

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of: Place: Homicide Unit, Regional Crime
Murder of John Gordon HUGHES Squad South
Ian Stuart JONES charged Date: 3rd June, 1990

Name: Neville John SMITH.
(Surname in capitals)
Address: Homicide Unit, Regional Crime Squad South Tel. No. [REDACTED]
Occupation: Detective Sergeant of Police. STATES: -


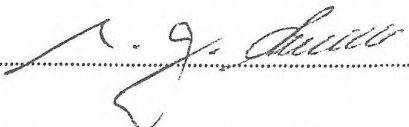
1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary to give in court as a witness.

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.

2. I am thirty seven years of age.

3. On the afternoon of the 30th April, 1990 I was working in the Homicide Squad Office at the Sydney Police Centre. As a result of information which I was aware of I then saw Detective PLOTECKI and Detective WINDER come into the office with the defendant, Ian Stuart JONES where he was then seated. I then stripped searched the defendant JONES and whilst searching him I found a syringe in his underpants.

4. Detective PLOTECKI had a brief conversation with JONES in relation to associated matters. Detective PLOTECKI then said, "I'd also like to interview you further about the death of John Gordon HUGHES."
JONES said, "Yeah sure ask me what you like."
Detective PLOTECKI said, "There are some things I want to clarify with you about your statement and some new information which has come to hand since I took that statement from you."
JONES said, "Go right ahead I don't mind."
Detective PLOTECKI said, "We'll go to another room where I will speak to you further about HUGHES's death."
The defendant then asked Detective PLOTECKI a question concerning the matter for which he had been brought to the Sydney Police Centre and Detective PLOTECKI then had a short conversation with him about that matter.

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5. The defendant JONES was then taken to an interview room within the building and was supplied with a drink. In company with Detective PLOTECKI I was present when he said to JONES, "Before we commence I want you to understand that you are not obliged to answer any of my questions or say anything unless you wish to do so but whatever you say may be used in evidence. Do you understand that?"

JONES said, "Yeah I know my rights."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "What is your full name?"

JONES said, "Ian Stuart JONES."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Where are you living?"

JONES said, "[REDACTED], the Wesley Mission, just up the road."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "How long have you lived at your present address?"

JONES said, "I've been there about four months."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Are you working at the present time?"

JONES said, "Yeah, Aerolift as a plant operator."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Where are they?"

JONES said, "Stanwell Park, one hundred yards from the railway station."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "How much are you earning?"

JONES said, "\$385.00 clear a week."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Who is your boss?"

JONES said, "Bob SMITH he's the foreman."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "How long have you been working for aerolift?"

JONES said, "Three months non stop."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Have you got a motor vehicle?"

JONES said, "Not at present I've been getting about by train."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "What time did you get home today?"


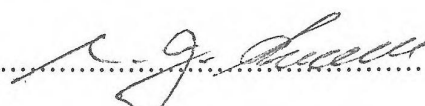
JONES said, "3.15 approximately."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "What time did you go to work?"

JONES said, "5.30 in the morning, I got the 6.03 from platform 13."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Do you have a driver's licence?"

JONES said, "Yeah, [REDACTED]."

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Detective PLOTECKI said, "Are you taking any medication at present?"

JONES said, "I've been on methadone for two and a half, three months?"

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Where do you pick up your methadone?"

JONES said, "Rankin Court."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Who is your doctor at Rankin Court?"

JONES said, "Doctor GRAHAM."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Are you married or single?"

JONES said, "Single."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Ever been married?"

JONES said, "I was married to Gail SPORNE."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "When were you married?"

JONES said, "In 1976 at the Wayside Chapel."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Do you have any children?"

JONES said, "No."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Have you got any relatives?"

JONES said, "I have a brother Christopher who lives at Kurnell."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Is he your only relative?"

JONES said, "No. I've got three brothers, Keith, Robert and Christopher and two sisters, Gaynor and Sandra. Their both married."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Where do your parents live?"

JONES said, "Ponti Pree in Wales."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Do you have a trade?"

JONES said, "Plant operator by trade."

6. Detective PLOTECKI said, "Do you remember making a statement at Kings Cross Police Station on the 4th October last year?"

JONES said, "Yeah, you got it off me."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "I want you to read this statement?"

JONES was then shown the statement.

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Is this your statement?"

JONES said, "Yes that's mine."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Will you read that statement?"

JONES said, "Yeah."

He then appeared to read that statement and at the completion of doing that Detective PLOTECKI then said, "Is it true and correct?"

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JONES said, "Its all the truth every page, exactly as I remember it."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Do you still say that after you left Johns in mid March and went to Lithgow that you never returned to Sydney and saw John Hughes?"

JONES said, "That's what I said before and that's it. After I moved from Johns I went straight to Lithgow and then I went to Bathurst to live. I never saw John again."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Is this your jacket?" HE WAS THEN SHOWN A BLUE COLOURED MENS HIPSTER JACKET WHICH JONES EXAMINED.

JONES said, "Yeah that's mine. It's got the stab wounds in the back. Thats what I was wearing when I got stabbed."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "Is this your jacket as well?" HE WAS THEN SHOWN A BLUE COLOURED VINYL JACKET.

JONES then said, "It could be I can't remember."

7. Detective PLOTECKI then said, "I now intend to ask you some further questions concerning the murder of John Gordon HUGHES, which occurred on or about the 5th, 6th of May, 1989 at Potts Point. Do you understand that?"

JONES said, "Yes."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "My questions and any answers you give to those questions will be recorded in type by Detective Sergeant SMITH as the interview takes place. Do you understand that?"

JONES said, "Yes."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "At the conclusion of the interview you will be given the opportunity of reading through the interview and you may sign it if you wish. Do you understand that?"

JONES said, "Yeah."

Detective PLOTECKI said, "At the conclusion of the interview you will also be given a complete copy of our interview."

8. Detective PLOTECKI then asked the defendant a number of questions and those questions together with the defendants answers were recorded in type by me in the form of a record of interview. At the completion of the interivew it was removed from the typewriter and handed to the defendant who appeared to read each page of the interview. It was then returned to the typewriter and Detective PLOTECKI then asked the defendant

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a number of questions in relation to that interview and those questions together with the defendant's answers were also recorded on the typewriter by myself. Detective PLOTECKI then said to JONES, "Are these additional questions and answers recorded correctly?"

JONES said, "Yeah."

The defendant JONES then initialled a number of typing errors in the interview and then signed each page of the interview. Detective PLOTECKI then said, "Will you please write the words, "SYDNEY POLICE CENTRE" and today's date beneath your signature on the last page of the interview?"



JONES then wrote these words and then dated the interview.

Detective PLOTECKI then said, "Will you please write the words, "I have received from Detective PLOTECKI one complete copy of this twenty one page record of interview on the last page of the interview and sign your name again beneath that receipt?"

JONES said, "Righto." JONES then wrote a receipt on the last page of the interview and signed his name again. Detective PLOTECKI then witnessed the defendant's signatures. Detective PLOTECKI then left the room and returned a short time later with a copy of the interview and gave the defendant that copy.

9. Detective PLOTECKI and I then left the room and I had a brief conversation with him. I then returned to the room with the defendant. A short time later Detective PLOTECKI returned to the room with Inspector COUNSEL and Detective PLOTECKI said, "This is Detective Inspector COUNSEL, he is now going to ask you some questions concerning the interview we have just completed." Detective PLOTECKI and I then left the room. A short time later Inspector COUNSEL came out of the room and handed Detective PLOTECKI a number of documents. Detective PLOTECKI and I then returned to the interview room and Detective PLOTECKI said, "You will shortly be taken to the charge room where you will be charged with the murder of John Gordon Hughes. Do you understand that?"


JONES said, "Do what you like. What you got on me is circumstantial. I'll beat this and you know it."

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10. A short time later the defendant was taken to the Homicide Squad Office and several forms were completed. A short time later the defendant was then taken to the charge room at the Sydney Police Centre where he was charged. During the course of the interview the defendant was shown a number of documents as well as items of clothing.

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