

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of: Murder of Gerald Leslie CURHBERT Place: Rose Bay Police Station
Date: 23rd October, 1981

Name: Peter BENNETT
(Surname in capitals)
Address: [Redacted] Tel. No. H. [Redacted]
Occupation: Building Foreman (Housing Construction) STATES:-

1. I am a single man 26 years of age and I reside at the above address. I am employed as a building foreman with the Commonwealth Government. I also have a part-time job as a bar useful/ doorman at the Midnight Shift, 85 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst. I work there every Friday and Saturday night between the hours of about 9pm to 6am.
2. Last Saturday night the 17th October, 1981, I acted as the doorman and I am certain it was Saturday night because on Friday night I do not perform this duty. I commenced work on the door about 9pm. About 1.30am on the 18th October 1981, the bar useful who was assisting me that night went to pick up empty glasses leaving me alone on the door. About this time a guy came up the stairs and asked me 'Are there any American sailors here tonight?' I said, 'No, why don't you go to the Cross.' He then turned around and went back down the stairs. I would describe this person as 25 to 30 old, medium build, and I noticed that he was wearing a dark coloured jacket, it could have been denim and it was thoroughly saturated. His hair was wet and was dark coloured. It was my opinion that he was an Islander but he wasn't of dark complexion. His speech had a definite accent. This person was definitely on his own and did not appear to be under the influence of alcohol. I noticed that his hair was not long. There were American sailors in the bar that night and we do get people making this type of request prior to entering as the door charge is \$2.00. I have never seen this person before and I have not seen him since that night.
3. On Monday or Tuesday this week I saw a picture of Gerald CUTHBERT in the daily paper and I recognised this person as the one who came up the stairs about 1.30am on the 18th October. I went away to Canberra for a day this week and when I returned to Sydney I went to the bar and saw a coloured photograph of Gerald Cuthbert and I am sure that it is the same person.

Witness: Mr. A. Hagan Signature: P. Bennett
L.O. 94 D. West, Government Printer
Robert Squel