

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Homicide Squad,Murder of Barry Richard JONESCriminal Investigation BranchDate: 6th December, 1977Name: McCUSKER Donald Thomas

(Surname in capitals)

Address: Homicide Squad, C. I. Branch

Tel. No. _____

Occupation: Detective Sergeant of Police

STATES:—

1. About 7.15am on Monday the 27th September, 1976, Mr Aldo Azjc an employee of the Drummoyne Council found the body of a male person in the grandstand of Five Dock Park. Police were then called and together with Detective Walker I went to the scene. I then went to the top deck of the grandstand where I saw the body.

2. The body was fully clothed in trousers, shirt, cardigan, shoes and sox. I noticed that there was a knife protruding from the lower right chest. This knife was completely driven into the body. I saw that there were numerous wounds to the body.

3. Shortly after, Detective R Johnston of the Scientific Section arrived and I was present when he took certain photographs and measurements and carried out other scientific duties. A statement has been supplied by that Detective fully setting out the inquiries he conducted.

4. Doctor William Brighton, a Government Medical Officer was contacted and attended the scene. He made an examination of the body and estimated the time of death as being between 10pm and 12 midnight the previous day.

5. Shortly after, Kenneth Raymond Grant, a cousin of the deceased person, who resided at 25 Walker Avenue, Haberfield attended the area and identified the body as being that of Barry Richard Jones, born 22.5.35 of the same address. Shortly after that the body was removed to the City Morgue.

6. Doctor Brighton there performed a post mortem on the body. It was established that the deceased had suffered at least 53 stab wounds to various parts of the body, and in addition there was one wound measuring 14cm by 10cm. The doctor was of the opinion that this wound was caused by numerous stab wounds. Doctor Brighton has prepared a certificate for information.

7. It was established that the deceased had been employed by the Drummoyne Council for a number of years and for about 7 or 8 months prior to his death, as a street sweeper for the same council. In this capacity he regularly

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worked in the Drummoyne area. From inquiries made it was established that the deceased was an excessive drinker of intoxicating liquor. It was his usual custom to proceed to work each morning and he would spend his lunch hour in local hotels. Upon ceasing work he would go to the Five Dock Hotel and on most occasions would remain there till closing time. On Saturday he would again go to the hotel and would remain there all day, consuming alcohol and having discussions about horse racing. On Sundays he would go to a local bowling club about 10am and would remain there till 2pm. At this particular club there was a 2pm curfew placed on him. He would then leave the club and proceed either to the local R.S.L. or Soccer Club.

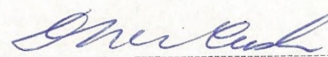
8. On Sunday the 26th September, that is the day of his death, it was established that he did go to the local bowling club and remained there, consuming liquor, till 2pm. He then went to the Western Suburbs Soccer Club. It could not be established with any degree of certainty what time he left the soccer club on this night. Persons interviewed stated that he left shortly after 7pm whilst others stated that he was there as late as 10.30pm. The head supervisor who was working on that particular night was adamant that he was not in the club at 8pm. At this particular time there were few people in the main section of the club and according to the supervisor would have seen the deceased had he been there. There was entertainment in the club that night, but the deceased was not permitted in that section of the club, and besides on that day he would not have been suitably attired, and therefore would not have been admitted.

9. All persons spoken to who had seen the deceased on this night, irrespective if it was 7pm or 10.30pm stated that he was well under the influence of liquor. To substantiate this, the blood alcohol level of the deceased at the time of his death was .350.

10. Some thirty Detectives were engaged full time on this murder. A complete house to house canvass of the area surrounding the Five Dock Park as well as houses on the way to his home were canvassed. No sightings of the deceased were established. A number of Detectives were assigned to the Western Suburbs Soccer Club. All visitors to the club, the member who signed them in and all persons

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who had signed the Poker Machine Payout book on that night were located and interviewed. In addition, Police interviewed hundreds of people entering and leaving the club over the next three weeks, especially on the Sunday nights. All these inquiries were without results.

11. It was established that on Sunday nights, the deceased would either be driven home by a friend or engage a taxi. The persons who had driven him home on prior occasions were interviewed, without result. Keeping this in mind, four Detectives were assigned to check out the movements of taxi drivers on this night. All owners and drivers of Cumberland Taxis, who have a direct phone in the club, and who worked on that particular Sunday night were located and interviewed. As well, other taxi companies were contacted and where possible all drivers spoken to.

12. All local criminals, irrespective what their prior convictions were, were located and interviewed and their alibis checked out as far as possible. Criminals from adjoining neighbourhoods were also located and interviewed.

13. All hospitals were checked to see if any persons had been treated on the night in question. Those persons who had received treatment were interviewed and the versions of how they came by their injuries were verified.

14. All dry cleaners in the Metropolitan area were visited by the Police in their patrols. Some bloodstained clothing was located, but after checking it was found that none of these stains were as a result of this murder.

15. All persons who attended the deceased's funeral at Rookwood, and who signed the Remembrance Book were located and interviewed. All Psychiatric Hospitals were visited but no useful information was obtained.

16. In addition to all these inquiries, there were over 400 persons spoken to. These included his drinking friends and patrons of the clubs and hotels where the deceased frequented. From inquiries made, it was established that up until the day of his death, the deceased had had no known enemies. He had never been seen to be engaged in fights or arguments. He also had no known female associates.

17. Special appeals were made in all Sydney daily newspapers as well as newspapers circulating locally in the

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area. Special coverages were made over radio stations and the television.

18. A reward in the sum of \$10,000 has been offered by the State Government, but up to the present time no information has been forthcoming.

19. Inquiries were made as to the origin of the knife. It was established that it was known as "a Black Eagle" and estimated by an expert to be 15 to 25 years old. The firm of Sheldon and Hammond, who import about 90 per cent of all sporting knives into Australia said that this particular type of knife was last imported into this country in 1964. Other sporting shops were visited with negative results.

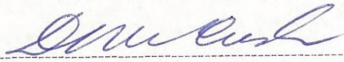
20. It was established that the deceased's father passed away on the 10th August, 1973. He left all his assets including the home at [redacted] Walker Avenue, Haberfield to the deceased. About two years prior to the murder, Kenneth Raymond Grant, the cousin who identified the body, moved into the house with his common law wife Carol Anne Grant. They lived there with the deceased till the time of the murder.

21. On the 12th May, 1975 the deceased went to his solicitor and made a will leaving all his real and personal property to his cousin, Grant. This was the only will that the deceased left. On the 18th May, 1976, the deceased and Grant went to the same solicitor and after a discussion Grant was made Power of Attorney on the deceased's behalf. On the 4th June, 1976 Grant went to the solicitor, and as Power of Attorney took the deeds of the house from the office. They had not been returned.

22. In July both men went to a local bank where they received a personal loan in the sum of \$2,500. This amount was to repay to a Court for an embezzlement charge which had been preferred against Grant. At the time of his death, this loan together with outstanding interest, amounted to \$2,604. No further payments were required after this, as there was an insurance policy covering the loan.

23. There is no doubt that where the body was found, is where the murder was committed. On reconstruction it would appear the deceased was standing up and looking out over the back wall of the grandstand when he received one or more stab wounds to his back. He then fell to the decking

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of the grandstand where the wounds to the front of the body were inflicted. According to Doctor Brighton any one of the numerous stab wounds to the back would have been fatal. The large cut to the throat was inflicted after death.

24. Inquiries show that the deceased was frightened of walking through parks during the night. Keeping this in mind, it would appear that either the deceased was lured to the grandstand by some person or persons he knew or carried there by some person or persons. There were no marks showing that he had been dragged to this position. There were barefoot prints found near the feet of the deceased and similar footprints found on the concrete path leading to the stand. There was also found, one mark which appeared to have been made by a rubber thong.

25. Inquiries have not ceased in this matter and up to the present time, no motive has been found for this murder which can only be described as being committed by some person or persons with to say the least, a sadistic mind.

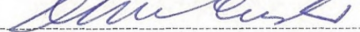
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EXHIBIT " | "

Inquest touching the death
of JONES
Coroner's Court, 44.46
Parliamentary Road, Glebe
(Date) 26/1/78
(Dep. Clerk)

24. Inquiries show that the deceased was frightened of walking through parks during the night. Keeping this in mind, it would appear that either the deceased was lured to the ground by some person or persons he knew or existed there by some person or persons. There were no marks showing that he had been dragged to this position. There were barefoot prints found near the feet of the deceased and similar footprints found on the concrete path leading to the stand. There was also found one mark which appeared to have been made by a rubber stamp.

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