

W801 70/00 ACS-G1

NEW SOUTH WALES STATE CORONER'S COURT

STATE CORONER: J ABERNETHY

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2000

5/98 - EVENT OF THE 1998 SYDNEY TO HOBART YACHT RACE

INQUEST INTO THE DEATHS OF JAMES MICHAEL LAWLER  
MICHAEL BANNISTER  
BRUCE RAYMOND GUY  
PHILLIP RAYMOND CHARLES SKEGGS  
JOHN WILLIAM DEAN  
GLYNN RODERICK CHARLES

Mr A Hill assisting the Coroner  
Mr R Stanley with Mr P Santamaria for the Bureau of  
Meteorology  
Mr J Harris for The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia

PART HEARD

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<KENNETH LESLIE BATT(10.45AM)  
RESWORN, EXAMINATION CONTINUED

HILL: Q. Mr Batt, do you have your record of interview  
with you?

A. I do, yes.

Q. Do you recall seeing the video of your briefing  
yesterday?

A. I do.

Q. At one stage there you said that you were given the  
forecasts and you said there would be 20 to 30 knot  
southerlies with stronger gusts.

A. That's correct.

Q. Do you recall giving that?

A. Yes.

Q. I want you to just keep that in mind and then I want you  
to go to page 34 of your record of interview, and I'm at  
question 149. You were asked this question, Ken, would you  
like to make a comment on this. I'll just read it to you.  
"Three hours later" - and this is from Vanity Fair. No, it  
was an article in the magazine called Vanity Fair. Were you  
aware of that?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you give a statement to Vanity Fair, or how did they  
get the article?

A. I had spoken to someone from Vanity Fair.

Q. This is the statement. "Three hours later as the boats  
spent their final hour in Sydney Harbour, Dundar received