

16<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> November 1927.

1331

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

John Daniel Putmore  
and  
Joseph Leslie Taylor

Melbourne Boroug

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

26 NOV 1927

192

C. L. O.

P. K. (2)

K.

D. Berriman P. K.  
Coroner.

part of  
VPRS 24/P01 1123  
File A27/1331

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RD  
11/10/27



JH  
11/14/27

Photo of G. W. Butmores  
bedroom at 50 Barkly St  
Carlton.

Taken on 28.10.27.

MELBOURNE  
"HERALD"  
COPYRIGHT.

4 OCT 1960

J. H. TAYLOR

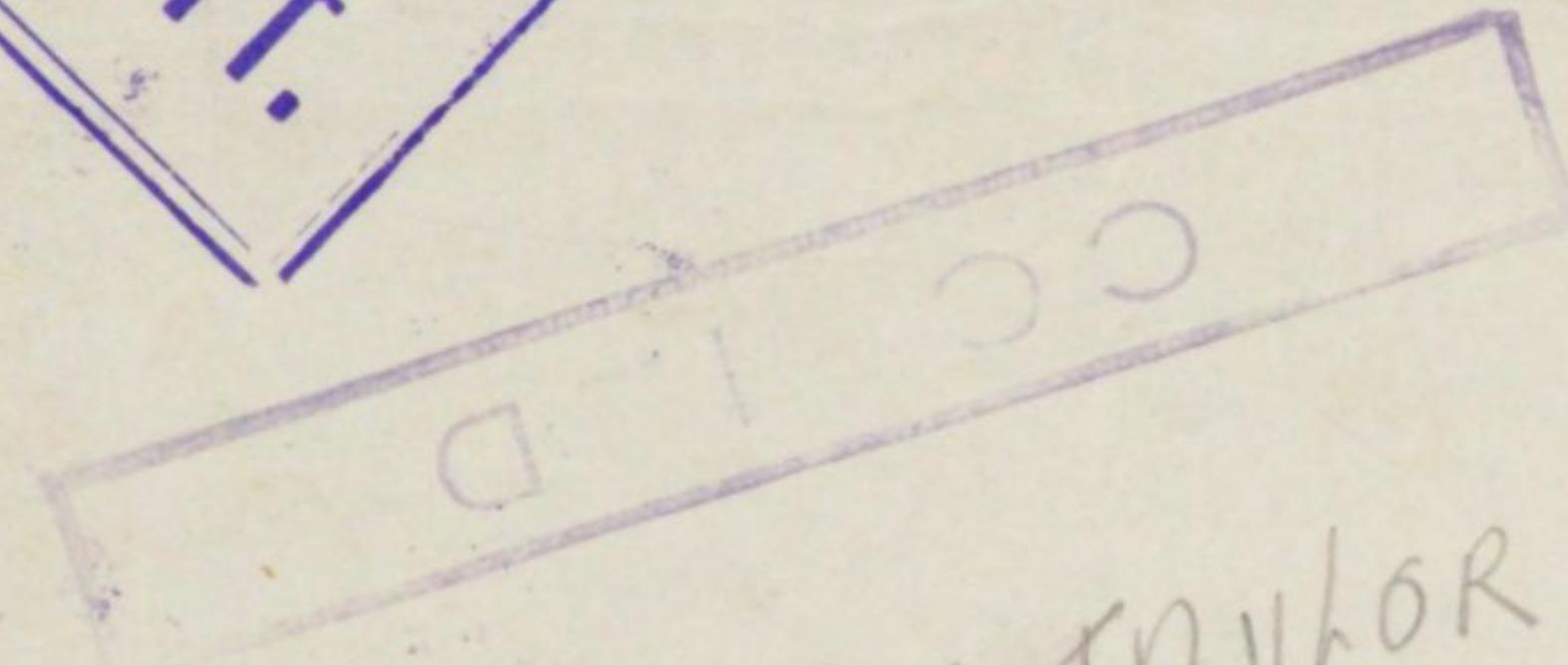
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HD  
21/11/87





Photo of J.W. Battimore's  
bedroom at 50 Barkley  
St. Carlton, on  
28.10.27.



J. W. Battimore.

100.1058

91  
5/11/27





Photo of J. W. Butmoe's  
bear cub at  
50 Barkly St  
Carlton  
taken on 28.10.27

4 OCT 1900

140

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

**INQUISITION.**

VICTORIA }  
To Wit. }

AN INQUISITION for our Sovereign Lord King George V., taken at  
the Morgue, Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, the <sup>16<sup>th</sup></sup> twentyfirst

day of November A.D. 19 27 in the eighteenth

year of the reign of our said Lord the King, by me, Daniel Berriman, gentleman,

a Coroner of our Lord the King for the said State, upon the view of the body

of John Daniel Cuthmore and Joseph Leslie Taylor

then and there lying dead.

Having inquired upon the part of our Lord the King when, where, how,  
and by what means the said John Daniel Cuthmore and Joseph Leslie

Taylor came by <sup>(1)</sup> the death. I say that

(1) His or her.

on the twentyseventh day of October 1927

(2) Here state cause at <sup>(2)</sup> 50 Barkly Street Carlton the said John Daniel Cuthmore  
of death, if known;  
if unknown, doubtful, or no evidence  
state the fact accor-  
dingly.

3638.

*He died from a bullet wound  
of the heart and lung, there is no sufficient evidence  
to determine who fired the shots which  
caused such wound for they were fired at  
50 Barkly Street Carlton on 27th October 1927.*  
and on the 27th day of October 1927 at Fitzroy in St Vincent's

Hospital the said Joseph Leslie Taylor died from a bullet

wound of the victim, there is no way from the  
evidence to determine who fired the gunshot  
that caused such wound, but which was  
found at 58 Barkly Street Carlton on  
27th October 1927.

In witness whereof, I, the aforesaid Coroner, have to this Inquisition  
put my hand this twentyfirst day of November

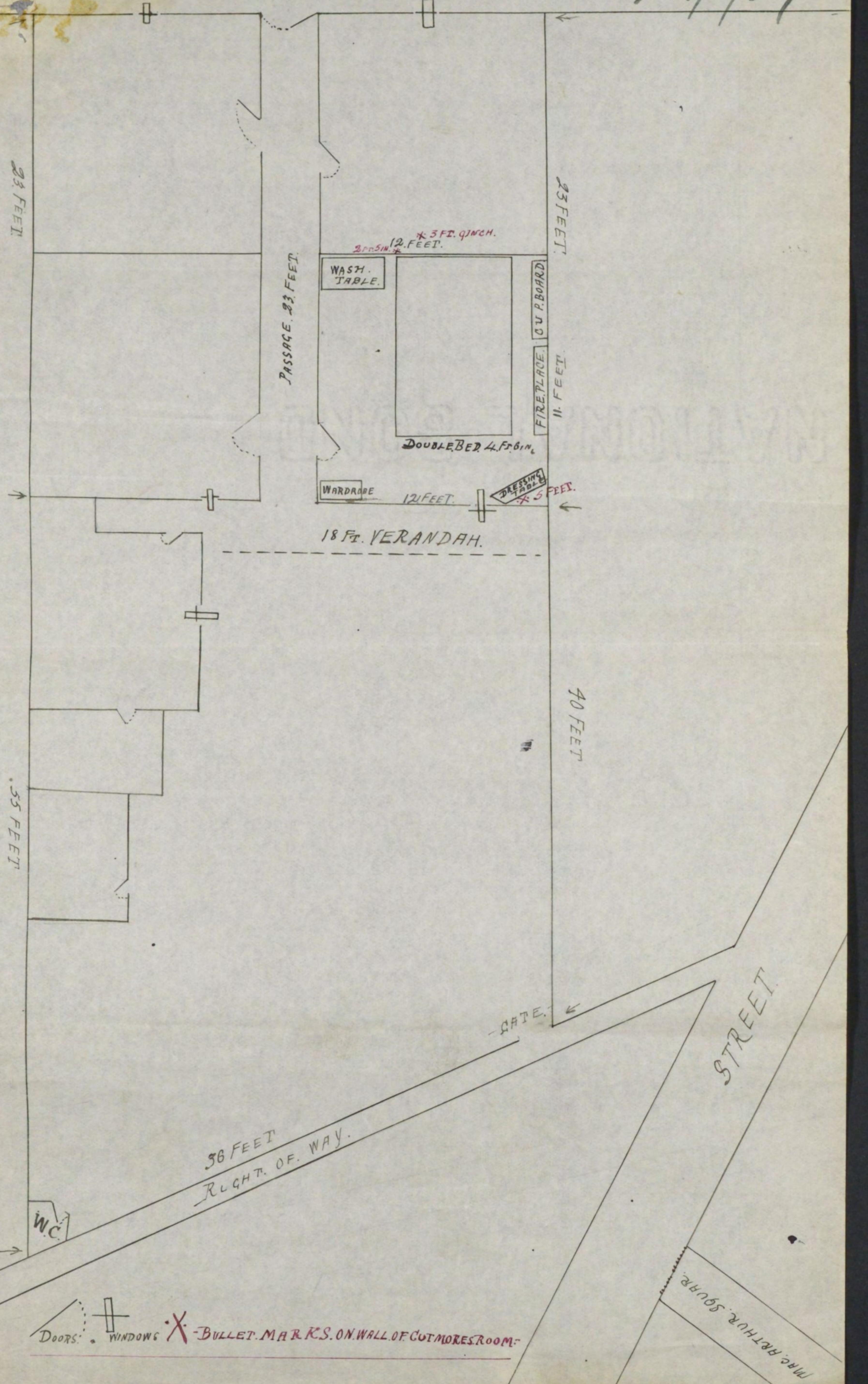
A.D. 1927

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Coroner.

PLAN OF 50 BARKLY STREET CARLTON.

FRONTAGE TO BARKLY STREET 28 FEET

Aug 10/87



— PLAN. OF 50. BARKLY. STREET. CARLTON. —

FRONTAGE. TO. BARKLY. ST. 28 FEET

8/11/27 3

55 FEET.

55 FEET.

FRONTAGE. TO. BARKLY. ST. 28 FEET

11 FEET.

11 FEET.

40 FEET.

3 FT. 9 IN.  
2 FT. 5 IN. 10 FEET

WASH TABLE

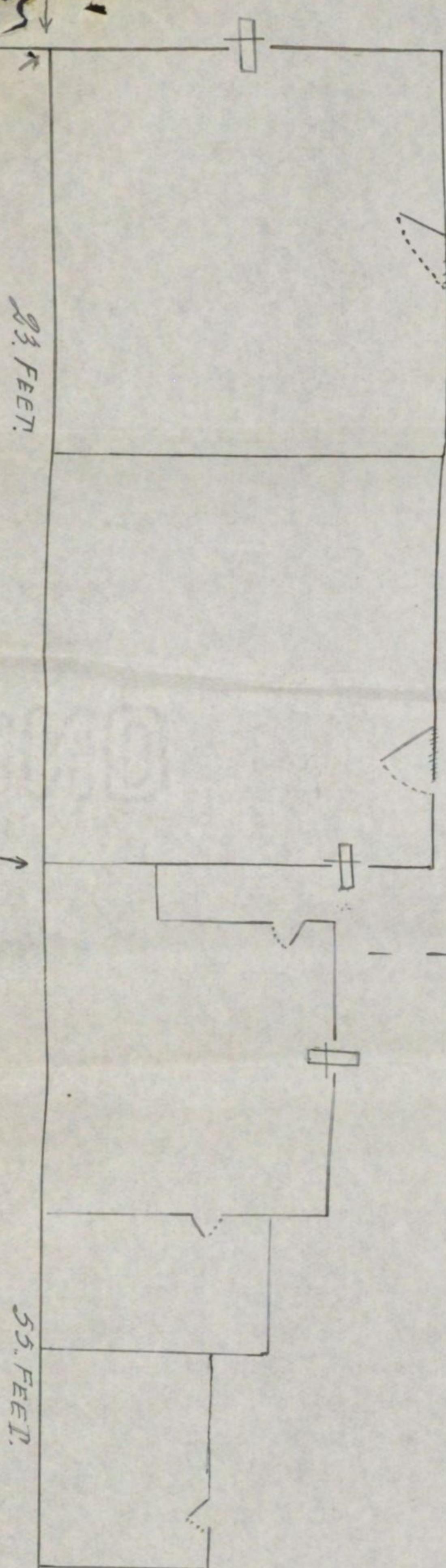
DOUBLE BED. 4 FT 6 IN.

WARDROBE

DRESSING TABLE  
5 FT.

18 FT. VERANDAH

FIREPLACE CUPBOARD



RIGHT OF WAY

GATE.

STREET

W.C.

DOORS

WINDOWS

X BULLET. MARKS. ON. WALL. OF. CUTMORES. ROOM.

MACARTHUR. SQUARE.

621/27

2674/27

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VICTORIA POLICE.

Police Department,

Criminal Investigation Branch,

Melbourne, October 28th, 1927

Superintendent Campbell  
Criminal Investigation Branch  
Melbourne.

..... Re- Deaths of Leslie Taylor and John Daniel Cutmore. ....

We have to report for your information that at about 6-10 P.M. on the 27-10-27, a man who gave the name of Roy Travers called at the Carlton Police Station and stated to Constable McDonald that a man had been shot at 50 Barkly Street, Carlton. Dr Mc Cutcheon of Rathdown Street, Carlton accompanied Constable McDonald to a back bedroom of the house at 50 Barkly Street, Carlton, and there saw the body of deceased John Daniel Cutmore, lying on the bed clad in his pyjamas, apparently having just died. A bullet wound was found on left breast and the right little finger. About 6-20 P.M. Leslie Taylor was brought to the Casualty ward at the St Vincents Hospital by a hire car driver named John William Hall. Drs Foley and Zacharin of that Hospital on examining Taylor found him to be unconscious and on further examination, they found a bullet wound on the right side of the chest. Taylor died about 15 minutes later. On his clothing being searched an automatic pistol, 32 calibre, was found, it contained no live cartridges, but apparently recently discharged. A box containing 46 live cartridges in all were found in another pocket of Taylor's clothes. It has been ascertained that at about 5 P.M. on the 27th inst, Taylor engaged John William Hall, a hire car driver, in Lonsdale Street, two other men joined Taylor there and ordered to be driven to a hotel in Rathdown Street, Carlton, after staying in the hotel a few minutes, Taylor and the two men were driven by Hall to a hotel in Elgin Street, Carlton, they remained there a few minutes and from there Taylor directed Hall to drive to Barkly Street, Carlton, Taylor ordered the car to be stopped in Barkly St, about ten doors from Canning Street, immediately the car stopped Taylor and the other two men got out and disappeared.

About five minutes later Taylor and one of the men came back to the car, Taylor said "Drive to the St Vincents Hospital," He was holding his right side and walking in a stooping position. Both men got into the car and the other man told Hall to drive to Johnston Street, which he did. At the intersection of Johnston and Brunswick Streets, Hall stopped his car, the traffic being against him, the other man jumped out of the car and disappeared, leaving Taylor with Hall, who continued his journey taking Taylor to St Vincents Hospital.

A careful examination has been made of Cutmore's bedroom, where we found a number of empty cartridges shells of 32 calibre. In the wall near the head of Cutmore's bed there are two bullet marks in the plaster. Another bullet had passed through the top of a large mirror fixed in a dressing table at the foot of Cutmore's bed. On the floor near the side of the bed on which Cutmore's was lying, we found a piece of metal, which we later discovered to be portion of a magazine clip of an automatic pistol, which had apparently been struck by a bullet from another pistol and broken off. On the morning of the 28th inst an automatic pistol, 32 calibre, was found lying in a back yard at 33 Mcrthur Square, Carlton, about 200 paces away from Cutmore's room, where it had evidently been pushed under the fence, a live cartridge was jammed in the breech another live cartridge was in the magazine. Upon an examination of this automatic pistol, we found that the lower portion of the magazine

*Brundrett  
J.W.  
2674/27  
W. Sommervil  
for witness  
Liam Kelly  
Thomas Kelly  
and Norman  
Smith  
Mr. R. S. Morgan  
for Barkly  
Cutmore,  
Gladys Cutmore,  
John Ross  
Travers  
and Jas. Herbert  
Wilson -*

was broken off and that the piece of metal found in Cutmore's bedroom fitted accurately. A bullet wound on the little <sup>finger</sup> of Cutmore's right hand discloses the fact that a bullet from <sup>the</sup> ~~another~~ pistol after passing through Cutmore's finger, broke the lower portion of the magazine off the pistol held by Cutmore.

Up to the present we have been unable to establish the identity of the two men who accompanied Taylor to ~~the~~ Cutmore's house, in the car driven by Hall.

The man Roy Travers has not since returned to 50 Barkly St, Carlton, where he had been residing with Cutmore since the 23rd inst.

We respectfully ask that this report be forwarded to the City Coroner, for his information.

J. A. Gruel  
Sen-Detective.

J. MacPhee  
Detective.

C.I.BRANCH  
Oct. 28th/ 1927

The City Coroner  
Melbourne

1. Forwarded for your information.

W. H. Harcourt  
Inspector of Police

Original

5.

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## CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\* Francis John Foley

\*Christian and Surname in full.

on h ~~is~~ oath saith, I am a Legally qualified Medical Practitioner residing at 282 Orrong Road, Caulfield.

On the 27th of October, 1927, I was Resident Surgeon attached to the St Vincent Hospital, Melbourne.

About 6-20 P.M. on that date I was present at the Casualty ward when the deceased Joseph Leslie Taylor was admitted for treatment. He was in an unconscious condition, and markedly exhausted. I examined him ~~and him to~~ have a bullet wound ~~in~~ the right side of the body. Without regaining consciousness he died about half an hour after admission.

About 7 P.M. on the same date (27th of Oct) I saw Thomas Kelly in the Casualty ward, he was standing in the company of other persons. I did not then speak to him.

About half an hour later he came to me in the Casualty ward and said ". Is Taylor dead ". I said " Yes ". and you know that, and you have been here before ". Kelly Replied ". I have been sent here by someone else to find out if Taylor was dead ". I said " Well, you know now ". Kelly then left and I next saw him on the 30th of October, last at the City watch-house and identified him as ~~xxxx~~ being the man who spoke to me in the Casualty ward on the 27th of October last at 6-50 P.M.

*Foley MBBS*

Taken and sworn before me the

of

19 at

day

Coroner.

# CORONER'S INQUEST.

This Deponent\* LINDSAY GEORGE ARNOLD GOODE  
VICTORIA, TO WIT.

on h ~~h~~ oath saith, I am a POLICE CONSTABLE

\*Christian and Surname  
in full. residing at CARLTON

On the 28th October last I was on duty at about 11 a.m. at 50  
Barkly Street Carlton, the house that John Daniel Cutmore resided  
in. On making a search of the yard, ~~Excluded~~ the back yard, I found a  
Webley Automatic Colt Revolver in a cistern of the lavatory. I examined  
it and found that it contained two live cartridges. I later handed  
the revolver and the cartridges to Senior Detective Grieve. The  
cistern is in the far corner of the yard.

L.G.A. Good  
Const 8066

Taken and sworn before me the 16<sup>th</sup> day

of November 1927 at Melbourne

Coroner.

"Original"

6

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## CORONER'S INQUEST.

This Deponent\* Crawford Henry Mollison

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

on his ~~oath~~ <sup>oath</sup> saith, I am a legally qualified medical practitioner

\*Christian and Surname  
in full.

residing at of 41 Spring street, Melbourne

On the 28th ult. at the City Morgue, Melbourne, I made a post mortem examination of the body of Joseph Leslie Theodore Taylor; the body was that of a middle aged man, five feet two inches in height, it was fully dressed, there were two bullet wounds in the right side of the coat, and one bullet, with one side flattened, was found in the lining of the coat on the right side, there was a bullet wound on the right side of the chest, three and a half inches immediately below the right nipple, the bullet had passed between the 6th and 7th ribs, through the Liver and across to the left side wounding the left kidney and passing out into the muscles of the loin between the 11th and 12th ribs; two inches below the bullet wound in the right side of the chest there was a grazing wound of the skin, it was only superficial and was evidently caused by the bullet found in the coat; rigor mortis and post mortem staining were present, there was a small heart tattooed on the left forearm; the Heart was fairly normal, it contained very little blood; the Lungs were flabby, there were no wounds in them, there was some fluid blood in the right side of the chest; the Liver was fairly healthy, it showed a large penetrating bullet wound; the Spleen was fibrous; the Stomach contained a quantity of turbid fluid with a marked odour of alcohol; the Kidneys were firm and their capsules were adherent; there was no injury to the skull; the Brain was large, weighing fifty three and a half ounces, it did not show anything noteworthy; death was due to the bullet wound of the Liver.

Taken and sworn before me the

21<sup>st</sup>

day

of November

1927

at Melbourne

Coroner.

Crawford H. Mollison

Original

7  
5

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

This Deponent\* Crawford Henry Mollison

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

on his oath saith, I am a legally qualified medical practitioner residing at of 41 Spring street, Melbourne

\*Christian and Surname  
in full.

On the 28th ult. at the City Morgue, Melbourne, I made a post mortem examination of the body of John Daniel Cutmore; the body was that of a fair haired well nourished man, five feet seven inches in height, it was dressed in pyjamas, white shirt, singlet, woollen jacket and socks, the clothes were soaked with blood on the left side of the chest; the body was pale in front, rigor mortis and post mortem staining were present; on the left side of the chest, one inch internal to and half an inch below the nipple, there was a bullet wound of entry, the bullet had passed between the 6th and 7th ribs, through the upper lobe of the left Lung, along the Heart tearing open the cavity of the left ventricle, and out between the 10th and 11th ribs at the back of the chest, the left side of the chest was half full of fluid and clotted blood; there was a bullet wound on the outer side of the lower third of the left arm, the bone was shattered and pieces of a battered bullet were found among the fragments of bone; there was a bullet wound of the base of the right little finger, the bone being broken; there was a bullet wound of the outer side of the left hip, the bullet had passed backwards and out through the buttock; there was a glancing bullet wound at the back of the left shoulder passing downwards and out in the middle of the back; there was a small superficial bruise on the left side of the front of the abdomen; after removing the clothes a bullet was found loose behind the body; there was no extravasation of blood around the fracture of the left arm bone; the Heart was empty and showed a long tear on its left side; the Lungs were more or less collapsed; the air passages were normal; the Liver was firm;

the Spleen was fibrous;  
Taken and sworn before me the

21st

day

of November

1927

at

Melbourne

Coroner.

# CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\* Crawford Henry Mollison

on h oath saith, I am a

\*Christian and Surname  
in full.

residing at

fibrous.

the Stomach contained a little thick fluid, there was no abnormal odour; the Kidneys were firm and their capsules were tending to adhere; the skull was thick and heavy, there was no injury to it; the Brain showed signs of an old injury, an old laceration with brown pigmentation on the right side and two small cysts with brown discolouration on the right side; death was due to haemorrhage from the bullet wounds of the Heart and Lung.

*Crawford H. Mollison*

Taken and sworn before me the 21<sup>st</sup> day of December 1927 at Melbourne

Coroner.

*"Original"*

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My name is Horace Govett James, I am a gun expert employed by Donald Mackintosh, 432, Bourke Street, Melbourne. On the 3rd inst. Detective Greive handed me for examination twenty exhibits which I have reported on as follows.

Exhibit A.

Spent bullet from body of Leslie Taylor deceased. Calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic, metal cased, weight 70 grains, has six rifleing grooves on metal case and turn from right to left; in between the rifleing the nickel case is scratched such as would be made by a rusted barrel, and in my opinion bullet has been fired from Automatic Pistol Exhibit G.

Exhibit B.

Spent bullet found in lining of Leslie Taylor's coat. Calibre 7.65 or 32 automatic metal cased, weight 70 grains, is flattened on one side through striking some hard substance, shows six rifleing grooves and turn from right to left. In between rifleing grooves are scratches such as would be made by a rusted barrel. In my opinion it has been fired from Pistol Exhibit G.

Exhibit C.

Spent bullet taken from body of Cutmore deceased, calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic metal cased weight 71 grains five rifleing grooves appear and turn from left to right. Between rifleing grooves are scratches such as would be made by a rusted barrel. In my opinion it has been fired from Pistol Exhibit E.

Exhibit D.

Portion of spent bullet taken from Cutmore's body weighs 17 grains metal casing missing and possibly is the lead inside of a 7.65 or 32 Automatic bullet, nickel case shows rifleing grooves which turn from left to right in between grooves the metal is scratched as would be made by a rusted barrel.

Exhibit E.

Automatic Pistol of Belgium manufacture (Melior) No. 32151 Blue Black Hammerless Calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic. Barrel has five rifleing ridges turning from left to right, barrel is rusted in between rifleing ridges. Magazine will hold 7 cartridges, pistol will function properly, striker hits cap central.

Exhibit F.

Box containing 46. cartridges calibre 7.65 or 32 automatic (Kynoch English manufacture) Bullets weigh 72 grains, shell contains four grains of smokeless powder.

Exhibit G.

Automatic pistol Spanish manufacture (Eibar) branded (Destroyer) Blue Black No. 50234 calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic. Barrel has six rifleing ridges turning from right to left, barrel is rusted in between rifleing ridges. Magazine will hold 9 cartridges. Striker does not hit cap central, magazine base damaged and magazine platform spring is visible. A heavy blow would be necessary to so damage it, the blow has been from the muzzle end, pistol will function, but at times would be likely to misfire or jamb, it being of inferior make.

Exhibit H.

Two automatic pistol cartridges found under fence at McArthur Square. Calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic, are of Belgium manufacture, shell contains four grains of smokeless powder, bullet weighs 70 grains metal cased.

*Horace G. James*

Exhibit I.

Piece of metal from bottom of magazine of automatic pistol co-incides with damaged portion of magazine of pistol Exhibit G.

Exhibit J.

Automatic Pistol cartridge found on Cutmore's bed, calibre 7.65 or 32 automatic of Belgium manufacture. Shell contains four grains of Smokeless Powder, bullet weighs 70 grains metal cased. A portion of lead adheres to the bullet and portion of the shell.

Exhibit K.

Four cartridge shells found under Cutmore's bed by Detective Grieve. Are of English manufacture calibre 7.65 or 32 automatic. The indentation of striker is in centre of the cap and co-incides with one another and co-incides with test shell fired in Pistol Exhibit E, and in my opinion have been fired from this pistol.

Exhibit L.

Four shells, one bullet and piece of lead found on floor. Two of the shells are of Belgium manufacture and are of the calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic and the indentation on the cap is not central. These co-incide with test shell fired in pistol Exhibit G and in my opinion were fired from this pistol. The other two are of English manufacture calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic. The indentation on the cap is central and co-incides with test shell fired in pistol Exhibit E. and in my opinion were fired from this pistol. Piece of lead is probably portion of a spent bullet after striking some hard substance destroying the metal casing from off it.

Exhibit M.

Bullet found under dressing table, has been distorted through striking some hard substance such as brick. The weight of same is 59 grains, and is in my opinion the lead portion of a bullet calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic with the metal casing forced off.

Exhibit N.

Two cartridge cases found by Constable McDonald. One is of Belgium manufacture calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 automatic. The indentation made by the striker is off the centre of cap and co-incides with test shell fired in Pistol Exhibit G. and co-incides with the two Belgium shells Exhibit L, and in my opinion has been fired from Pistol Exhibit G. The other shell is of English manufacture calibre 7.65 M/M or 32 Automatic. The indentation of the striker on the cap is central and co-incides with test shell fired in Pistol Exhibit E. and co-incides with the two English shells Exhibit L. and in my opinion has been fired by automatic pistol Exhibit E.

Exhibit O.

One empty cartridge case of American manufacture branded W.R.A. calibre 6.35 M/M or 25 calibre. The indentation of striker point in cap is not central and co-incides with test shell fired in pistol Exhibit P. and in my opinion has been fired from this pistol.

Exhibit P.

Automatic Pistol found by Constable Goode in Cistern. Is of English manufacture Webley & Scott, No. I39664 calibre 6.35 M/M or 25 automatic. Barrel has six rifleing ridges which turn from left to right hand from the breech, in between the rifleing ridges is corroded with hard rust. The rifleing ridges are coated with new rust corrosion. The pistol has been fired recently and the bullet or bullets have polished the rifleing ridges the barrel has since been damped and caused the new rust to appear. With a test shell the striker does not hit the cap central.

Exhibit Q.

Two automatic pistol cartridges found in magazine of Pistol Exhibit P. are 6.35 M/M or 25 automatic, American manufacture branded W.R.A. Bullet weighs fifty grains and is metal cased. Shell contains 2 grains of smokeless powder. These cartridges co-incide with cartridge shell Exhibit O.

Horace G. James

*15*

Exhibit R.

Bullet taken from Mrs. Cutmore's (Senior) shoulder. Bullet weighs forty-nine grains metal cased, calibre 6.35 M/M or 25 automatic. It has six rifleing ridges left to right hand turn from base to nose. In between rifleing ridges are scratches on the nickel which could be made by the rusted barrel of Pistol Exhibit P, and co-incides with test bullet put through barrel of automatic pistol Exhibit P. and in my opinion has been fired from this pistol.

Exhibit S.

*CKW*

Two bullets and piece of lead found on bottom sheet of Cutmore's bed after he was removed. They are 7.65 M/M or 32 Automatic Pistol bullets and weigh seventy grains and show five rifleing grooves left to right hand turn from base to nose and have scratches in between the grooves which would be caused by a rusted barrel, and co-incides with test bullet put through barrel of pistol Exhibit E. and in my opinion have been fired from this pistol. The piece of lead is apparently a portion of a broken bullet which has struck some hard substance, and thus breaking itself.

Exhibit T.

Two automatic pistol cartridges found in Automatic pistol Exhibit G. at 33 McArthur Square, Carlton, are of Belgium manufacture, calibre 7.65 or 32 automatic and co-incides with the Belgium shells Exhibits L. and N. The bullets are metal cased and weigh seventy grains, the shell contains four grains of smokeless powder.

*Grace G. James*

## INQUISITION

held at the

C I T Y   M O R G U E   -   M E L B O U R N E

On

MONDAY, 21st NOVEMBER 1927.

UPON THE BODIES of JOHN DANIEL CUTMORE  
and  
JOSEPH LESLIE TAYLOR.

BEFORE: -

D. BERRIMAN, Esq., P.M. City Coroner.

DETECTIVE SERGEANT BROPHY, appeared to assist the Coroner.

MR. N.H. SONENBERG, appeared for Sydney Kelly, Thomas Kelly, and Norman Smith.

MR. R.E.HOURIGAN appeared for the relatives of John Daniel Cutmore, and also for Roy Travers.

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List of Exhibits for the Inquest of Taylor & Cutmore.

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EXHIBIT. A. Bullet taken from the body of Joseph Leslie Taylor.

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B. Bullet found in lining of Joseph Leslie Taylor's coat.

C. Bullet taken from Cutmore's body.

D. Portion of bullet taken from the body of John D. Cutmore.

E. Automatic pistol taken from Taylor's pocket.

F. Box containing 46 automatic pistol cartridges in Taylor's pocket.

G. Automatic pistol found under fence at 33 McArthur Square.

H. 2 Automatic pistol cartridges found under fence at McArthur S.

I. Piece of metal from bottom of magazine of pistol.

J. Automatic pistol cartridge found on Cutmore's bed.

K. 4 cartridge shells found under Cutmore's bed by Det. Grieve.

L. 4 shells, 1 bullet and piece of lead found on floor.

M. Bullet found under dressing table.

N. Two 32 cal cartridge cases found by Const McDonald.

O. One 25 cal cartridge case found by Const McDonald on Cutmore's bed.

P. 25 cal automatic pistol found by Const Good in cistern of lavatory.

Q. Two 25 cal auto pistol cartridges found in magazine of pistol.

R. Bullet taken from Mrs Cutmore's ~~her~~ Senior shoulder.

✓ S. Two bullets and a piece of lead found on bottom sheet of Cutmore's bed after he was removed.

✗ T. Two automatic cartridges found in Automatic pistol at 33 McArthur Square.