic realising that this was a bomb. Time seemed to stand still for a short time and the first I remember is calling for Pam. All around me was a black hole and the building had come down and in upon us. There was a chap stood next to me who was screaming. There were balls of phosphorous. I couldn't breath and I was in a lot of pain. There was debris all around me. I tried to shout but I seemed to have no breath. I heard a sound like pneumatic drills but I have no idea how long after the explosion this sound came to me. I know this sounds awful but I remember after shouting for Pam I called for my mother. I was distressed, in fact I thought that I was dead. I attempted to move a bit each time I did more debris was coming down on top of me. I had no idea where about in the pub that I ended up, so more important where Pam was. I lay my head to one side and the pain went so I began to pray for my

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family and Pam's.



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