

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Parramatta Police Station

Death of Walter John BEDSER

Date: 17th December, 1980

Name: T.H.O.M.P.S.O.N. Ross William
(Surname in capitals)

Address: [Redacted] Tel. No. [Redacted]

Occupation: Claims Representative STATES:-

1. I am a Claim Representative employed by the N.R.M.A. Insurance Limited, 151 Clarence Street, Sydney. My work involves the investigation of Claims made on my company.

2. On 19th November, 1980, I received instructions from the Parramatta Office to interview Mr. BEDSER of Parramatta Antiques, Darcy Street, Parramatta in respect of a theft of motor vehicle claim of NP60 and NP59 NP59, [Redacted]. I collected the company file in respect of that claim.

3. On the afternoon of 21st November, 1980, I went to an Antique Shop, Darcy Street, Parramatta. I had been at the shop earlier and was informed by a woman who stated she was BEDSER's sister that he wouldn't be there until the afternoon. On arrival at the shop, in the afternoon, he wasn't there. I waited some 20 minutes. I then saw John BEDSER.

I said to him, "Are you John BEDSER?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "I'm Ross THOMPSON from N.R.M.A. Insurance.

I'm investigating a Claim for a Mr. NP58

which is normal procedure. I'd like to ask you a few questions?"

He said, "Okay."

I said, "Do you know NP58?"

He said, "Yes I do."

I said, "Did you loan \$2,900-00 to purchase a 1973 Ford Escort Sedan, yellow, bought by a member of the

Family of NP58?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "We have received a claim setting out that the car was stolen and burnt. Do you know anything about that?"

He said, "Yes. I've heard about it. I know very little about it."

I said, "Have you ever contacted our Parramatta Office about this Claim?"

Witness:

[Handwritten Signature]

Signature:

[Handwritten Signature]

Page No.: Two

STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: Death of Walter John BEDSERName: T H O M P S O N Ross William

(Surname in capitals)

He said, "No. I certainly didn't."

I said, "Are you owed any money by any of these
Family of NP58?"

He said, "No." and proceeded to take a receipt book from a cupboard or drawer and he then turned up a copy of a receipted dated 23rd September, 1980 made out to NP58 for \$100-00 and said, "This was the final payment for all outstanding monies for the loan on the car." He was then going through the pages of the book. We also discussed NP58's driving habits. BEDSER stated that NP58 drove the vehicle hard. We also discussed the condition of the vehicle, to which he stated that he hadn't seen the vehicle for some time, but described it as being average. Towards the end of the conversation with BEDSER I said to him, "Have you ever won a lottery?" He said, "No. I've never won any money in the lottery." I recall that the woman who I had seen earlier was in the shop during the initial part of my conversation with BEDSER. However I don't know whether she was in a position to be able to hear what was being said. During the course of my conversation with BEDSER, I noticed that he spoke with a high pitched voice and gain the impression that he may have been 'camp'. I recall asking BEDSER whether he knew of a friend of NP58 named I42. He did mention a short Greek sounding or new Australian sounding name, but I can't remember it. I then left the shop leaving my business card with BEDSER.

4. Later that day, I went to our Parramatta Office and spoke to Mr. Ken SCOTT in Claims, and made certain recommendations to him concerning this Claim. (To interview I42 of [REDACTED] - in company with NP58 and others on the night of theft)

5. On afternoon 25th ~~0e~~ November, 1980, I called at [REDACTED] and there spoke to a person who identified himself as I42. I obtained a Statutory Declaration from him concerning his knowledge of the Claim ~~that~~ that I was investigating.

6. Subsequent to that, On 1st December, 1980, I spoke to Douglass SMUELS at our Parramatta Office

Witness:

Signature: 


Page No.: Three

STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: Walter John BEDSERName: Ross William THOMPSON

(Surname in capitals)

where I outlined to result of my inquiries, and submitted a brief report.

7. On the afternoon of 2nd December, 1980, I heard about BEDSERS murder on the radio. I told Mr. SCOTT at Parramatta Office and told him the story. I later contacted Police at Parramatta.

Witness: 
Z Feszczuk
Detective Senior Constable
Homicide Squad.



Witness: _____ Signature: _____