

MURDER FILE 1976/37



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BRANCH
HOMICIDE SQUAD

SYDNEY 2000 14 September 77
Telephone 20936 Ext.

The Superintendent in Charge
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BRANCH

Murder of Ernest Allan Head at [REDACTED],
Summer Hill on or about the 17 June, 1976. Resume.

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1. About 11pm on the 22 June 1976, a Mr Sidney Moore of [REDACTED], Rockdale and Mr [REDACTED] 1454 of [REDACTED], Brighton Le Sands went to [REDACTED] 49 Grosvenor Crescent, Summer Hill. They had gone to that address to make an inquiry about their friend, the deceased. This inquiry was brought about as a result of another friend of the deceased, Miss Margaret McEvoy of [REDACTED], Sans Souci not being able to contact the deceased for some three days.
2. Upon arrival at the premises, Moore and [REDACTED] 1454 gained entry by key and saw the body of the deceased apparently dead on the kitchen floor. The body was naked and a number of stab wounds were noticeable. They immediately notified Miss Elaine Walsh who lives adjacent in flat [REDACTED], also at that flat was Senior Constable Donald Humpheries who had been visiting there. The Constable made a preliminary inspection and the Ashfield Police Station was notified.
3. A post mortem examination by Doctor Oettle revealed that there were about thirty stab wounds to the body and death had taken place about six days prior to the body being found. The deceased lived at that address alone and was an active participant in homosexual relationships with various men he would meet at hotels and clubs frequented by homosexuals. It was soon established that he had been last seen alive in the Bank Hotel, Newtown about 6pm on the previous Thursday the 17 June 1976, where he farewelled his friend [REDACTED] 1454 after having a few drinks together. It is then presumed that the deceased caught a train to Summer Hill. From TAB tickets found in the deceased's flat, it was established that he had placed some bets at the Summer Hill TAB about 6.15pm that evening, and the manager of the TAB recognised a photograph of the deceased as having called at that place about that time.
4. Constable Humpheries was interviewed and he stated that about 7pm on the 17 June 1976 he heard voices coming from the deceased's flat and that he recognised the deceased's voice as calling out for help. He then knocked on the kitchen window of the deceased's flat and also then the front door and a voice, not that of the deceased's said everything was all right, go away. Having been notified with this reply, the Constable then assumed that there was not any further need for intervention, however the Constable then notified the caretaker and informed him of what he had heard. An examination of the contents of the flat revealed that seven items had been stolen from within. Those items are the subject of Special Circular 76/22, five of them being depicted. This

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circular has been circulated Australia wide but to the present time, none of the property has been recovered.

5. A Forensic examination revealed that the cigarette butts found in the premises contained group O secretion substances. A handkerchief with semen thereon was found in the bedroom and was found to be of the group O secretion type, not that of the deceased. An anal swab taken from the deceased proved positive, but with insufficient quantity to diagnose any secretion substance. A penile taken from the deceased also proved positive but again with insufficient quantity to enable diagnosis. These latter findings were indicative of recent sexual acts shortly before death and consistent with what we have been told about the nefarious activities of the deceased. An examination of the flat and contents was made by fingerprint experts and a latent palm print was found in blood on the kitchen wall near the body. This palm print does not belong to the deceased and because of the fact that it is in blood, it must be assumed that it belongs to the person responsible for this crime. This palm print is on record at the fingerprint section and is constantly checked against other palm prints that come in the normal manner. Details and a photograph of this palm print have been filed at each capital city of the Commonwealth with a view to eventual identification. We are told that the palm prints are identifiable and it is hoped that one day the author of this crime may be identified through this aspect.

6. During the search of the contents in the deceased's flat, a large volume of names, addresses and telephone numbers were found. Most of those persons have been interviewed and found to be of the homosexual type. Their movements have been checked and when considered necessary their palm prints will be obtained and to the present time, there is no evidence to suggest that any of them are implicated in this crime.

7. A yellow pamphlet was drawn up with a photograph of the deceased and distributed at the relevant places, but no information was forthcoming from that avenue of inquiry. A reward of ten thousand dollars was proclaimed by the Government of this State and no information is forthcoming from that aspect.

8. It is not considered necessary to go into further detail in this resume because a full brief of the inquest evidence will be compiled shortly and forwarded to the Modus Operandi Section for reference.

[REDACTED]
A McDonald
Detective Sergeant 2nd Class

[REDACTED]
S T Walsh
Detective Senior Constable
No [REDACTED]