

Sensitive: Law Enforcement

TRIM D/2016/722205

CORPS: 2017-0288

Issue

Response to request from Senior Constable Gribble to conduct a further investigation into the disappearance of Peter Baumann missing since 26/10/1983.

Background

In 1983 a German national Peter Baumann [born 20/04/1957] was missing to police. Baumann resided at [REDACTED] Cross Street, Bondi at the time of his disappearance and worked in the technical department of the [REDACTED]. He was last seen on a telephone on 26/10/1983 by an associate [REDACTED]. The associate [REDACTED] went to Baumann's Cross Street unit and discovered it [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was a homosexual male and his [REDACTED] was [REDACTED].

In 1 [REDACTED] d a
num [REDACTED]
03/1 [REDACTED]
Baum [REDACTED]
Base. [REDACTED]

On 08/0 [REDACTED]
surround [REDACTED] Western Suburbs
managed [REDACTED] as the officer in charge.
The conten [REDACTED] basis of inquiries conducted by
Strike Force [REDACTED] given access to the holdings of SF Blissett and
was not priv [REDACTED] conducted.

On 04/08/2009 Coroner Milovanovich at Inquest delivered his findings in relation to Baumann as cited in paragraph 91 of SC Gribbles 2016 report. The matter was not referred to the Unsolved Homicide Team by the Coroner.

Current Position

On 21/11/2016 SC Gribble submitted a detailed 14 page summary on the Baumann matter which included a two page annexure listing a number of proposed tasks. [Annexure "B"] That document mirrored the original report submitted by him in 1993.

On 11/04/2017 Detective Inspector Leggat and Detective Sergeant Morgan of the Unsolved Homicide Unit – Homicide Squad spoke with Senior Constable Gribble at Police Headquarters. SC Gribble stated that he had no fresh information in regard to the matter nor was he aware of the extent of the SF Blissett investigation.

On 12/04/2017 I reviewed the holdings of SF Blissett and established that the bulk of the tasks listed in SC Gribbles report had been completed [Annexure "C" is a list of the product completed by SF Blissett investigators]

On 12/04/2017 I spoke to Sergeant Whiting of the Missing Persons unit who advised me that she had spoken to SC Gribble in relation to this matter and reviewed the holdings of SF

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Issue

Response to request from Senior Constable Gribble to conduct a further investigation into the disappearance of Peter Baumann missing since 26/10/1983.

Background

In 1983 a German national Peter Baumann [born 20/04/1957] was reported missing to police. Baumann resided at [REDACTED] Cross Street, Bondi at the time of his disappearance and worked in the technical department of the ABC. He was last spoken to over the telephone on 26/10/1983 by an associate Ms Sharmalie Seneviratne. Later that day Seneviratne went to Baumann's Cross Street unit and discovered it in a state of disarray. Baumann was a homosexual male and his behaviour in the period leading up to his disappearance was erratic and out of character. A rudimentary investigation took place at the time.

In 1993 SC Gribble of the Missing Persons Unit took carriage of the matter, conducted a number of inquiries and organised statements from parties linked to Baumann. On 03/12/1993 SC Gribble compiled a comprehensive summary of the events leading to Baumann's disappearance which was ultimately uploaded onto the Missing Person Data Base. [Annexure "A"]

On 08/03/2007 Strike Force Blissett was formed to investigate the circumstances surrounding the 1983 disappearance of Baumann. That Strike Force was an Eastern Suburbs managed investigation with Detective Sergeant Darren Smith listed as the officer in charge. The content of the 1993 SC Gribble document formed the basis of inquiries conducted by Strike Force investigators. SC Gribble was not given access to the holdings of SF Blissett and was not privy to the investigation conducted.

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Blissett. She also stated that a file with the outstanding tasks listed in SC Gribbles report was forwarded to Inspector Bayly at Eastern Suburbs on 21/03/2017.

The outstanding enquires are of a limited forensic value and no new lines of inquiry have been identified. The matter has been adequately investigated by Eastern Suburbs LAC and in the absence of fresh information a further investigation by the Unsolved Homicide Team is not warranted.

Recommendation

That the investigation remain with Eastern Suburbs LAC to finalise the outstanding issues identified by SC Gribble.



S.J. Leggat
Detective Inspector
Unsolved Homicide Team
Homicide Squad
13/04/2017

1. Commander Homicide - SCC.

Supported. Matter to be referred to Eastern Suburbs LAC for their uporation & attention a deemed necessary to line with their on going enquiries.

2. Director - Serious Crime Directorate - SCC

Agree that as this matter has been adequately investigated with some ops enqun to be completed it is appropriate to remain with the LAC at present

J. Kerlatec
John Kerlatec APM
Detective Chief Superintendent
Director, Serious Crime Directorate
State Crime Command

26-4-17

Sensitive: Law Enforcement

3. **Commander, Eastern Suburbs LAC**

Cc **Commander, Homicide Squad - SCC**