CRIME AGENCIES STRIKE FORCE TERMINATION REPORT

[All sections to be completed]

Strike Force Code Name		
CAC Reference Number	97-0440	
Strike Force Commander	Detective Sergeant K J Desmond	
LAC/Agency(ies) involved	Homicide and Serial Violent Crime Agency	
Commencement Date	10/12/97	
Termination Date	28/03/98	
Termination Report Date	28/03/98	
Officer preparing report	Detective Sergeant K J Desmond	
Commander's Signature	Lenon	

1. BRIEF OUTLINE REGARDING THE STRIKE FORCE AND HOW IT COMMENCED (include details of offences committed, suspected targets and/or organisations involved.)

On the morning of 3 March, 1997, the body of Scott Stuart MILLER was found in a machinery yard in the compound of Patricks The Australian Stevedore at the northern end of gate 4, Hickson Road, Darling Harbour. The body was face down on the asphalt at the base of a cliff. The time of death was estimated between the hours 0130hours and 0830hours on Sunday 2 March, 1998.

To this date the cause of death is unclear, however there are a number of hypothesis put forward by Police and the Government Pathologist, Dr. Duflou.

On 7 October, 1997, Senior Deputy Coroner, Mr. Abernethy conducted an inquest into the death of Scott Stuart MILLER, and concluded on the evidence, that Scott MILLER was the victim of homicide by person or persons unknown.

In November, 1997, the MILLER family wrote to the Senior Deputy Coroner, Mr. Abernethy seeking a further investigation into the death of their son. The letter contained a number of issues raised by the family for investigation. This material was forwarded and allocated to Detective Sergeant Desmond for investigation.

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The issues raised were:-

- * re-interview security staff at the container terminal where the body was located
- * re-interview and enquiries with licensees and security staff at local Hotels at 'The Rocks' where the deceased was last sighted by his circle of friends
- * inquiries concerning the crew and logs on the vessel 'Ranginui' which was the only vessel berthed at the terminal during the time of the incident
- * examination of Police radio logs
- * inquiries with taxi companies

The investigation encompassed the aforesaid issues coupled with the following matters:-

- * DNA testing of the deceased's shirt
- * media release concerning information from a local resident at Millers Point of two male persons who were acting suspiciously on the night of the murder and damage to a motor vehicle. No information was forthcoming from this media release and there is no direct link from this information to the deceased.
- * report seeking a government reward being posted

All these matters were investigated and no fresh or additional information was elicited to assist the investigator.

On Monday the 23rd March, 1998, the MILLER family was informed of the outcome of the investigation. At the request of the family, a letter was forwarded to them by the investigator outlining a summary of matters investigated. Appended is a copy of that letter.

RESPONSIBILITY	OFFICER	
Prosecution & Court	Nil	
Correspondence	Detective Sergeant Desmond	
Outstanding suspects	Nil	
PASS alerts	Nil	
Follow-up Inquiries	Detective Sergeant Desmond	

POST STRIKE FORCE RESPONSIBILITIES

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2. LIST OF OFFENDERS AND OTHER PERSONS OF INTEREST AND THEIR INVOLVEMENT.

(full name, date of birth, CNI and Nationality) (charged with, or how involved e.g courier, spouse etc also include if POI is outstanding)

Nil

OFFENDER/P.O.I.	INVOLVEMENT	OUTSTANDING	PASS ALERT
Nil			

3. WARRANTS ISSUED DURING COURSE OF STRIKE FORCE

(include all search, listening device and telephone intercept warrants)

Nil

3a. List any premises searched

(eg: Premises searched either by way of search warrant or with permission of occupier)

Nil

3b. Seizures

(list any drugs or property seized by the strike force, including monetory value. Indicate any related action by the NSWCC or DPP)

Nil

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4. KEY FINDINGS

Nil

4a Threat Assessment of offenders or associates in the future (is this activity likely to occur again with the same person of interest or group)

Nil

4b Trends identified (was there any pattern or methodology used by person of interest or groups e.g unusual activities adopted.)

Nil

5. TERMINATION DEBRIEFING (location held and conducted by)

Nil

5a. Matters arising from the debrief. (include main positive and negative aspects)

Nil

6. RECOMMENDATIONS (future operational enhancements, legislative amendments etc)

Nil

7. DISSEMINATIONS

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Nil

7a. OPERATIONAL

Nil

7b. INTELLIGENCE

(intelligence which may be passed on to ABCI or other agencies which may come across these activities/persons in the future)

Nil

8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

(documents which clarify matters raised in this report)

- 1. Terms of Reference.
- 2. A copy of a letter, dated 11/11/97 from the State Coroner's Office addressed to the Commander, Crimes Agencies.
- 3. Correspondence from the Miller family addressed to the Coroner's Office.
- 4. Review report, dated 8/1/98.
- 5. Report, dated 27/3/98 seeking a Government reward.
- 6. Letter, dated 28/3/98 addressed to the Miller family.