

Statement of Insp MURDOCH

Product Type: TEXT DOCUMENTS:Statement

Completed Date: 25 Mar 2001

Brief Description: Attached to this product is a statement by Insp MURDOCH. He spoke with [198] who nominated [1409] as a person who had motive to harm WARREN. MURDOCH establishes that [1409] was employed as a flight attendant by Qantas, and that he was overseas at the relevant time of WARREN's disappearance .

Summary:

Para 3: On 24/05/1994 receives information from [198] stating that [1409] may have motive in relation to the suspicious death of Ross WARREN.

Para 9: [1409] later has a relationship with 'James' who he later informs friends has later died. James is later found to be alive and well.

Para 15: [1409] was working as air crew and was out of Australia between 20/07/1989 and 24/07/1989.

NSW Police Service

STATEMENT OF A POLICE OFFICER

In the matter of: Disappearance of Ross Bradley WARREN
Place: Police Station, Waverley
Date: 25 March, 2001

Name: Mark John MURDOCH **Tel. No:** [REDACTED]
Rank: Inspector
Station/Unit: Eastern Suburbs Local Area Command

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 in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am forty three (43) years of age.
3. On the 24 May, 1994 I was a Detective Sergeant attached to the Homicide Unit at the Major Crime Squad, South. Sometime that day I received a telephone call from [198] who told me that he had information he wished to pass onto Police concerning the disappearance of his friend Ross WARREN.
4. Ross Bradley WARREN, born on the 26 October, 1964, a television journalist and resident of Wollongong, New South Wales, was last seen in Sydney on or about the 22 July, 1989. The present whereabouts of Ross Bradley WARREN are unknown.
5. About 10.00am on the 1 June, 1994 I spoke to [198] at his home at [REDACTED]. During the course of our conversation [198] disclosed that he was homosexual and had met WARREN about a year prior to his disappearance through a mutual homosexual friend. [198] said that he and WARREN subsequently became good friends and moved within the same social circle.
6. About three (3) months prior to his disappearance, [198] has introduced WARREN to [1409] a Flight Service Director with Qantas. Shortly after their meeting, [198] says that WARREN and [1409] became lovers.
7. [198] alleges that at the time of his disappearance WARREN was in the process of ending his relationship with [1409]. Although [198] was aware that it was WARREN who had made the decision to separate, he did not know the reason why. [1409], it was alleged by [198], had made it obvious to friends that he was opposed to ending his relationship with WARREN and could not understand the reasons for his partner's decision.

Witness:



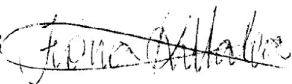
Signature:



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In the matter of 'Disappearance of Ross Bradley WARREN'

8. Although it was [198] who introduced Ross WARREN to [1409] he believes [1409] to be a compulsive liar and of unsavoury character; a person who [198] feels not only has few emotional feelings, but is also nasty and conniving. [1409] according to [198] is also psychologically harmful to his friends. Although he initially presents as a genuine type of person, [198] says that [1409] is continually forced to move from one group of friends to another as the members alienate him when they find out that he is not what he appears to be. [198]s immediate circle of friends has long since ceased associating with [1409] as they believe him to be totally untrustworthy and to have a malicious personality.
9. Subsequent to WARREN's disappearance, [1409] is alleged to have become involved in a relationship with a male student named 'James'. It was claimed by [198] that [1409] had told friends 'James' had been murdered in Hawaii on Christmas Day 1993 or New Years Day 1994. [1409] is alleged to have described in detail how he had arranged for the body to be transported to 'James' family in Ohio. [198] says that since being told by [1409] of 'James' death he has seen the young man and he is alive and well and is apparently still involved in a relationship with [1409]
10. In terms of the circumstances surrounding WARREN's disappearance, [198] says that he knows only what he has learned from media reports. He knows that WARREN's car had been located in the eastern suburbs and that WARREN had last been seen in the early hours of the morning at the 'Midnight Shift' nightclub in Oxford Street, Darlinghurst.
11. The pedestrian walkway between south Bondi and Tamarama beaches is known by [198] to be a homosexual 'beat', that is, an area in which homosexual men meet for the purpose of having sexual intercourse. WARREN is alleged by [198] to have said often that he did not like the 'beat' scene and that he did not attend these areas, however, [198] believes that WARREN may have just said this as an excuse because he may have felt uncomfortable if it were known that he participated in the 'beat' scene. [198] said that WARREN knew the Bondi/Tamarama walkway was an established homosexual 'beat'.
12. [198] believes that it is possible WARREN may have committed suicide, but believes that if he did it would not have been done in an area and in circumstances that would have drawn attention to the fact that he was homosexual. WARREN was, according to [198] a private person who did not advertise that he was gay as this may have hampered his career as a television presenter, a career which he enjoyed and one of which he was very proud. [198] was of the opinion that WARREN's family were not aware he was gay and that he did not want them to know.
13. Albeit the possibility of suicide cannot be discounted [198] feels that [1409] may have been motivated to murder Ross WARREN for ending their relationship. [1409]s reaction to WARREN's disappearance was, in the opinion of [198] 'understated', something he considers to be unusual. Furthermore, [198] says that [1409] had become quite panicky about the possibility of being

Witness:



Signature:



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investigated by Police in relation to the circumstances in which WARREN went missing. These factors have influenced [198] to suspect that [1409] may have been responsible for the disappearance of Ross WARREN.

14. Ross [1409]'s employment was to subsequently provide Police with the means by which his legitimacy as a suspect responsible for the disappearance of Ross WARREN could be tested.
15. Inquiries conducted with William DAVENPORT, Qantas Security Manager, were to disclose that [1409] left Australia as air crew on a flight through Asia on the morning of the 20 July, 1989 and did re-enter the country until the 24 July, 1989.

Witness:



Signature:

