

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of: Place: Detective Office,
Jeffrey MILLER. NEWCASTLE. 2300.
 "MURDER." (Richard SLATER) Date: 2nd September, 1982.

Name: Francis John McDONALD
 (Surname in capitals)
 Address: Police Station, Newcastle. Tel. No.
 Occupation: Detective Sergeant 1st class. STATES:-

About 2.45pm on Wednesday, 1st September, 1982, I left the Newcastle Detective Office with Detective Inkster and Constable Wilson and travelled to the Cessnock Corrective Centre. Following a conversation with Mr. Cornford, Superintendent of that Centre, I saw Detective Inkster and Constable Wilson go to a room with the defendant Jeffrey Miller.

A short time later, Detective Inkster returned to the Superintendents Office and had a conversation with Mr. Cornford. I then went with Detective Inkster and Mr. Cornford to a room where I saw the defendant and Constable Wilson. Mr. Cornford said to the defendant, "Are you prepared to go back to Newcastle Police Station with these Detectives." The defendant said, "Yes, I want to get it cleared up."

The defendant then accompanied Detective Inkster, Constable Wilson and myself to our Police vehicle where Detective Inkster said to him, "Jeff, this is Detective Sergeant McDonald, he is assisting us with this inquiry." The defendant said, "Yes, I have seen you before

We then entered the Police vehicle and while travelling along, the defendant said, "This is pretty serious isn't it." Detective Inkster said, "There is nothing more serious than murder, Jeff." The defendant said, "What would happen if I say the old bloke had a go at me first." Detective Inkster said, "All we want from you is the truth and I would prefer to talk about it back at the Police Station but I would like you to show us what you did at the toilet on that day, on our way back." The defendant said,

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(Surname in capitals)

"Yes, okay."

We then drove to the vicinity of the Birdwood Park toilet block and parked. Detective Inkster said to the defendant, "Is this the toilet that you went into on the 19th December, 1980." The defendant said, "Yes."

With the defendant and Detective Inkster, I then walked to the gents toilet block and stood at the front. The defendant said, "I went in there after 1216 came out and had a look around. I don't want to go back inside there. Then when I came out, I ran up to the others at the Pink Elephant Markets just up the road." Detective Inkster said, "Have you any reason for not wanting to go into these toilets with us." The defendant said, "No, I just don't want to go in." Detective Inkster said, "All right then, we will go back to the Police Station."

We then went to the Newcastle Detective Office where I left the defendant in the company of Detective Inkster and Constable Wilson.

Witness: _____ Signature: _____