

RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN DETECTIVE SENIOR CONSTABLE INKSTER  
AND [REDACTED] 1217 AT THE NEWCASTLE POLICE STATION ON THE  
31st AUGUST, 1982.

PRESENT :- Detective Senior Constable INKSTER  
P.C. Senior Constable WILSON (Typist)

TIME COMMENCED :- 11.05am

Q. 1 As I have already explained to you I am going to ask you some questions regarding some information you have supplied to me in relation to the death of Richard SLATER who was savagely assaulted and subsequently died of injuries occasioned to him at the Burwood Park toilets at Newcastle on the 19th December, 1980. My questions any answers that you care to give to those questions will be recorded on the typewriter by Detective WILSON as our interview takes place. You are not obliged to answer any of my questions unless you wish but what ever you do say will be recorded and may be used in evidence at a later stage. Is this course satisfactory to you.

A. Yeah.

Q. 2 For the purpose of this interview will you tell me your full name, date of birth and address.

A. [REDACTED] 1217 I was born on the [REDACTED] and I am living at [REDACTED] Adamstown Heights.

Q. 3 [REDACTED]

A. [REDACTED]

Q. 4 Would you care to tell me who you reside with at that address.

A. A friend of mine, [REDACTED].

Q. 5 Do you agree that I first spoke to you in relation to this matter at your home about 9.00am this morning.

A. Yes.

Q. 6 Do you agree that you indicated to me that you were prepared to come voluntary to the Newcastle Police Station and speak to me regarding information concerning a person named Jeffrey MILLER that you considered was responsible for the assault committed on Richard SLATER.

A. Yes.

Q. 7 Do you agree that you told me that you had previously made a statement to the Newcastle Police on the 23rd December, 1980 concerning your knowlege of this incident.

A. Yes.

Q. 8 Do you agree that prior to this interview I read aloud to you the contents of that statement which you signed on the 23rd of December, 1980.

A. Yes.

Q. 9 Do you wish to say anything regarding the contents of that statement I read aloud to you.

A. At the time I made that statement I suspected that Jeff MILLER was involved in that assault and because he had threatened me not to say anything to the Police about his actions on that day and also the fact that I know him to be a violent and dangerous person I was to frightened to tell the truth.

1217

*A. Inkster Det*

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- Q. 10 Do you wish to add anything or detract anything from the statement that you made to the Police on the 23rd of December, 1980.
- A. I wish to make another statement to include the complete truth of my knowledge of this incident.
- Q. 11 Do you wish to make another statement or relate your knowledge of the incident in this record of interview.
- A. I can't write but I am prepared to tell you the complete truth of what I know in this interview.
- Q. 12 In December, 1980 were you residing at [redacted] Newcastle.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 13 Would you care to tell me who you were residing with at that time.
- A. Bruce MILLER and [1218].
- Q. 14 Would you care to tell me how you know the person Jeffrey MILLER.
- A. I have known Jeffrey MILLER for the past six years, he is the twin brother of Bruce MILLER, the person I was living with. Bruce has since died.
- Q. 15 Can you recall the period of time which was a Friday the 19th of December, 1980.
- A. Yes.
- Q. 16 Are you now prepared to tell me your version of what happened that day.
- A. Yes. On that day Bruce had gone to Sydney on that day and I was at home with [1218] and Jeff MILLER and Jeff was only temporarily staying at our flat at this time. Early that morning another friend of mine, [1216] [1216] called in to see us, we sat and talked for a while and at about 11.00am we all decided to go into town and do some Christmas shopping. About 11.00am [1216], [1218], Jeff MILLER and myself left the flat and we all walked to the Bank in Darby street where I cashed a cheque to get some money to do the shopping.
- Q. 17 What happened then.
- A. After I cashed the cheque we all walked down to Harry Baggs Warehouse in King Street and we all went in and I done some shopping. Then Jeff MILLER left us and said he was going to Doctor RUNDALLS, which was just over the road in the West End Shopping Centre to get a Asthma spray. He came back after a few minuts and said the Dr's was closed, he didn't get the spray.
- Q. 18 What happened then.
- A. We all went across to the Burwood Park Toilets and [1216] went into the Men's toilet by himself and the three of us waited outside for [1216] who came back out after a few seconds. Then [1216] and Jeff were talking to each other outside the toilet and [1216] said to Jeff " There is a bloke in the toilets." Then Jeff said, " I am going to crack it with the bloke in the toilet."

[1217]

*J. Inkster Det S/C*

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- Q. 19 Can you tell me what the 'term 'crack' means.  
 A. It is a term used by the homosexuals that means to have sex with another bloke.
- Q. 20 What did you do when you heard Jeff MILLER say this.  
 A. I knew that Jeff was going to 'crack' it with the bloke or roll him and take his wallet and I said, " I don't want any part of it, I am going to go down to the Pink Elephant Markets and I will meet you later on."
- Q. 21 Can you tell me what you mean when you said, " Jeff was going to roll him or take his wallet."  
 A. I meant that Jeff would have assaulted him and pushed him over and taken his wallet and money. Jeff is always doing that when he goes around to the toilets.
- Q. 22 Have you ever been in his company when he has 'cracked' it or rolled any person in the toilets.  
 A. No. [redacted] but he has told me what he has done.
- Q. 23 What happened then.  
 A. When I told Jeff that I didn't want any part of what he was going to do, me and [1218] walked off through the park towards the Pink Elephant Markets and after we had walked a short distance I looked back to where we had left [1216] and Jeffrey outside the toilets and I saw [1216] standing out the front but I couldn't see Jeff. [1216] was looking around. I continued on and a short time later I again looked back and I couldn't see anybody.
- Q. 24 What happened then.  
 A. [1218] and myself went into the Pink Elephant Markets and we were walking around shopping, we had been there about ten minutes. Then Jeff and [1216] came running in to us at this time I saw that Jeff was very excited and puffing and breathing heavy as if he was going to have an asthma attack and Jeff said to me "Come on I want to go straight away, I want to go and get my cheque."
- Q. 25 Can you recall about what time it was that Jeff and [1216] came in to you at the Pink Elephant Markets.  
 A. About 1.00pm.
- Q. 26 Can you recall what clothes Jeffrey MILLER was wearing at this time.  
 A. A pair of blue jeans, a shirt and running shoes.
- Q. 27 What happened then.  
 A. Me and Jeff left [1218] and [1216] and we walked into Hunter street and we caught a taxi to Jeff's mothers place in [redacted], Carrington. When we got there Jeff went inside and said that he wanted to change his clothes and wait for his cheque to come. While he was inside I went to the shop across the road and got some chips and then I waited out the front for Jeff and he came out to the front with me and I saw that he had changed his clothes.

[1217]

*Jeffrey Miller*

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- Q. 28 Do you know why Jeff MILLER changed his clothes.  
A. He told me they were dirty.
- Q. 29 Do you know if anyother person was in the house when Jeff MILLER changed his clothes.  
A. No, there was no person home
- Q. 30 What happened then.  
A. Me and Jeff waited out the front of his house until the Postman came for about half an hour. Jeff got his cheque of the Postman then he went inside the house again and telephoned for a taxi.
- Q. 31 What happened then.  
A. The taxi came in about ten minuts then me and Jeff got in the taxi and went to the Commonwealth Bank in Darby Street and Jeff went inside and cashed his cheque then he came out and gave me the \$60.00 that he owed me.
- Q. 32 What happened then.  
A. I wanted to go and do some more shopping and Jeff said that he wanted to go out and see a few Doctors and score some Ritlin so I left Jeff at the Bank and I went down to the Pink Elephant Markets in the taxo by myself and did a bit of shopping. I came out of the Pink Elephant Markets near the Burwood Park Toilets and I saw all the Police around the Burwood Park Toilet where we had left [ 1216 ] and Jeff earlier that day. I didn't know at that time what the Police were doing at the toilets and I walked past the Burwood Park toilets down to Baggs Warehouse and done a bit more shopping. I then walked home.
- Q. 33 What happened then.  
A. I got home sometime after three o'clock and no one was home then I waited at home then sometime later Raelene came home and a short time later Jeff came home.
- Q. 34 What happened then.  
A. When they all came home we decided to go and borrow a car from Monte Christo Motors at Islington so the three of us, [ 1218 ], Jeff and myself caught a taxi out to Islingto and the bloke that we had to see anout the car who's name is Robert wasn't there so we all walked around to my mothers place at [REDACTED]. We stayed there talking to my sister-in-law, [REDACTED] for about 15 or 20 minuts. We then walked back to the car yard and borrowed a Blue Falcon Panel Van from the salseman who's name was Robert.
- Q. 35 What happened then.  
A. When we got the car Jeff said, " I have to go and see [ 1219 ] about some little episode.", and Jeff was going to give it to him if he didn't shut his mouth the way he gave it to others that dobbed him in.
- Q. 36 Can you tell me what you mean when you say, " The way he gave it to others".  
A. [ 1219 ] knew too much about Jeff rolling and bashing homosexuals and I have seen Jeff belt other blokes up for dobbing him in and he was going to see [ 1219 ] and tell him not to dob him in.
- Q. 37 Have you ever seen Jeff MILLER assault anyother person.  
A. Yes. I was at Pipers one night before this happened and this homosexual called [ 1220 ] who used to work at the Court house at Newcastle had dobbed Jeff in to the Police and I saw Jeff bash him on the stairs and kick him.

**1217**

*W. Inkster  
Det/c*

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- Q. 38 Did this person [1220] suffer any injuries as a result of the assault.
- A. Yes. Jeff MILLER almost killed him, they had to take [1220] to Hospital and Jeff was charged with assaulting him.
- Q. 39 Did Jeff MILLER, [1218] and yourself go out to [1219]'s place at Wallsend that afternoon.
- A. Yes. When we picked the car up from Islington we all drove out to [1219]'s place and pulled pu out the front. [1219] came out then Jeff got out tof the car and took [1219] around the back of the car and started to nush [1219] up against the back of the car. Then [1219]'s aunti came out and I heard Jeff say to [1219], " If you open your mouth you will get the same as what the bloke go in the toilet this afternoon." Then Jeff got back in the car and I asked Jeff what he ment when he told [1219] about the bloke in the toilets this afternoon. He said, " Just a social cat, you know I like flogging." Then he he told me not to say anything about the bloke he floged in the toilet this afternoon. When he told me this I gathered he was talking about the bloke him and [1216] seen in the Burwood Park toilets and I was scard that Jeff would attack me if I said anything about it and I just left it at thatbecause I didn't want to get involved in what Jeff had done.
- Q. 40 What did you do after you left [1219]'s place that afternoon.
- A. We drove back to my flat at Newcastle and we all stayed there.
- Q. 41 Did you notice anything unusual about Jeff MILLER's attitude on that day.
- A. I noticed that Jeff was worried and edgie edgy over somthing and he was like this for the next few days. After a few weeks Jess seemed to get over it and was back to normal. That is when after the Police had interviewed us about the man who was murderd in the toilets.
- Q. 42 After you were interviewed by the Police in relation to this matter on the 23rd of December, 1980 did Jeff MILLER ever say anything to you about the man that was murdered in the Burwood Park Toilets.
- A. No, he just didn't talk about it.
- Q. 43 Is there anything further that you wish to tell us about this matter.
- A. I am just glad that it is all over now. I have told you everything of what happened on that day and that is the truth but I am scard of Jeff MILLER if he finds out that I have told you what I have told you.
- Q. 44 Are you prepared to attend a Court to give evidence in relation to what you have just told me in this interview.
- A. Yeah.
- Q. 45 Will you now read aloud each page of this record of interview.
- A. I can't read.
- Q. 46 Are you prepared for me to arrange for the Officer in Charge of the Detectives to read you aloud the contents of this record of interview.
- A. Yes

[1217]

*Inkster Det S/C*

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ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR DETECTIVE SERGEANT 1/c PARSONS TO ATTEND  
OFFICE AND RECORD OF INTERVIEW READ ALOUD BY HIM TO [1217].

Q. 47 Do you agree that Detective Sergeant PARSONS has just  
read aloud to you this record of interview.  
A. Yes.

Q. 48 Are you satisfied that this record of interview has been  
correctly recorded.  
A. Yes, but there is just one thing I would like to  
clarify and that is he read my name out as [1217]  
[1217] and it should be [1217], Other than  
that every thing is right.

Q. 49 Have the answers that you have given as recorded in this  
record been made of your own free will.  
A. Yes.

Q. 50 Was any threat, promise or inducement been held out to  
you to give the answers that have been recorded in this  
record of interview.  
A. No.

Q. 51 Will you now sign each page of this record of interview.  
A. Yes.

TIME COMPLETED :- 1.45pm

[1217]

WITNESS... *G.R. Inkster* .....  
G.R. INKSTER.  
Detective Senior Constable  
Newcastle Police Station  
31st August, 1982.

DO YOU AGREE THAT DETECTIVE SERGEANT PARSONS HAS READ ALOUD TO  
YOU THE ADDITIONAL ~~QUESTIONS~~ CONTENTS ON THIS LAST PAGE OF THE  
RECORD OF INTERVIEW.

A. Yes.

[1217]

*Parsons Det/Sgt 1/c*  
1.50pm 30/8/82.