NSW POLICE FORCE



P190B

STATEMENT OF POLICE

In the matter of:	Missing Person - Peter BAUMANN		
Place:	Bondi Police Station		
Date:	15 September 2008		
Name:	Simon FIELD	Tel. No:	
Rank:	Senior Constable		
Station/Unit:	Bondi Detectives		

STATES:

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- This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that 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 will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything that I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
- 2. I am 39 years of age.
- On the 3rd of June 2008, I was preferred as Officer in Charge of Police Case Number C 5602949, which relates to a reported Missing Person, Peter BAUMANN. This Police Case was dealt with under Strike Force BLISSETT. I received this case from the former Officer in Charge, Detective Sergeant Darren SMITH.
- 4. In 1983, a person by the name of Peter BAUMANN, date of birth, 20 April 1957, was reported missing to police. During that time an investigation into his disappearance took place. A number of different police and police sections conducted those enquiries. During that time a number of statements were obtained from next of kin and witnesses. These statements included; On the 26th of August 1993, Sharmalie SENEVIRATNE was interviewed by police and a witness statement was obtained from her. In that statement SENEVIRATNE sets out details of how she met BAUMANN and goes on to tell of a physical relationship she had with BAUMANN. SENEVIRATNE also states that after the relationship had ended, she continued to be in contact with BAUMANN until one evening when she became worried about BAUMANN due to a strange phone call. SENEVIRATNE attended the last known address of BAUMANN where she was unable to locate BAUMANN. She states that she believed that the residence had signs of a scuffle taking place. SENEVIRATNE later reports the matter to the Missing Person Unit.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF SENEVIRATNE DATED 26 AUGUST 1993.

 In April 2007, Detective Sergeant SMITH re interviewed SENEVIRATNE. SENEVIRATNE provided another statement in which she confirms her original statement. She goes on further to say that she thought she saw BAUMANN in 1996 but did not report this to police. She stated she had no further information regarding BAUMANN.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF SENEVIRATNE DATED 27 JULY 2007.

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Simon FIELD

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6. In November 1993, a witness statement was obtained from Allan SMYTH in relation to BAUMANN. In this statement, SMYTH recalls meeting BAUMANN in 1981 in Centennial Park and that a subsequent Sexual relationship took place between them. He further recalls a payment allegedly made by BAUMANN to a prostitute to get married and that an alleged later demand for a further \$30,000 dollars was made.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF ALLAN SMYTH DATED 16 NOVEMBER 1993.

7. In November 1993, a witness statement was obtained from Ruth BINNEY in relation to BAUMANN. BINNEY was the landlord of the residence at Cross Street, Waverley, where BAUMANN resided. She states that she received a call from SENEVIRATNE, who was concerned about BAUMANN. BINNEY went to BAUMANNS flat and observed an overturned chair and the words 'AIDS' written on a mirror.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF RUTH BINNEY DATED 16 NOVEMBER 1993 AND COPY OF HER INITIAL REPORT TO POLICE.

8. In September 1993, a witness statement was obtained from Cherie FOSTER. FORSTER sets out how she married BAUMANN for money in 1992. FOSTER goes on to detail the divorce between herself and BAUMANN in 1993. She further states that in her attempts to later contact BAUMANN, she found that he used the surname of MOLTZAM with his employer the ABC. She felt that BAUMANN was extremely concerned about returning to Germany.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF Cherie FOSTER DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 1994.

9. In April 2007, a witness statement was obtained from John PAUPERIS in relation to BAUMANN. PAUPERIS statement was quite vague and very little evidence could be obtained from his statement. The statement sets out that he met BAUMANN twice with FOSTER and that he knew of their intention to arrange a marriage.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF JOHN PAUPERIS DATED 11 APRIL 2007.

10. In April 2007, a witness statement was obtained from Pears HAMISH in relation to BAUMANN. HAMISH is the cousin of SENEVIRATNE and claims to have never met BAUMANN nor having been to his home.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THE STATEMENT OF HAMISH PEARS DATED 13 APRIL 2007.

11. In June 1984, a report was created by Senior Constable Emery of the Missing Person unit in relation to the investigation into the disappearance of BAUMANN.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT REPORT.

12. On the 2nd of August 1993, information was received from Interpol regarding BAUMANN.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT REPORT.

13. Between the 5th and the 29th August 1993, the Missing Persons Unit prepared an Investigation running sheet in relation to BAUMANN.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT RUNNING SHEET.

14. On the 9 September 1993, Senior Constable GRIBBLE of the Missing Person Unit submitted a report to the Department of Immigration in relation to a Japanese person by the name of Hyuma HOSHI who was previously named as a possible witness to this case.

Witness:

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Simon FIELD

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT REPORT.

15. On the 16 December 1982, BAUMANN sent a letter to his employer the ABC explaining why he had used a false name in order to obtain employment with their organisation.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT LETTER.

16. On the 16 February 1983, a letter was sent to BAUMANN from the personnel officer at the ABC. This letter accepts BAUMANNS reasons and states that they will continue to employ him.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT LETTER.

17. On the 25th of May 1983, a letter was sent to BAUMANN indicating his successful selection for a position within the ABC.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT LETTER.

18. On the 7 November 1983, a letter was sent to BAUMANN from the Welfare Officer, H GOVER, from the ABC in relation to his absence from work.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT LETTER.

19. On the 26 November 1993 Senior Constable GRIBBLE of the Missing Person Unit submitted a request to the ABC for information pertaining BAUMANNS employment within the ABC.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT REPORT.

20. On the 26 November 1993, a letter was sent by Inspector MORTON of Penrith Police, to the ABC, requesting their assistance in the investigation into BAUMANNS disappearance.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT LETTER.

21. On the 5 December 1992, information was received via telex message to the Missing Persons Unit regarding BAUMANN. This information indicated that BAUMANN had not shown up under a number of checks that they had performed including Births Deaths and Marriages and others.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THOSE RECORDS.

22. On the 12 April 2006, correspondence was received from The Homicide Squad in relation to the investigation into BAUMANNS disappearance. A request had been made that the Homicide Squad continue the investigation. The Homicide Squad indicated that the investigation should be referred to the Coroner before any investigation would be undertaken by them.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT REPORT.

23. On the 26 March 2002, information was received from a number of financial institutions in relation to any financial dealings that BAUMANN may have conducted.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THOSE DOCUMENTS.

24. On the 1 January 1994, the Missing Persons Unit completed a Long Term Missing Person Statewide Trend Analysis in relation to BAUMANN.

EXHIBIT: I PRODUCE THAT REPORT.

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Simon FIELD

- 25. Subsequent to this Detective Sergeant SMITH has made a number of other inquiries with a number of organisations regarding the disappearance of BAUMANN.
- 26. Having received this case. I have made a number of name checks utilising the Police and RTA systems. BAUMANN has not come under notice of police nor has he applied for a drivers licence within New South Wales.
- 27. On the 26th of June 2008, I received information from the Missing Persons Unit that a fresh search of the 'Unidentified Bodies' data base had failed to locate a match for BAUMANN.
- 28. On the 25th April 2008, I completed a P79A, report to the Coroner.
- 29. It is apparent that BAUMANN is missing believed deceased. BAUMANN has not left the country under his original passport and is believed to be still in the country. Through the various witness statements it may appear that BAUMANN has met with foul play with the varied and bizarre relationships he held whilst in Australia. Although it can not be discounted that BAUMANN, using an alias, has simply changed his name to avoid detection, so that he may remain within Australia illegally, as it is stated by witnesses, that he held grave fears of returning to Germany. Due to the length of time involved in this investigation, police have little evidence at this stage to assist in the disappearance of BAUMANN.

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Signature:

Simon FIELD

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