

NSWP/D/2007/49122

**ISSUE:**

Assistance required from Interpol to conduct computer searches of outstanding fingerprints located at the scene of the murder of Gerald Leslie Cuthbert on 18 October, 1981.

**BACKGROUND:**

The deceased was a homosexual male who received fatal throat and chest wounds. From the scene of the murder at Paddington, unidentified fingerprints were found on the bathroom vanity mirror, a coffee jar and a coffee table. The fingerprints and palm print were thoroughly processed at the time of the offence and the matter was reviewed in 2006. The outstanding fingerprints have been thoroughly searched against Australian fingerprint databases without success. All known suspects and eliminations have also been compared again with no success against the outstanding fingerprints.

**COMMENT:**

From correspondence received from Detective Senior Constable Matt Packham attached to the NSW Police Homicide Squad, there is a strong belief that the offender may have been an American sailor. At the time of the murder, there were four American ships in port in Sydney. It is therefore request that the outstanding photographs be forwarded to the United States for searching against their fingerprint databases.

I have provided photographs of the outstanding fingerprints. A scaling diagram has been included for sizing references.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That contact is made with Interpol to arrange for the searching of the outstanding fingerprint and palm prints as requested.

*Karen Fishburn*

Karen Fishburn  
Detective (Technical) Sergeant  
Team Leader – Major Crime Latents  
20 March, 2007

1. The Commander  
MAJOR CRIME LATENTS

2. The Coordinator  
FINGERPRINT OPERATIONS

3. The Commander  
IDENTIFICATION SERVICES  
BRANCH

*Kowald S/Sgt 21.3.07*

*23/3/07*

*Forwarded for processing through INTERPOL*

*Formal request made to Interpol for assistance*

*P. Phil. Street Supt 2/4/07.*

FAX: 88357622 E/N 27622

"Interpol, Canberra" <interpol.canberra@afp.alein>

25/02/2009 04:00 To

<[REDACTED]>

cc

Subject

(RJ) 3603714 (S2) - CUTHBERT, Gerald Leslie [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

TO: NSWPOL - iASK  
FROM: Interpol Canberra <25 February 2009>

PRIORITY: NORMAL

YOUR REF: UNKNOWN  
OUR REF: 3603714 (s2)

SUBJECT: CUTHBERT, Gerald Leslie (Deceased)

TEXT: Please be advised that Interpol Canberra has received a response from Interpol Washington in relation to the hard copy of fingerprints that had been forwarded to Washington for evaluation. Please see the below response from Washington.

\*\*\*\*QUOTE\*\*\*\*

Reference is made to previous communications concerning the above subject and your request from the New South Wales (NSW) Police for comparison in the USA of the fingerprints taken from the scene of the murder of Gerald CUTHBERT in NSW in 1981.

We have been advised by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Laboratory Evidence Control Unit that the latent fingerprints were too damaged for examination in the Latent Print Unit. The evidence is being returned under separate cover, prior to examination at the FBI Laboratory. If examinations are still needed, evidence that meets the enclosed Latent Print Unit Acceptance Policy for Digital Images should be submitted.

Regards.  
End.

\*\*\*\*END QUOTE\*\*\*\*

On receipt of the returned evidence along with any other information forwarded to Interpol Canberra will be returned to NSWPOL.

Please advise if further assistance is required in relation to this matter.

Regards,  
Ross James  
Interpol Canberra

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