

NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE.

STATEMENT in the matter of:

Death of John HUGHES.....  
.....

Place: Physical Evidence

Section, Police Centre, Sydney.

Date: 1 March, 1990.....

Name: KHOUDAIR SAMUEL JOSEPH.

Address: Physical Evidence Section, Sydney.

Tel No. [REDACTED]

Occupation: Plain Clothes Constable of Police.

;STATES-

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in Court as a witness.

The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

1. I am attached to the Crime Scene Unit of the Physical Evidence Section, Sydney, where my duties include the examination of crime scenes including scenes of unusual and suspicious deaths.

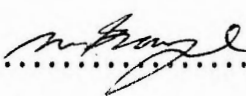

2. About 2.30pm on Saturday, 6 May, 1989, I attended Unit [REDACTED] Greenknowe St, Potts Point, where I spoke to Detective Senior Constable Neville SKULLION of Kings Cross.who then indicated to me the body of a deceased male lying face down on a double bed in the single bedroom of that unit. The body was identified to me by Detective Skullion as that of John HUGHES.

3. The unit was located on the third floor of a multi-storey block which had its main entrance in Baroda lane. (This lane runs north-south from Greenknowe street along the side and rear of the block of units) The unit consisted of a single room approximately 4 metres square and this was continuous with a small kitchen/dining area of smaller proportions, and a separate bathroom.

I PRODUCE FOUR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE ENTRANCE OF [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET AND HALLWAYS ON THE THIRD FLOOR, LABELLED 1 TO 4 THUS;

PHOTO 1; Main security entrance to [REDACTED] Greenknowe Street, Potts Point in Baroda Lane.

PHOTO 2; Ground floor foyer of [REDACTED] Greenknowe Street, Potts Point.

Witness.....  ..... Signature,  .....

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PHOTO 3; Approach from Unit [redacted] to lift and stairway on 3rd floor.

PHOTO 4; View of corridor running East-West with Unit [redacted] at right.

I PRODUCE FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE INTERIOR OF UNIT [redacted] GREENKNOWE STREET POTTS POINT LABELLED 5 TO 9 THUS;

PHOTO 5; Northern side of Unit [redacted] showing body of deceased and front door of unit.

PHOTO 6; Southern side of Unit [redacted] showing entrance to bathroom and kitchen area.

PHOTO 7; Kitchen area of Unit [redacted]

PHOTO 8; View of table near entrance to Unit [redacted].

PHOTO 9; Lounge chair adjacent to feet of deceased.

4. The deceased was at the foot of a double bed and was lying on top of a multicoloured crocheted bedcover. The head faced towards the wall and bedroom entrance and the lower legs were hanging over the opposite side of the mattress up to the knees. He was dressed in an off-white, woollen jumper, black corduroy trousers and running shoes. The bedcover had been slightly disturbed at the end of the bed. The hands of the deceased had been tied behind his back with electrical flex cord, attached to an orange-brown coloured table lamp lying beside the body at the right side of the chest. The feet had also been bound with flex cord attached to a red coloured lamp. The head of the deceased was covered with a blood-stained cloth hood, apparently the pillow-case removed from a pillow at the head of the bed. It was turned inside-out.

Witness..... Signature.....

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4.(Cont.) I saw that a leather belt about 3cm in width had been wrapped tightly around the outside of the pillow-case which enclosed the head of the deceased from the nape of the neck. The effect of this ligature appeared to have been magnified by the insertion into the windings of the belt of a pair of kitchen tongs, used as a lever for tightening. I saw tied around the tongs a further piece of flex. A red, black and white striped tie protruded from underneath the hood.

5. Adjacent to the body, I saw a pair of metal framed glasses, a tweed cap and a number of manila folders holding business papers. A serrated bread knife with a blade approximately 30cm long was positioned on the top of one of these files. Blood covered approximately 3cm of the end of the blade and a small number of droplets of blood were spread around the rest of the blade of the knife. Around the head of the deceased, I saw a large number of fragments of glazed pottery. Pieces were concentrated mainly about the head and shoulders of the deceased but pieces also extended towards towards the head of the bed. A number of these pieces were blood spattered. I collected the tweed cap, bread knife and fragments of glazed pottery for further examination at a later date.

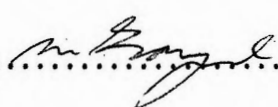

I PRODUCE SIX PHOTOGRAPHS LABELLED 10 TO 15 OF THE DECEASED AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS THUS;

PHOTO 10; OVERALL VIEW OF DECEASED AT END OF BED.

PHOTO 11; LEGS OF DECEASED OVERHANGING SOUTHERN SIDE OF DOUBLE BED.

PHOTO 12; CLOSE VIEW OF POTTERY ABOUT HEAD OF DECEASED.

PHOTO 13; CLOSE VIEW OF FILES, KNIFE AND PILLOW BESIDE BODY OF DECEASED.

Witness.....  ..... Signature.....  .....

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PHOTO 14; KNOT AROUND HANDS OF DECEASED.

PHOTO 15; CLOSE VIEW OF HEAD AND NECK OF DECEASED AFTER TURNING AROUND OF BODY.

6. On the floor near the entrance to the kitchen area, I saw the remainder of the red, black and white striped tie I saw wrapped around the head of the deceased. It contained the knot of the tie and its end appeared to have been cut by some sharp instrument. I collected this fragment of the tie for later examination. Further towards the kitchen, I saw resting on a chair some clothing and books and on top of these what appeared to be the neck portion of the clay vase fragmented about the head of the deceased. I saw that a small fan-forced heater (which was still on), was blocking the entrance to the kitchen. It had been apparently set up to dry out two pairs of running shoes. On the kitchen sink I saw that dining settings for three people had been washed and stacked. These included main course, soup and bread plates as well as teacups.

I PRODUCE FOUR PHOTOGRAPHS NUMBERED 16 TO 19 OF THE AREA AROUND THE KITCHEN OF UNIT [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT, THUS;

PHOTO 16; AREA NEAR ENTRANCE TO KITCHEN SHOWING CUT TIE, THE REST OF WHICH WAS FOUND AROUND THE NECK OF THE DECEASED.

PHOTO 17; FRAGMENTS OF CLAY POTTERY IN ENTRANCE TO KITCHEN OF [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

PHOTO 18; VIEW OF FAN-FORCED HEATER AND RUNNING SHOES IN ENTRANCE TO KITCHEN.

PHOTO 19; TABLE SETTINGS ON KITCHEN SINK, [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

Witness..... *[Signature]* ..... Signature..... *[Signature]* .....

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7. The front door of the unit was fitted with a passage lock and a dead lock. I could see no sign of forced entry or externally visible sign of interference with the locks Next to the front door of the unit I saw a small table on which were placed three disposable lighters, a packet of 'Dunhill' cigarettes, a 'bong', a tray of what appeared to be finely divided marijuana, a chopping board and a partially filled ashtray. The ashtray contained a roll-your-own cigarette but and five ordinary cigarette butts. I found a blood stained t-shirt behind the coffee table.

I PRODUCE THREE PHOTOGRAPHS NUMBERED 20 TO 22 OF THE AREA AROUND THE FRONT DOOR OF UNIT [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

PHOTO 20; FRONT DOOR AND LOCKS OF UNIT [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE ST POTTS POINT.

PHOTO 21; COFFEE TABLE NEXT TO FRONT DOOR OF UNIT [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

PHOTO 22; CLOSE VIEW OF ASHTRAY ON COFFEE TABLE NEAR FRONT DOOR OF UNIT [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

8. In the corridor of the third floor, approximately 20metres away from the entrance of unit [REDACTED], next to the lift, I found a blood-stained finger smudge. It was about 30cm above the lift button. I left this smudge for examination by the fingerprint experts present at the time.

I PRODUCE THREE PHOTOGRAPHS NUMBERED 23 TO 25 OF THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE CORRIDOR AREA AROUND THE LIFT ENTRANCE THUS;

PHOTO 23; VIEW OF ELEVATOR DOOR FLOOR THREE, NUMBER [REDACTED] GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

Witness..... *[Signature]* Signature..... *[Signature]*

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PHOTO 24; SMUDGED FINGERPRINT OUTSIDE DOOR TO LIFT, THIRD FLOOR, NUMBER █ GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

PHOTO 25; CLOSE VIEW OF SMUDGED FINGERPRINT OUTSIDE DOOR TO LIFT, THIRD FLOOR NUMBER █ GREENKNOWE STREET, POTTS POINT.

9. At 4pm, on 9 May, 1989, I attended the city morgue at Glebe and took a number of external photographs of the body of John HUGHES as requested by and in the presence of Dr.SCHWARTZ.

I PRODUCE 18 PHOTOS NUMBERED 26 TO 43 OF THE BODY OF JOHN HUGHES TAKEN AT THE MORGUE, GLEBE ON 9 MAY, 1989 TAKEN AT THE REQUEST OF DR SCHWARTZ

PHOTO 26; GENERAL VIEW OF TORSO OF DECEASED.

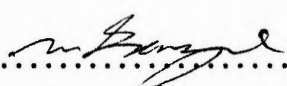

PHOTOS 27 AND 28; VIEW OF DISCOLOURATION MARKS AROUND NECK OF DECEASED.

PHOTOS 29 TO 32; VIEWS OF HANDS OF DECEASED.

PHOTOS 33 TO 37; VARIOUS VIEWS OF HEAD OF DECEASED INCLUDING WOUNDS TO CROWN OF HEAD.

PHOTO 38; RIGHT EYE OF DECEASED.

PHOTOS 39 TO 43; VARIOUS VIEWS OF EXTERNAL SURFACE OF BODY OF DECEASED.

Witness.....  ..... Signature.....  .....

STATEMENT CONTINUED IN THE MATTER OF:

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WITNESSED BY: KHOUDAIR, Samuel Joseph.....

10. I then proceeded to photograph a number of items said to have been removed from the body of the deceased removed prior to my arrival, including a blood stained pillowcase, a watch, a full packet of dunhill cigarettes, various lengths of electrical flex cord, a 3cm wide black-coloured leather belt, the missing segment of tie already referred to and the bent pair of kitchen tongs entwined by flex cord around the neck of the deceased.

I NOW PRODUCE FOUR PHOTOGRAPHS NUMBERED 44 TO 47 OF THE ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE BODY OF THE DECEASED, JOHN HUGHES, LABELLED THUS;

PHOTO 44; INVERTED BLOODSTAINED PILLOWCASE FOUND PLACED AROUND THE HEAD OF THE DECEASED. PHOTO SHOWS SURFACE OF MATERIAL IN CONTACT WITH HEAD OF THE DECEASED.

PHOTO 45; CLOSE VIEW OF THE PORTION OF THE PILLOWCASE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE WOUNDS IN THE HEAD OF THE DECEASED.

PHOTO 46; ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE BODY OF THE DECEASED. FLEX IN UPPER LEFT CORNER WAS AROUND THE TONGS AT THE NECK OF THE DECEASED. FLEX IN UPPER RIGHT CORNER WAS WRAPPED AROUND THE LEGS OF THE DECEASED. FLEX IN LOWER LEFT CORNER WAS WRAPPED AROUND THE HANDS OF THE DECEASED.

PHOTO 47; TIE SEGMENT, BELT AND TONGS FOUND ABOUT THE NECK OF THE DECEASED.

11. On the 10 May, 1989, I attended the Forensic Biology laboratories at Glebe and submitted for examination to Virginia FRIEDMAN the following items; a blood sample from the body of John Hughes, the blood stained knife found beside the body of the deceased and the blood-stained T-shirt I found in the unit at the time of my examination. About 8pm on 10 May, 1989, with Detective Constable 1/C Plotecki of the Homicide Unit, South, I attended the cells of the Sydney Police Centre, where I witnessed the removal of a blood sample from Aaron HILL, by the Police Medical Officer, Dr Tony MOYNAN.

Witness..... Signature.....

*[Handwritten signature]*

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(11. Cont.) On the 12 May, 1989, I submitted this sample to the Forensic Biology laboratory for examination

I NOW PRODUCE A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE GIVEN UNDER THE HAND OF VIRGINIA FRIEDMAN WITH THE RESULTS OF THESE EXAMINATIONS.



12. On the 3 August, 1989, I submitted to the Forensic Biology laboratory for analysis the five cigarette butts found in the ashtray on the coffee table at Unit [REDACTED] Greenknowe St, Potts Point. Two of these were Dunhill and three were Winfield brand.

13. About 9.45am on 31 December, 1989, Detective PLOTECKI of the Homicide Unit, South, left for examination at the Crime Scene unit 1 number of items of clothing amongst which was a mens' hipster style jacket, dark blue in colour. I was informed that this was the property of Ian JONES. On examination I found that it had two tears in the inner skin. One was situated next to the left side inner chest pocket. The other tear was situated in the stitching under the left arm next to the attachment to the torso. I found in the space between the inner skin and jacket, resting on the lower hem formed by their junction, a St George building society passbook in the name of "J.G.Hughes" of "[REDACTED] Greenknowe Ave, Potts point", membership number, 023869340. The book had been completed and the last entry was on the 21April, 1989, for cheque no. 22717166999. I returned these items and the rest of the clothing to Det Plotecki on 4 January, 1990.

I NOW PRODUCE SIX PHOTOGRAPHS, NUMBERED 48 TO 53, OF THE MENS HIPSTER STYLE JACKET WHICH I EXAMINED AT THE REQUEST OF DETECTIVE PLOTECKI ALONG WITH THE ST GEORGE PASS BOOK WHICH I FOUND INSIDE THE LINING.

PHOTO 48; Front view of mens hipster jacket, property of Ian Jones.

PHOTO 49; Back view of mens hipster jacket, property of Ian Jones.

Witness.  ..... Signature.  .....



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PHOTO 50; Inside lining of left side of hipster jacket, property of Ian Jones.

PHOTO 51; Close view of tears in rear left side of hipster jacket, property of Ian Jones.

PHOTO 52; St George passbook found inside inner lining of hipster jacket belonging to Ian Jones.

PHOTO 53; Last entry in St George passbook found inside inner lining of hipster jacket belonging to Ian Jones.

Witness.....*m. [unclear]*..... Signature.....*[Signature]*.....