

NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE

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SUBJECT: JOB 75/76 - ALIBI OF SANDRA DURWARD

CASE ROSE
INVEST. Investigation into the murder of David Samuel ROSE.

Running Sheet Status: VETTED BY CO-ORDINATOR

PERSON INTERVIEWED : Witness

Name: THWAITES, David John

Date of Birth [REDACTED]/1957

Sex M CNI No: [REDACTED]

Home

Addr: [REDACTED] Walter Street

Willoughby

NSW 2068 Ph. 02 9999999

About 12.15pm on Saturday 03/01/98 police attended the Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at the Neutral Bay Community Centre, 190-192 Military Road, Neutral Bay. Detective Senior Constable THORNTON spoke with David THWAITES an alibi given by Sandra DURWARD for her movements on 20/12/97.

THWAITES stated that he has known Sandra for about six months when she was attending the Phoenix Rehabilitation Centre at Royal North Shore Hospital. He states that they kept in regular contact after leaving this centre and would often go with him to AA meetings.

THWAITES stated that on Saturdays he attends the AA meetings held at Manly at 4.00pm. He recalls meeting a member of the Neutral Bay Centre on what he believes to be Friday evening (19/12/97) who informed him of the meetings held at Neutral Bay on Saturdays and asked him to come along. He did not appear certain about the actual weekend involved. THWAITES stated that he either rang Sandra at her St Clair home or she rang him at the halfway house he is staying at when he informed her of the Saturday morning AA meeting and they agreed to meet there. He believes this to be the meeting on 20/12/97. He states that this is the only time he has been to this meeting.

THWAITES states that Sandra did not turn up to the meeting until around 1.15pm. The meeting runs from 12.00 midday to 1.30pm. He states that they then went to a coffee shop called Maisey's which is also in Military Road where they stayed till about 4.00pm. He says that he then went to his normal AA meeting at Manly while Sandra caught a taxi to go to work.

When asked if this alibi was an alibi of convenience THWAITES denied that it was and stated that he would not lie to the police for anyone. He stated that Sandra had mentioned to him that the police might speak to him about her attendance at the AA meeting. He stated that the reason why Sandra had not told police about her going to the meeting was because she was

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embarrassed about it but he had attempted to tell her to be up front about it all. He admitted that Sandra had spoken to him about her alibi for being at the meeting but stated that the alibi was genuine. He could not account for her movements after 4.00pm that day. He did not know or see the deceased although he was aware from Sandra that he had been to visit her at the Phoenix Rehabilitation. THWAITES stated that DURWARD had become concerned about police probing into her background through her work and friends. He stated that she was concerned that police attending her work premises might cause her to lose her employment. He was informed that it was a matter of course that these inquiries had to be made.

Police also spoke with Deborah HIRST (██████/63) who is a member of the Neutral Bay AA meetings and regularly attends on Saturdays. She stated that they keep a record of attendances but only of first names. Because it is a voluntary attendance members want to protect their anonymity and only give their first names. She checked the attendance book for 20/12/97 and there was an entry for "Sandy".

She stated that she is aware of more than one "Sandra" who attends the meetings but could not put name to face. She stated that it could be possible for "Sandy" to be actually "Sandra" but would not be able say which person it was that attended on 20/12/97. At the time of speaking with HIRST, Sandra DURWARD attended the meeting.

When pointed out HIRST stated that she thought she recognised DURWARD as having previously attended the meetings but was not able to say if she had been there on 20/12/97.

Sandra DURWARD was spoken to outside the meeting where she stated that she thought police would attend the meeting to check what she had told them. This may account for THWAITES's attendance at the meeting bearing in mind that he had only been once before. She stated that she was not known as "Sandy" at the meetings. DURWARD was at first understanding at police being at the centre but later became quite upset and agitated and was about to leave the centre as police left. There were no other persons present at the meeting on this occasion who could account for DURWARD's movements on 20/12/97.

Originating Officer: Det Sen Const THORNTON - Maroubra
Date Created: 03/01/1998

Entered by: PC CONSTABLE KITCHING
Date: 07/01/1998 Time 9:20

END OF RUNNING SHEET