New South Wales Police

P.190

STATEMENT in the matter of: Murder of Kenneth PRENNAN Place: Kings Cross Detectives Office Date: 25 July 1995

Name: 1299

Address: Durlinghurst

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Tel. No.:

Occupation: General Hand

STATES: -

- 1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
- 2. I am 40 years of age.
- 3. I am currently employed by the second as a General hand. I have held this position for the past three weeks. I live in a bedsitter unit on my own and pay a weekly rent of \$110. This is temporary accommodation until I establish myself in Sydney. The unit has a sofa bed and a queen size bed.
- 4. On Sunday, 9 July, 1995, about 8.30-9.00pm I left the Brighton Hotel on the corner of Oxford and Riley Street, Darlinghurst and walked along Oxford Street and turned left past the District Court and walked into Darlinghurst Road. I intended on catching up with some friends who I had not seen for a while. A young male approached me on the hospice side of the Street, outside the Hospice, closer to the Oxford Street end. The male said something like, "Have you got any money?", I said something to the effect, "Yer, but not what I think you are after it for, do you want a drink or something to eat?", he

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basically replied, "Yer", I said, "I just live up in Flinders Street". During this conversation the male introduced himself as NP203 and told him my name was 1299. We then walked along Oxford Street, up south Dowling Street and then into Flinders Street. I was aware that this area is notorious for male prostitution and that this person could well have been a male prostitute. I felt sorry for this person, it was a cold night and he had told me that he had no where to stay.

- 5. I arrived at the unit at about 10.00-10.30pm with this person. When we first arrived I made myself and NP203 a cup of coffee and we sat down and talked. NP203 told me that he was better of if he was out of this life, because this life was no good. I told him not to give up and that everything improves. He seemed very depressed. He asked me if I had any marijuana, I told him that I don't do drugs. He said that he doesn't shoot up, he just smokes. From this comment I took it that he only smoked marijuana. He did not tell me anything about his family, friends, where he was staying or any other details.
- 6. About 11.30-12.00pm I recall falling asleep on the queen size bed. Prior to this the television was on and we were watching TV whilst sitting on the sofa bed. When I awoke about 6.00am the next morning, NP203 was asleep lying on the sofa bed. It was dark inside the unit and I turned the bedside light on. I got up out of bed, left the unit and walked to the common toilet off the courtyard at the rear of the premises. I went to the toilet and had a shower and I was gone for about 15 to 20 minutes. I then returned to the unit and saw that NP203 was not there. I turned the main light on and there did not seem to be any property gone. I was not worried that he was not there, because I felt that he might ask for some money. I had taken my

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wallet with me, knowing that he might take my money.

- 7. I then got dressed and went over to the kitchen to turn the jug on and saw that a carving knife about 30 cm in length was protruding from my wooden table. The knife point was pushed into the wood and the knife was at right angles to the table top. The knife prior to this was in the kitchen sink. I realised that NP203 must have done this prior to leaving. My initial reaction was that it was a silly thing to do, I removed time I did not feel threatened by this act.
- 8. I would estimate that **NP203** is about 19-20 years old, caucasian, light build, mousey blond coloured hair which is straight and unkept, it is combed forward over his forehead and combed down flat at the back, 165-170cm tall, unshaven, he mentioned to me that he does not shave because he gets hassled for identification at hotels. He is well spoken, by this I mean he is easy to understand and he seems to be well educated. He was wearing blue jeans, jogging shoes, and a v-neck bright red knitted jumper.
- 9. Since this date I have seen NP203 on the following Saturday, 15 July, 1995, about 5.30-6.00pm, walking down Oxford Street, from Taylor Square, towards the city. I said, 'Hello' to him, he acknowledged me by saying that he was going to a rave party. He did not say anything else, I just carried on home.
- 10. NP203 was wearing the same blue jeans, joggers and bright red v-necked jumper that I had seen him wearing on the previous occasion

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11. On Monday, 17 July, 1995, about mid-morning I again saw NP203 from the door of the Brighton Hotel. He was Walking in Onford Street, on the Brighton Hotel side of the street, towards Taylor Square. There were no words exchanged, and I don't think that he saw me. He was again wearing the same blue jeans, joggers and bright red v-necked jumper.

12. On Thursday, 20 July, 1995, during the evening I decided to speak to the Police who had a mobile station set up in Taylor Square. I had earlier read an article in the Sydney Star or Capital Q about a murder in Kings Cross. I felt that the incident with NP203 and the knife and the fact that he had said that life wasn't worth living may be related to this murder. This is why I spoke to the Police during this evening.

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