

Homicide Squad, SCC

Recommendation for Further Investigation Historical Unsolved Homicide Case

Victim/Case		William DUTFIELD		Date	19/11/1991
UHT Ref	1991/20	COPS No. CAC No.	E904029103865	PRIORITY (High / medium /low)	Medium

Synopsis:

11:03am on Wednesday 20 November 1991 the body of William James DUTFIELD was found lying face down on a lounge chair in unit 159, Mosman. DUTFIELD was found suffering from a head injury. At the post-mortem it appeared as though he had been hit with a heavy object. A defensive wound was found on his left arm.

His head was face down on the lounge chair. He was dressed in a blue short sleeved shirt and dark shorts.

The deceased body was found in unit 159, Mosman, owned by Arthur William ASHWORTH. He immediately reported the matter to the police.

It appears that the deceased was last seen by Arthur William ASHWORTH on Tuesday 19th November 1991 after leaving the lounge at the Mosman Bay Restaurant, Mosman with ASHWORTH. No person was seen leaving the lounge with DUTFIELD as being alive and anywhere other than a lounge chair in unit 159, Mosman. ASHWORTH told Police prior to leaving the unit he cleaned up the glasses he and DUTFIELD had used and noticed the bottle of scotch to be about 1/3 full.

It would appear that DUTFIELD and the offender had a drink together prior the murder occurring as when located the bottle of scotch was close to empty and two glasses with liquid were on the table in the lounge where DUTFIELD was found deceased.

Time of death was estimated around 10pm to 11pm. This is supported by witnesses who resided in units within the block who heard a thud from the unit of DUTFIELD around 10pm.

Unit 159 was under DUTFIELD and she heard an argument preceding the thud.

- no foreign fingerprints identified within the unit
- heavy metal sticky-tape dispenser located in kitchen sink, bloodstained and apparently wiped down
- two glasses with liquid (thought to be scotch or similar) on table in lounge along with ashtray containing cigarette butts
- bottle of Scotch almost empty
- room virtually undisturbed with exception of slight rucking up of rugs on ground
- blood stained tissue in waste bin in kitchen (tested and found to be foreign blood)

It was surmised that the deceased was seated facing his television and the offender has hit him from behind with the metal sticky tape dispenser. DUTFIELD was able to turn in an effort to defend himself before being killed. Defensive wounds are on his arms and hands. Overall he was a very private person. He kept his homosexuality to himself and did not disclose his homosexual activities even to those considered friends.

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Synopsis:

11:03am on Wednesday 20 November 1991 the body of William James DUTFIELD was found lying face down on a lounge chair of his home unit at [REDACTED] Spit Road, Mosman. DUTFIELD was found suffering from massive wounds to the back of his head. At the post-mortem it appeared as though the victim received twelve blows to the head. A defensive wound appeared on his left palm along with bruising to the left elbow and upper arm.

His head was face down on a lounge chair with legs dangling on the floor. He was dressed in a blue short sleeved shirt, blue shorts, white short socks and shoes.

The deceased body was discovered by a long time friend and the unit owner Arthur William ASHWORTH. He immediately contacted Police, who arrived shortly after.

It appears that the deceased was last seen alive between 8pm and 9pm on Tuesday 19th November 1991 after going out to dinner at the Mosquito Bar Restaurant, Mosman with ASHWORTH. No person was found who could identify DUTFIELD as being alive and anywhere other than at his unit after 9pm on 19th November 1991. ASHWORTH told Police prior to leaving the unit he cleaned up the glasses he and DUTFIELD had used and noticed the bottle of scotch to be about 1/3 full.

It would appear that DUTFIELD and the offender had a drink together prior the murder occurring as when located the bottle of scotch was close to empty and two glasses with liquid were on the table in the lounge where DUTFIELD was found deceased.

Time of death was estimated around 10pm to 11pm. This is supported by witnesses who resided in units within the block who heard a thud from the unit of DUTFIELD around 10pm.

159 unit was under DUTFIELD and she heard an argument preceding the thud.

- no foreign fingerprints identified within the unit
- heavy metal sticky-tape dispenser located in kitchen sink, bloodstained and apparently wiped down
- two glasses with liquid (thought to be scotch or similar) on table in lounge along with ashtray containing cigarette butts
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It was surmised that the deceased was seated facing his television and the offender has hit him from behind with the metal sticky tape dispenser. DUTFIELD was able to turn in an effort to defend himself before being killed. Defensive wounds are on his arms and hands Overall he was a very private person. He kept his homosexuality to himself and did not disclose his homosexual activities even to those considered friends.

ASHWORTH was excluded as a suspect early in the investigation due to age and physical condition

In October 1991 DUTFIELD was assaulted and robbed in his home address. The matter was investigated at the time with no person of interest identified. Items were seized as exhibits however no fingerprints were developed at that time.

SF LINCOLN (1998) re-opened the investigation as it was believed this offence may have been linked to the ARKELL murder. A review of the original fingerprint case was conducted in 1998 as part of SF LINCOLN and yielded a result. The fingerprints of [REDACTED] NP63 (CNI: [REDACTED]) were found on cellophane from a cigarette packet left at DUTFIELD's unit by the offender who assaulted and robbed him in October 1991. An operation was proposed and organised which involved taking [REDACTED] NP63 from his cell (In Bathurst RE: manslaughter conviction) and interviewing him about the matter. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Operation did not take place as [REDACTED] NP63 got parole and therefore not available for the operation. No other information in relation to the DUTFIELD murder was forthcoming during the time SF LINCOLN was run. ARKELL was found to be an unrelated offence.

Informant willing to assist but remain anonymous: This informant was a victim in a violent robbery and most certainly would have been killed had Police not intervened. Like DUTFIELD he had liaisons with males often bringing them home from pubs. The offender and victim had drinks and used a weapon of opportunity, a lamp stand, to assault the victim. The offender broke out of the house while Police tried to gain entry at the front. Forensic material and fingerprints were obtained from the crime scene and may be worthy of review and comparison to the DUTFIELD offence. No person identified to date for this offence. E 907729100062 relates. This incident was followed up without success as it was considered very similar to DUTFIELD but for Police intervention.

It appears that the unit was wiped clean at the time of the offence there were no fingerprints located.

Foreign blood was located on a tissue within the kitchen waste paper bin this has been tested and yielded a foreign DNA sample to that of the deceased it is also the same DNA from a black cardigan located in the unit.

The metal tape dispenser (apparent weapon) located has not yielded any fingerprints and the DNA material belongs to the deceased, examinations of this item are exhausted at this time.

Recommended lines of inquiry:

- Submission of the cloth used to wipe down the stick tape dispenser for DNA examination. On hand at Mosman exhibit storage box 2 item 1 D008015.
- Explore possibility of obtaining DNA sample from material belonging to ASHWORTH, now deceased as at 29/07/06 he was a visitor to the unit and the cardigan or tissue may have belonged to him.
- Review of forensic material from the violent assault on Neville CLIFFORD E 907729100062– compare crime scene samples if located.
- Consideration should be given to profiling the offender perhaps by ILLINGSWORTH.
- Consideration should be given to operation targeting [REDACTED] NP63 he can be considered suspect for this murder it appears he was not in custody at the time of the offence. Analysis should also be conducted regarding his co offenders/associates around that time. Perhaps covert electronics and charging of POI for previous robbery. POI identified by fingerprint for previous robbery on victim. He has not been charged with that assault. It is

<p>possible an associate/s or NP63 have committed the murder upon information from NP63 from previous robbery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to media appeal and offer of reward.
<p>Command of previous investigation/s:</p>
<p>Previous investigation Major Crime Squad. Harbourside LAC could sufficiently resource the investigation.</p>
<p>Resources recommended for reinvestigation:</p>
<p>2 x investigators however further resources may be required if operations targeting persons were to be undertaken.</p>
<p>Secondary Victim contact:</p>
<p>There is no known contact with the Unsolved Homicide Team.</p>
<p>Estimated Time Frame for Reinvestigation:</p>
<p>A guide would be 2 mths dependant upon any further DAL result and results of above recommendations. Possibly additional for electronics operation.</p>

Signature: *Recommend that SEC oversee this investigation.*

Coordinator, *M. Asatwood D/Imp*

Unsolved Homicide Review Team

Date: *7 July 2008*

Signature: *[Signature]*

Commander, Homicide Squad

Recommendation/Comment: *SUPPORTED*

Date: *10 JUL 2008*