

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Darlinghurst Detectives Office

Inquest - re Wayne Kerry BRENNAN
murder.

Date: 22 July 1986

Name: McCANN Stephen Desmond.

(Surname in capitals)

Address: Darlinghurst Detectives Office.

Tel. No.

Occupation: Detective Sergeant of Police.

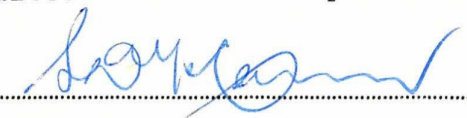
STATES:-

1. About 12 midday on Tuesday the 30 April, 1985, 1230 who, at the time was a 'Drag Queen', called at 1230 Darlinghurst Rd, Darlinghurst to see a transexual prostitute, named Wendy WAYNE, whose real name is Wayne Kerry BRENNAN, born 26 July, 1949.

2. 1230 attended those premises at the request of Patrick Lakey CROWE, an associate of BRENNAN who had not seen or heard from BRENNAN since the Sunday prior, 28 April, 1985. In fact, 1230 received this request by phone from CROWE who was at the time the manager of 'Pete's Beat', a homosexual discotheque in Oxford Street. In essence, CROWE said to 1230, 'That's funny because I haven't heard from her since Sunday and she normally rings me every day'. 1230 said, 'Do you want me to go around and check to see if she is at home?' CROWE replied, 'Yes'.

3. When 1230 arrived, he pressed the doorbell and noticed the door was opened approximately ten inches. He pushed it further open and called out, 'Wendy'. He observed the television and heater were on, and on entering the apartment, being a ground floor unit, went to the doorway into the bedroom where he observed BRENNAN's bed was in an untidy condition and pillows were on the floor. 1230 contacted CROW from that flat, and was asked to wait there until BRENNAN came home. 1230 waited for approximately a minute and then walked back into the bedroom from the lounge room with the feeling that something might be wrong, where on doing so, discovered BRENNAN lying face down on the other side of the bed. He noticed blood on the body and immediately contacted CROWE and told him of the discovery. 1230 waited outside the apartment

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for approximately fifteen minutes for Patrick CROWE. On arrival, CROWE who was with Stephen Ross CRICH, entered the flat with 1230 and the three viewed the body. CRICH arranged for Police attendance through his accountant, Josephine CAIN. A short time later, Police arrived. Constables COLES and AUSTIN of Darlinghurst Police were first to attend and on entering the apartment, likewise noticed the television and heater were on. On entering the bedroom, they saw a blood soaked pillow partially covered by a bedspread in the centre of the bed. The deceased was lying, naked, faced down on the floor beside the bed near the southern wall. A large calibre bullet wound was situated between the shoulder blades and also a wound to the left hand. There were two pools of blood in front of the body, one just above the left hand. The second pool had a blood smear leading to where the head was situated. This commenced on the bed. CROWE identified the body to Constables COLE and AUSTIN as that of Wendy Wayne BRENNAN, however, identification was positively confirmed by fingerprint comparison by Senior Constable BULLIVANT, at the City mortuary, as that of Wayne Kerry BRENNAN. A copy of his criminal record has been obtained and PRODUCED.

4. A full post mortem examination was conducted by Doctor OETTLE, commencing 7.40pm on 30 April, 1985, at the City Morgue. Detective Senior Constable SANDEMAN of the Ballistics Section was present. In fact this Detective attended the relevant apartment earlier that day, and took a number of photographs of the crime scene.

I PRODUCE THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS.

5. It was noted that the following injuries had been sustained by BRENNAN, those injuries being;

1. One bullet entry wound at the back of the neck, exiting at the front of the neck.
2. A bullet entry wound at the base of the skull exiting at the chin.

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- 3. An entry and exit wound on the left hand of the deceased, which is consistent with it having been in line with the trajectory of either projectile.
- 4. An 18mm. by 40 mm. bruise of the left side of the back of the skull. It was noted that the force of this blow would have been sufficient to render the victim unconscious.
- 5. Slight bruising was also evident to the left upper arm and a small laceration was detected which is consistent with being caused by a fingernail. Bruising was also noted under the victims chin,

The cause of death was the bullet wound to the back.

6. Initial inquiries revolved around Brennan's associates as it was established from CROWE that she often worked as a female impersonator, entertaining primarily the gay community at an Oxford Street night club. Apart from this she worked as a transexual prostitute in the Darlinghurst area and in particular 'Premier Lane'. [1225], a transexual prostitute also worked in Premier Lane on Sunday night the 28th April, 1985, while working she saw the deceased working. She last saw her in that area about 2am on 29th April. It was a fact that while working as a prostitute BRENNAN would take her clients to her apartment where in fact she was murdered.

7. [1227] who was also working that same night in Premier Lane, informed Police that she last saw the deceased about 3.15am on Monday morning the 29 April. [1227] was firstly propositioned by a male described as 22 to 26 years old, with a tattoo on his left hand and after informing him that she didn't have a car, directed him to the deceased. He approached BRENNAN and after a short discussion they walked from Premier Lane towards BRENNAN's home. That was the last time [1227] saw BRENNAN.

8. On receipt of this information, immediate attention was directed to this line of enquiry, and it was later ascertained from two males, namely Anthony REID and Michael MCCARTHY, that they

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attended a flat in that same block, on Monday night about 6pm and on leaving about 7.45pm, they observed a female sitting outside the front of flat [redacted] Darlinghurst Road. She fitted exactly the description of the deceased, therefore little value could be given to this line of investigation. At this stage this male has not been identified.

9. It now appears, if accepting McCARTHY's sighting of a female outside the front of the murdered victim's flat, as that of the deceased, combined with the knowledge that [redacted] 1242, a friend of the deceased found BRENNAN's front door open and the interior light on at 9pm that same night, therefore it is possible BRENNAN met her demise during this period of time. This is further supported by [redacted] 1230, who, on attending the flat found the front door open and the interior light on.

10. Inquiries were conducted at 'Pete's Beat' but nothing came to fruition. Inquiries were also directed at her associates and they too were of little assistance in identifying the killer. It did come to light however, that Brennan spoke to a number of them about her association with a Policeman named 'David'. [redacted] 1223 and Laurie BRADFORD both met David. In fact BRADFORD states she saw a Police Shirt with one stripe on the sleeve. Therefore in light of the fact that the killer had some awareness of ballistic evidentiary value, emphasis was placed on trying to identify this person. Eventually, [redacted] 1233, 48 year old prostitute was interviewed and she identified a 1st Class Constable from photographs, as being the officer whom BRENNAN had been seeing. She added that she saw him working the Local Police truck in Darlinghurst Road, Kings Cross shortly after meeting him. That Constable was questioned and it established that he has never been attached to Darlinghurst Police nor has he been in any Police truck in the area. Therefore it is felt that this line of enquiry has been exhausted.

Witness: Signature: [Handwritten Signature]


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11. Extensive media coverage was given to the murder and consequently a number of lines of information were received. These enquiries have extended to other states of Australia, however, nothing of any constructive value has come to light. It is fair to say that at this stage, there is no singular concerted line of investigation.

12. Prior tenants were considered in the enquiry and it was established that [NP181], had previously lived there. She figured prominently in an involved drug dealing trial as a vital witness for the Crown but failed to supply the Court with the necessary evidence elicited by Police respecting the accused. It was felt at the time there may have been some connection in so far as a reprisal but after examination of a number of facts, that is to say, her whereabouts were widely known and also the murder did not happen until approximately six months after the subject court case, coupled with the fact that [NP181] does not look like the deceased, little emphasis was placed on this line apart from interviewing [NP181] in connection with it. When interviewed [NP181] commented that if she was the intended victim, there would have been no likelihood of the killer confusing her with BRENNAN.

13. In summary, there is no information forthcoming to suggest that the deceased was involved in any illegal activity. She is not an associate of the criminal element. It is generally felt by investigating officers that should this comment had been to the contrary, her associates would have supplied Police necessary information from the outset.

14. The following statements have been obtained through the course of the investigation and are tendered:

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CROWE Patrick Lackey.
CRICH Steven Ross.
COLES Stephen Mark, (Senior Constable)
CONSTABLE Raymond (Constable 1st Class)
Ballistics section,
together with plan, photographs and
certificate from Rudolf WIGNER,
Forensic Biologist.

I227

I223

McCARTHY Michael Francis.
REID Anthony Leslie.

I242

I225

BRADFORD Laurie.

15. In conclusion, all worthwhile lines of enquiry have been exhausted, however, when informations on irregular intervals come to Police notice, immediate attention is given to them either by the Darlinghurst or Homicide Squad Detectives.

Witness: Signature: 

EXHIBIT " / "

Inquest touching the death
of Wayne BRENNAN
Coroners Court, 44-46
Parramatta Road, Glebe
(Date) 18/9/86

(Dep. Clerk)