

POLICE - CONFIDENTIAL

MEDIA STATUS: NOT FOR PRESS

CITY EAST REGION - SITUATION REPORT

V4.0

INITIATING LAC : ROSE BAY LAC
 DISTRICT : ROSE BAY
 SITREP NO. : 2001/5/2

REF : 2001/5/2
 REF : 2001/5/2
 9:07, 11 JUNE 2001

ISSUE:

Investigation status surrounding Operation TARADALE.

BACKGROUND:

See Sitrep 2001/5. Operation TARADALE was formed on 23/04/2001 to investigate the following incidents at Tamarama in 1989:

- Suspicious deaths of Ross WARREN (22Jul) and John RUSSELL (23Nov),
- Assault and robbery of David McMAHON (21Dec).

CURRENT POSITIONS:

Incident room set up at Paddington Police Station and e@gle.i used to manage investigation. David McMAHON has been interviewed and stated during his offence reference was made to another victim pushed off a cliff. Sean CUSHMAN was previously identified as the principal offender in the McMAHON matter. The RUSSELL death predates McMAHON by approximately 3 weeks, incident site no greater than 25 metres apart. A community source has been identified who nominates POI CUSHMAN for pushing a gay male off a cliff at Bondi. Profiling and analysis of CUSHMAN shows there are some 45 POI's to this enquiry who have to be interviewed. A draft TI affidavit and request for assistance has been forwarded to the Office of the Solicitor and Telephone Interception Branch for CUSHMAN's contact telephones. A media release is proposed (depending on TI line availability) for 26/06/2001. CUSHMAN identified by surveillance and covert investigations to be residing at [REDACTED] Anzac Pde at Maroubra and using telephones [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Investigations have caused an organised crime group known as "PSK" or "PTK" (Park Side Killers/People That Kill) to be the target of this inquiry. PSK and PTK was a graffiti tag used by the group. Evidence available shows group members and associates are responsible for the following:

- [REDACTED]
- murder of William ALLEN (1988 Alexandria, not cleared)
- murder of Kritchikorn RATTAJURATHAPORN (1990 Tamarama, cleared)
- murder of Richard JOHNSON (1990 Alexandria, cleared)
- murder of Noel DOULL (1992 Alexandria, cleared/dismissed)
- murder of Brian HAGLAND (1996 Bondi, cleared)

COMMENT: A recent commitment to six permanent staff is appreciated and assessed as being the minimim staffing commitment to effectively interview persons of interest whilst interest in the media release is current. A reduced staffing level could impact the evidence gathering capability of the investigation. The initial investigations when held up to scrutiny could only be described as "poor", and the investigation has the ability of fixing these errors of the past. The Deputy State Coroner, Jacqueline MILLEDGE SM, has taken an interest in this matter and has indicated she will hear evidence. The media unit has stated the media attention on this investigation will be 'massive'.

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 Stephen PAGE
 Detective Sergeant

1. Commander, Rose Bay LAC