

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:
Murder of John Gordon HUGHES.

Place: Kings Cross Police Station

Date: 11 May, 1989.

Name: + DEE Barry John.
 (Surname in capitals)

Address: [REDACTED] Darlinghurst. Tel. No. [REDACTED]

Occupation: Storeman. 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 was born on [REDACTED]

3. I have known a man by the name of John Gordon HUGHES for the past ten years, I always called him John but he was known as 'Skinny John' amongst his friends. During that time I had visited him at his flat in Springfield Avenue he then moved to Redfern, I never went to the Redfern place, and then he moved to a flat in 'Tara' a block of flats in Greenknowe Ave, Potts Point. I only visited his flat on one occasion and that would have been only a few days before his death.

4. I have known a man by the name of Aaron for the past six or seven years, I have always only known him as Aaron. I would describe him as being in his mid twenties, fair complexion, athletic build, about five foot nine or ten tall, medium length fair straight hair parted in the middle. I wouldn't call him a close friend but I knew him socially and have had drinks with him in the Kings Cross Hotels from time to time.

5. I am aware that John HUGHES and Aaron had been living at TARA together for the past two months in the flat where they found his body. I had never seen either man in female company, they always kept male company although I had seen Aaron in the company of 'drag queens'.

Witness: [Signature]

Signature: [Signature]

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STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: Murder of John Gordon HUGHES.

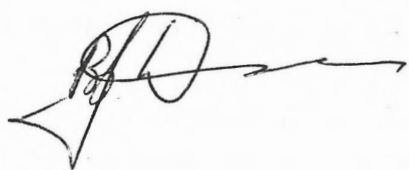
Name: Barry John DEE.

(Surname in capitals)

6. On Saturday 6 May, 1989 I was in the Bottoms Up Bar at the Rex Hotel, Kings Cross having a drink by myself and about 1pm Aaron came up to me in the hotel and said, "Have you seen Skinny John in the last twenty four hours?" I said, "I haven't seen him since Thursday night." He then left the Hotel and I remained there on my own. About five or ten minutes later Aaron returned and said to me, "Basil, would you come up to the flat with me." I said, "No, the lifts broken and I'm not walking up all those stairs, I just want to sit here and have a quiet drink." He then left and probably another five or ten minutes later he came back and said to me, "Would you please come out and watch me climb up the pipes to get into the flat as I left my keys inside." I said, "all right, I'll go out with you and if it looks too dangerous, I'm going to come back inside." I then accompanied him out into Baroda Lane and I saw him climb up the pipe and then enter the flat through the bathroom window. I remained in the lane waiting for him to come out which he did about five minutes later and he came up to me and said, "John's dead, his hands are tied behind his back, his mouth's gagged, there is a knife sticking out the back of his neck and who ever has done it has thown a handkerchief or tea towel over his face." I was shocked and don't think I made a reply and he said to me, "would you come up to the flat with me and stand at the door while I rush in and pack my bags." I then said, "all right, I'll go up with you but I'm not going in." I then had second thoughts and said to him, "No, I don't want to go." He then said, "would you come to the Police Station with me to prove that I had to climb up the wall to get into the flat." I said, "No Aaron, I don't want to get involved in this." He then set off to the Police Station by himself and I haven't seen him since.

Witness.....

 J.F. Swan.
 Detective Senior Constable.



Witness: Signature: