

New South Wales Police

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STATEMENT in the matter of:
CORONIAL INQUEST - DEATH OF
CRISPIN WILSON DYE.

Place: Major Crime Squad
South Region.
Date : 26 July 1995

Name: Geoffrey Roy KNIGHT

Address: Child Protection & Investigation Unit

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Detective Sergeant of Police

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 47 years of age.

3. During the course of the investigation into the murder of Crispin Wilson DYE, I received information from Detective McDOUGALL of the South Region drug Unit in respect of two male persons, [NP127] and [NP227].

4. Both those persons had been spoken to by Detective McDOUGALL during the evening of Saturday the 14th May, 1994, during which time photographs were taken of both persons. During that time it was established that [NP127] was living at [REDACTED], Marrickville, whilst [NP227] was residing at [REDACTED], Telopea. Both were unemployed.

5. Detective McDOUGALL had indicated that an informant known to him alleged that both these persons may have some knowledge in respect of the murder of Mr. DYE. The relevant particulars in respect of each were obtained, neither being detained.

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6. Inquiries were subsequently carried out by Investigators with a view to locating [NP127] at all known address, however he was unable to be located, information later being received from the person with whom he had resided, a [REDACTED], that he had moved out on 26th May, 1994. He believed that [NP127] had travelled interstate, to either Queensland or Western Australia.

7. A description of [NP127] was subsequently circulated, to the effect that Police were desirous of speaking to him in the event he may be in a position to assist with the investigation.

8. Inquiries were also made with a view to locating [NP227] [NP227], however it was subsequently established that this person had died as a result of a drug overdose at his home on Friday 15th June, 1994. Inquiries confirmed that the death had been investigated by Detective PARKER of Ermington Police, the matter being the subject of Westmead Coroners Court File No. [REDACTED].

9. During my inquiries I was made aware that [NP127] was wanted for questioning concerning the murder of a man named [REDACTED] at Surry Hills, in April, 1994, and was subsequently advised by Detective POLITO of the Homicide Squad, that he had in fact spoken to [NP127] at the OASIS REFUGE, Oasis Lane, Surry Hills, on the 1st of June. Detective POLITO informed me that he had made an appointment with [NP127] to speak to him further the following day, however he failed to keep the engagement, and his whereabouts were unknown.

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10. On 13th December, 1994, I spoke to a Detective Pat DOYLE of Midland C.I.B., in Perth, who informed me that [NP127] was in custody in respect of certain offences committed in that State. Numerous inquiries were made as a consequence with that Police officer and Detective NICOLAU, in respect of his movements prior to arrest, during which time he had been living at [REDACTED], a suburb of Perth. At the time he was unable to meet his bail conditions and was being held in Canning Vale Correctional Centre.

11. On 1st February, 1995, I travelled to that State in company with Detective POLITO, and conferred with Detective NICOLAU regarding his knowledge of [NP127], his movements and associates.

12. Arrangements were later made with the authorities at Canning Vale Facility to interview [NP127] the following day.

13. About 11.45am on February 2nd, with Detective POLITO, and Detectives NICOLAU and O'ROURKE of Midlands, I went to [REDACTED] where [I123], born [REDACTED].75 was spoken to regarding his knowledge of [NP127]. He indicated that he had met [NP127] on his birthday, after his brother [REDACTED] met him at the local bus stop and brought him home. He indicated that his younger brother told him that [NP127] had been 'doing assault & robs around Kings Cross and City' and that was the reason he moved to Perth. [I123] indicated that he stayed for a couple of nights, but that he didn't have much to do with him. He offered the opinion that he thought [NP127] was capable of doing 'anything'

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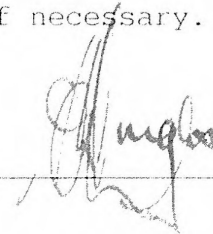
14. I also spoke to [I123]'s brother, [REDACTED], born [REDACTED].79, in the presence of his mother [REDACTED] and sister [REDACTED], concerning his knowledge of [NP127]. The boy was very reticent to discuss matters, however stated that he had been told by him about several armed robberies he had done in Sydney, although he could not elaborate further in that regard.

15. He also alleged that [NP127] had told me that he was involved in a couple of stabbings resulting from gang fights and that [NP127] was supposedly a member of a gang known as L.B.I. (Lebanese Beef Injection) He also stated that [NP127] had alleged someone had been badly hurt in a gang fight around Christmas, however he knew of no other details. The boy was told by [NP127] that he had been living in Sydney with gang mates and was presently selling speed in Perth. He had also been residing at [REDACTED] Lockridge, and had been associated with a female named [REDACTED] who lived nearby.

16. Inquiries indicated that [REDACTED] family, who appeared responsible and were very co-operative, regularly took in children off the street, for short periods to assist with their welfare, and [NP127] was one of those.

17. The boy subsequently accompanied Police to [REDACTED] Beachboro, where he nominated No. [REDACTED] as being the premises of [NP127]'s girlfriend [REDACTED].

18. Neither [I123] nor [REDACTED] were willing to provide a statement regarding the matter, indicating they were frightened of [NP127], however Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she would speak to [REDACTED] and would further contact Police if necessary.

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19. About 2.15pm the same date, with the other Police, I went to [REDACTED] Beachboro, and spoke to [REDACTED] born [REDACTED] 78 in the presence of her mother [REDACTED]. The girl indicated that she first met [NP127] around May or June, 1994 after he had (according to her) been in Perth for about 4 months. He had travelled to that state by bus and had been seated adjacent to a male by the name of [REDACTED], who resided in [REDACTED], Beachboro.

20. She stated that [NP127] had also resided with her family for about a month, but had since moved out. She described his mode of dress as being generally red jeans, and tops, sometimes a baseball cap, and Nike runner. His head was shaved at the side with 5 long plaits, and according to her he owned a black wallet but not a watch.

21. She alleged [REDACTED] told her that when he arrived from N.S.W., his head was shaved and was wearing a long trench coat, however he changed his mode of dress and appearance adopting the local trends. (When photographed by Police in May, 1994, his head was basically shaved)

22. He had told the girl and her parents that he had been doing armed robberies in Sydney and bashing homosexuals whilst stealing their property. He had also told her that he had worked in a Pizza place and during the night at some stage had broken in and stolen some money, however could not further elaborate regarding that allegation. He apparently told her he was wanted in Sydney in respect of armed robberies and was in a gang called the 'United Tongan Brothers'.

Witness: _____

A Bell

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23. [REDACTED] also stated that he had told her that he had stabbed someone and bragged about bashing people in Sydney. She also alleged she has witnessed him assault people on two separate occasions and always behaved in an aggressive manner.

24. [REDACTED] stated that [NP127] had told her [REDACTED] and that he had been living on the street since he was 12 years of age. She confirmed that he had resided with her family for about a month, then moved into the flat in Kirwin Way. He was unemployed and always spoke about bashing people in Sydney. Whilst [NP127] was resident there, and during the course of the inquiries by Police in that state, [REDACTED] had overheard him on the telephone saying "Don't tell them where I am, I haven't done anything"

25. Both [REDACTED] and her daughter also declined to make a statement, due to concerns for their safety, in particular in regard to [REDACTED].

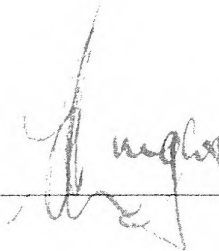
26. Later the same date, with the other Police, I made an inspection of the vacant premises [REDACTED] Lockridge, with a [REDACTED] of Torrens Real Estate, however nothing of any evidentiary value was located.

27. About 3.45pm the same date, with Detective POLITO, I spoke to [REDACTED], born [REDACTED] 76, at [REDACTED], Beachboro, who declined to make a statement or sign anything for fear of reprisals, however would answer questions.

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33. POLITO said, "As you know, I'm making some inquiries about the murder of [REDACTED] and Detective Sergeant KNIGHT wants to ask you some questions about the murder of Crispin DYE." He shook his head, sighed and said, "What about" POLITO said, "Would you participate in a record of interview" He said, "No, I'm not doing any statements or signing anything." POLITO said, "Is there any reason?" He said, "My Solicitor told me not to." POLITO said, "I can get you a Solicitor if you want one." He said, "No, don't worry about it." POLITO said, "Do you mind if we ask you some questions then." He said, "No, but I'm not signing anything."

34. POLITO said, "Well I'll tell you, you don't have to say anything if you don't want to, as anything you say may later be used in evidence. Do you understand that?" He said, "Yeah, you're wasting your time here, I didn't do anything." POLITO said, "Why didn't you keep your appointment, after we spoke to you on the 1st June, 1 1994, at Surry Hills?" He said, "I was worried you would arrest me for my train fines." POLITO said, "If I was going to arrest you, I would have arrested you at Surry Hills when I first spoke to you." He said, "I didn't know what you were going to do, that's why I came here." POLITO said, "It was a fairly rash move, just for a train fine."

NP127 made no reply.

35. POLITO said, "When did you travel over?" He said, "Around the middle of June, I'm not sure." POLITO said, "When did you arrive?" He said, "A couple of days later, I'm not sure, it was a while ago." POLITO said, "How did you travel to Perth?" He said, "By bus" POLITO said, "Which coach line was it?" He said, "Greyhound."

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49. Whilst [NP127] has some similarities to the offenders described in relation to the death of Crispin DYE, and appears to have a propensity to violence, there is insufficient evidence to substantiate any criminal charges in relation to him in that regard, nor is there anything further to authenticate the information that [NP127] and the deceased male [NP227] may have been involved in the murder.

50. It is also my opinion that had this been the case, his proclivity to quite freely boast about his involvement in offences of violence in Sydney would have prompted him to refer specifically to this incident, to those persons to whom he had been involved in Perth, whilst there.

Witness: A Bell

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