

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of: Death of Ernest Alan HEAD Place: Ashfield Police Station,  
 Date: 24th June, 1976.  
 Name: Arthur Maurice HEAD. (Born ██████-17)  
(Surname in capitals)  
 Address: ██████████, Annandale. Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: Building Supervisor. STATES:—

I am a single man, and I live in a flat under the main building at the above address. I am employed as the building Supervisor of the ██████████, at ██████████ Sydney, and I am employed by ██████████, who are the managers of the building. I have been so employed for the past 18 months.

I am the brother of Ernest Alan Head, who was born in Penang, (Now Malaysia), and I was born Miri Sarawak (Now east Malaysia) I was brought up with Alan in Penang, even though I am 25 years older, until I left in 1940 to join the R.A.F.

After the war I went back home, and saw the family and stayed with them for a while, then I left and went to Singapore in 1946. Apart from casual contact with Alan I did not see him much until I came to Australia in 1971 on a holiday. I stayed with Alan for about 6 weeks at his flat at ██████████, Balmain. During this time I met some of Alan's friends, a man named Len, Syd Moore, 1454 and some other friends from around there but I didn't know their names. Len was the only person at that time that I know who had a key to Alan's flat.

In September, 1972, I migrated to Australia from Singapore, and after a few weeks in other Cities, I came to live with Alan at the ██████████ Balmain flat. I stayed with Alan until 3-6-73, after we had an arguement on the 27-5-73. We came back from the R.S.L., where we had been drinking together and we had an arguement about something, which I can't remember, and Alan hit me and I hit him back and we fought around in my room. Alan became very violent, and threatened to kill me, and tried to hit me with a stool, but I warded it off, then he hit me with an umbrella. As a result of the fight, Alan had a black eye and I had a bruise on top of my head. I think Alan was resentful at about this time, because I had only worked a few weeks since arriving in Australia, as I had some money and was more or less still having a holiday. I was paying him \$20 a week for rent and food.

Alan was rather a quiet, slightly withdrawn and tended to keep to himself type of man. I knew that Alan was a homosexual, because Len and some other men used to come and sleep with him at the flat, and Alan did discuss it with me, but as I

Witness: ██████████

Signature: *Arthur Head*

STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: \_\_\_\_\_  
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don't approve of this behaviour, I don't think it's normal, I would not talk to him about it and told him it was his business. Normally Alan was a good natured type of person, but when he had been drinking he became a lot more sensitive and aggressive, and it was easy to get into an arguement with him, but I have never known him to pick a fight. Alan was also a gambler, and after a few drinks he lost control and would <sup>put</sup> most of his money in his pockets into the poker machines. He also had a few bets on horses at the TAB, but mostly it was the poker machines, after he had a few drinks. This stopped when he shifted into his unit because he had to pay so much back. Alan was a very smart dresser and always had everything of the best, was very neat and tidy, in his personal appearance and in his home. I would say it would be most unusual for Alan to leave any worn clothes lying around. He would always either hang it up, in a wardrobe or over a chair, never lying around the floor. What he would do, would be to soak any used clothes, such as socks, shirts, and anything to be washed, in a bucket in the bathroom, or in the bath itself. I have never been to Alan's flat at Summer Hill, but during all the time I lived with him he was always this way and I don't think he would change. Alan was not a constant drinker, but when he went out, he would drink a lot, and would go sometimes to the Cross(Kings) to meet people, and one night he was bashed up in a street, in Balmain, and he also had a fight with Len at some time, but I wasn't there.

The last time I saw Alan was on Tuesday or Wednesday of last week, when I bumped into him in David Jones store in the City. We spoke for a couple of minutes only as I was in a hurry to get back to work. We only spoke about casual things, and he mentioned that he would be home on the weekend, more or less as an invitation.

The man Len, who was Alan's friend, I last saw on Saturday, the 19th June, last, when he passed the building where I work, about 11 to 11.30am. He was going towards Circular Quay. I called out to him and he came over, and I asked him how he was, and about his work and asked him had he seen Alan, and he said he hadn't seen Alan for some time, and we also talked about Alan's unit. Len's behaviour at that time looked quite normal to me.

During the last three months, I have only seen Alan once, when we passed in the street, and have only spoken to him once when he rang me to apologise for not sending me a birthday card.

Apart from the friends of Alan I have already mentioned, there were others, namely, Margaret McEvoy, Jack Bonner, Stan and Shirl Evans, Rolf Diety, Frank Curl. Colin and Edna Robinson, Allin Boehm, and Alan Leverett. The <sup>3rd</sup> last man works with him.

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STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: \_\_\_\_\_

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Alan had other close friends in Penang, but I don't know their names or addresses, but he was very close friends with a man named Cheng, who was a very girlish type. Chang lives somewhere in \_\_\_\_\_, Penang, but I don't know the number. I have two sisters in Penang, who would know his address, and they live at Lillian Mabel Tan, \_\_\_\_\_, Penang, and Beatrice Mildred Oxley, of \_\_\_\_\_, Penang, or care of Lillian. He was also friendly/our<sup>with</sup> cousin, Rona Magness, of \_\_\_\_\_, Penang, and she would know a lot more of Alans friends. Rona has visited Alan and I think she visited him when she was on holiday here, but I don't know when it was. I think Chang has also been to Australia, but I'm not sure.

Last Thursday, the 17th June, after I finished work at 6.30pm, I drove to either to a lady friends place, Mona Scott, at \_\_\_\_\_, Kirribilli, or the Anzac War Memorial Club, at Cammeray, where I would have been signed in. I am a member of Balmain R.S.L. and I sign in on my badge from there. In either case I would have been with my friend, either at dinner, or after I left the club about 8pm, until about 10.0pm when I left and drove home to bed.

I am not aware of Alan's financial situation at the moment, but I think he was heavily in debt over buying the unit, but he would have had quite a bit in superannuation, but I also believe he had a loan from his credit union at work. I don't know if Alan ever made a will, but he did tell me that he intended to leave everything to his God-daughter, Doreen Oxley (Beatrices daughter)

I also have another brother, William Douglas Head, who lives at \_\_\_\_\_, Singapore, but he has never been to Australia as far as I know.

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

