

Directly translated verbatim version of Ian Myburgh's statement

Cloetesville MAS 290/3/2005

Ian Myburgh, Male, 49 years

Identity no: *****

Resides at : 68 Beagle Straat, Garsfontein, Pretoria, Tel 082****6924

Works at : WNNR Eenheid 6 G.N Pretoria, tel: 082****6924

States under oath in Afrikaans that:

1.

The deceased in the Cloetesville MAS 290/03/250 murder, Miss Inge Lotz is the daughter of my sister Juanita Lotz from De Mist Way **, Welgemoed, Bellville.

2.

The deceased Inge Lotz I knew very well. I heard of the murder of Miss Inge Lotz at 23:00 on 16 March 2005. My twin brother, Adri Myburgh who resides in Kuruman contacted me by telephone and informed me that Miss Inge Lotz was murdered in her flat in Stellenbosch where she lived.

3.

I called my brother-in-law Prof JW Lotz in the Free State who confirmed that Miss Inge Lotz was indeed murdered. Prof JW Lotz is the father of the deceased Miss Inge Lotz.

4.

I then called the mother of the deceased Miss Inge Lotz in Cape Town at telephone number 021-*****. The person that answered the phone on the other side was a male person. The male person did not identify himself. I however suspected that it was the male friend of the deceased Mr Fred van der Vyver. After I introduced myself I asked the male person what is going on there. The person then answered me "Inge has been murdered". I then asked where? He then answered "in her flat in Stellenbosch". I then requested to speak to my sister Juanita Lotz, who then told me that Inge was murdered. I then told her that we, that is me and her husband Prof JW Lotz, will come to Cape Town as quickly as possible. That is where the conversation ended and I put the phone down.

5.

I then called Prof Lotz and told him that I am going to drive to him in Bloemfontein, whereupon he told me that I should rather fly directly to Cape Town. I then went to the airport where I tried to get a flight to Cape Town. I however could not get a flight.

6.

On 17 March 2005 at 06:00 I caught a flight to Cape Town. With my arrival in Cape Town the brothers-in-law of Prof Lotz picked me up at the airport and took me to the Lotz residence on De Mist Way, Welgemoed, Bellville.

7.

With my arrival at the Lotz residence I met my sister Juanita Lotz, who then again told me that her daughter Inge Lotz was murdered in her flat in Stellenbosch. With my arrival at the residence there were many people such as family and friends. Mr Fred van der Vyver was however not at the residence. I didn't make enquires as to where he was, and nobody told me where he was. I knew that he was the deceased Inge Lotz's boyfriend, because the deceased father and mother mentioned it to me that when they had a meal with me on 25 December 2014. I can remember that I met Mr Fred van der Vyver during September 2014 at the Lotz residence in Bellville, Cape Town. On this occasion I also noticed that Mr Van Der Vyver drives a white Corsa bakkie with an Eastern Cape registration.

8.

During the morning of 17 March 2005 I encountered Mr Fred van der Vyver outside at the front door of the Lotz residence. I had a conversation with him. Mr Van der Vyver's first words to me were "the police said I murdered Inge." I got the feeling that he did commit the murder. During the conversation he avoided eye contact and appeared very nervous. I recognized Mr Van der Vyver's voice as the voice of the male person I spoke to on 16 March when I called my sister Juanita Lotz.

9.

Two cousins and I went to fetch the deceased's vehicle in Cloetesville. One cousin, Stefan, and I then drove to the flat of the deceased. The other cousin, Pieter Lotz, then drove with the deceased vehicle, a Volkswagen Golf reg: CW 32310, to the university to drop off papers that were in the vehicle.

10.

When I arrived at the flat of the deceased I couldn't get into the flat because it was locked. I looked through the kitchen window and could see that there was blood on the couch in the flat. From the flat I returned to the Lotz residence.

11.

When I arrived at the Lotz residence I noticed that the parents of Fred van der Vyver were also at the Lotz residence.

12.

I moved through the house to the bedroom of Prof and Mrs Lotz. On my way to the bedroom of Prof and Mrs Lotz I walked past the bedroom of the deceased. I noticed that Mr Fred van der Vyver was in the bedroom of the deceased Miss Inge Lotz and that he sat in the middle at the foot end of the bed. To me it was unusual as I knew that the deceased did not allow male friends to be in her room at the Lotz residence.

13.

I walked further to the bedroom of Prof. and Mrs Lotz where I found Prof Lotz and we talked.

14.

I did not ask Prof Lotz what Mr Van der Vyver was doing in the deceased room. I did get the idea that on the evening of 16 March 2005 Mr Van der Vyver slept in the spare room of the Lotz residence. I noticed in the room a carry bag with Mr Van der Vyver's clothes, and that one bed (the room had two single beds) wasn't made up, and it was clear that someone slept in the bed. I further noticed toiletries such as a toothbrush and toothpaste in the bathroom of the guest room. The bed that wasn't made up was the one closest to the bedroom window. I knew that the toiletries I saw belonged to Mr Van der Vyver.

15.

I then, with the permission of Prof Lotz, started with the funeral arrangements. After I made the funeral arrangements I returned to the Lotz residence.

16.

The evening of 17 March 2005 I stayed overnight in the Lotz residence and I noticed that Mr Fred van der Vyver went to sleep in the room of the deceased.

17.

On Friday 8 March 2005 at about 04:00 I got up and walked through the house. I then observed that a light was on in the room of the deceased Inge Lotz. The room's door was open. I didn't move down to the room.

18.

I returned to my room, and then showered and got dressed. At about 06:00 the newspaper got delivered at the residence and I went to fetch the newspaper. I read the newspaper sitting in the kitchen. Mrs Juanita Lotz entered the kitchen and then looked at the newspaper and started weeping again. Mr Van der Vyver also arrived and tried to console Mrs Lotz. Prof Lotz arrived and moved to the study – Mr Van der Vyver then said that we mustn't allow Prof Lotz to see the newspaper. I said to him "Fuck you, it is reality". I started to realize that Mr Van der Vyver was starting to get scared of me, and that he was listening in on my telephone conversations.

19.

Prof Lotz requested me to do the identification of the body on behalf of the family. I then went to the mortuary at the Stellenbosch Police Station to do the identification. On route to Stellenbosch I received a call from Mr Van der Vyver who informed me that pastors of the His People Church will do the identification and that I don't have to go anymore. I told him that he can't decide for me and that I am going.

20.

When I arrived at the mortuary I encountered two pastors of His People church who introduced themselves to me. I asked them what they were doing there. They didn't answer me. A coloured woman came to introduce herself to me as Elsa George who then introduced me to an Inspector of the South African Police Services. The Inspector then took me to the identification room where I identified the deceased as Mrs Inge Lotz, the daughter of Prof. And Mrs Lotz. I asked the Inspector where the

detectives were and was told that they went to the flat of the deceased. I was given a little plastic bag with set of earrings and a necklace.

21.

I then drove to the flat of the deceased. When I arrived at the flat I found the detectives. I spoke to the detectives which then gave me permission to enter the flat. I entered the flat and then moved outside again. The reason for this was to look through the flat and to identify people in photos, which I did. They asked me if I knew how many knives the deceased owned, upon which I gave a negative reply. I noticed that there were six steak knives with blue handles, four steak knives with black handles, of which one was in the washbasin. I noticed that there were two large knives in the drawer. I know that when one buys these knives they come in a set of three. I didn't notice the third knife of the set anywhere.

22.

I then returned to the Lotz residence again. When I arrived at the Lotz residence I found that Mr Fred Van Der Vyver was still there. The manner in which he tried to console Prof and Mrs Lotz was very obvious to me. From his behaviour it appeared to me that he was indoctrinating and psychologically manipulating them. Mr Fred van der Vyver behaviour was of such a nature that my sister Mrs Lotz spoke to me and accused me of hostility towards Mr Van der Vyver. I noticed that Mr Van der Vyver started to monitor the phone of the house and the cellphone by trying to answer calls and to manipulate the access of calls and people to Prof and Mrs Lotz. He followed a "stroking"* approach towards Mrs Lotz and in some degree to Prof Lotz. In my opinion Mr Van der Vyver's behaviour was overly sympathetic, with a strong undercurrent that he was seeking sympathy and therein trying to focus the attention on himself. (**not clear from handwritten word*)

23.

The Friday evening 18 March 2005 Mr Van der Vyver began to carry clothing and his computer equipment over to the deceased room. He slept in the room of deceased again that night.

24.

On Saturday 19 March 2005 Mrs Lotz requested to see the body of the deceased Inge Lotz. I tried to stop it as I saw the deceased and I knew how disfigured the deceased was. It was agreed that Mrs Lotz would only hold the deceased hand with the purpose of saying farewell. The left hand was chosen as I knew that there weren't any damage or marks on this hand.

25.

When we wanted to depart to the mortuary Mr Van der Merwe and his mother wanted to go along. I then told them that they could not come along. After they got out of the vehicle we departed. When we arrived at the funeral undertakers Mr Van der Vyver and his mother were already waiting for us. I again said that only my sister Mrs Lotz could see the deceased. Mr Van der Vyver then spoke to Mrs Lotz. She then came to me and asked if Mr Van der Vyver could please also visit the deceased. Mrs Lotz and Mr Van der Vyver then went in to see the deceased.

26.

It was very obvious to me that Mr Van der Vyver avoided eye contact with the deceased. He also didn't show any form of emotion. We returned to the Lotz residence.

27.

The Saturday I looked through the photo albums again, as requested by the police, in order to identify people in the photos. It was very noticeable to me that a lot of photos of Mr Fred van der Vyver were removed from the albums. With my return to the Lotz residence Mr Van Der Vyver asked me what the police said and who they think the murderer is. I didn't tell him anything. Prof and Mrs Lotz then started talking that they want to give the deceased Miss Inge Lotz's vehicle, a Volkswagen Golf, to Mr Van Der Vyver as a gift. I told them that in that stage, because of their emotional state, that they could not make any decisions.

28.

The Saturday evening 19 March 2005 I noticed that Mr Van der Vyver has completely moved into the deceased room and that he lighted candles on the floor of the room, and that he laid on the floor with a number of open Bibles around him. On Sunday 20 March the ritual by Mr van der Vyver continued.

29.

On Monday 2005-03-21 the funeral arrangements were completed. Mr van der Vyver compiled the funeral letter and added a photo of himself to it, after a request was made that only photos of the deceased and her family appear on the funeral letter.

31.

Several people expressed their concern to me regarding the behaviour that Mr Van der Vyver displayed.

32.

The funeral took place on Tuesday 22 March 2005. Initially Mr Van der Vyver wanted to ride with us to the church – that is with myself, Prof Lotz and Mrs Lotz. I objected and he then rode with his parents who were also at the house, to the church. It was very obvious to me how tense Mr Van der Vyver was and that he got emotional when attention was focussed on him. I got the impression that he put on the emotions as part of a calculated strategy.

33.

During the funeral service Mr Van der Vyver behaviour was overly sympathetic as he held and stroked Mrs Lotz's hand and placed his head on her shoulder.

34.

In church Mr Van der Vyver did a tribute to the deceased, and during the tribute he was without emotion and showed no sorrow.

35.

After the pallbearers placed the coffin in the hearse, five of them then stood together crying. Mr Van der Vyver who was also a pallbearer stood to the side until his mother joined him.

36.

After the service we all returned group by group to the Lotz residence. Later Prof Lotz and I went for a drive. I asked Mrs Lotz to please request the Van der Vyvers to respect us as a family and the grant us our privacy. Prof Lotz agreed to the request. Prof Lotz and I then drove off.

37.

With our return at 17:00 I noticed in the spare room a lot of Mr Van der Vyver's clothes packed in the cupboard. The clothes weren't there earlier. I also want to mention that Mr Van der Vyver helped Mrs Lotz to choose clothes for the deceased for the funeral. I removed the clothes from the cupboard and requested that they be removed. I saw the intention of the clothing – that Mr Van der Vyver wanted to move into the Lotz residence.

38.

From 22 March 2005 until my return to Pretoria on 4 April I did not again see Fred van der Vyver or his parents. I also requested my sister not to have contact with Fred van der Vyver or his parents because I saw the emotional state Mrs Lotz got in after speaking to them.

39.

Mr Fred van der Vyver continually tries to contact Mrs Lotz, by SMS and by phone, as well as personally.

40.

This is all I can declare. I am familiar with the contents of the statement and understand it. I have no objection to take the oath and I consider the oath binding on my conscience.

Pretoria

2005/05/06

15:40