

Background

When Crime scene analysts investigated the site, they found the seat of the fire began on furnishings close to the electric heater.



It was apparent that the heater had been placed very close to the edge of the couch which had ignited. The fire then spread through the ground and upper floors. Analysis of the couch was carried out for the presence of an accelerant, but this proved inconclusive.

Two bodies were found in the burnt shell of the house.

The body of a male was found lying on the floor of the hallway. He could not be identified due to severe burns.

A penknife was located in the hallway close to the first body. A partially charred hammer was also located in the lounge room and this, together with the penknife was bagged for further forensic analysis.

An unidentified badly burnt female was located in an upstairs bedroom. She also could not be identified.

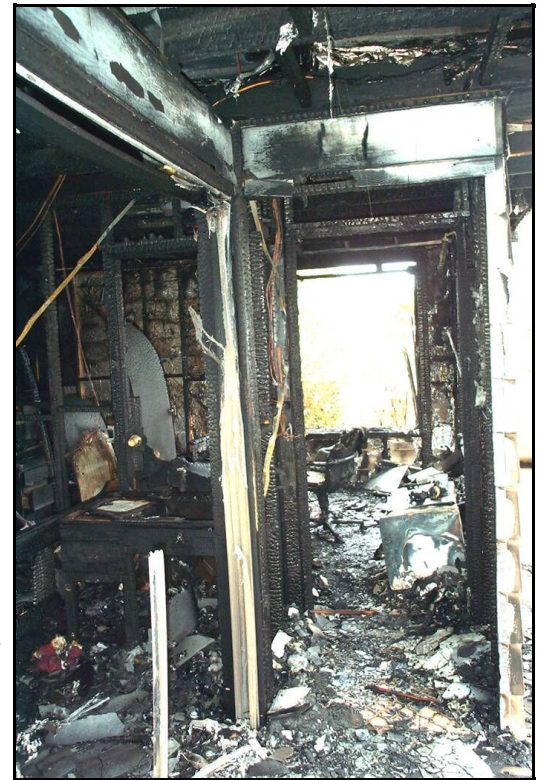


The following forensic analysis was requested by crime scene investigators:

- ~Autopsy analysis on the two corpses.
- ~Dental record comparison.
- ~Blood typing of two corpses, stains on the hallway carpet and traces of blood found on penknife.

~DNA analysis of blood samples and bone marrow taken from two corpses.

~Fingerprint analysis of hammer and penknife and area around front doorway.



The following specialists are involved in the investigation:

[Medical Examiner](#)

[Odontologist](#)

[Serologist](#)

[Geneticist](#)

[Fingerprint specialist](#)

Attempts were made to contact the owners of the house, Jack and Elaine Straw, but no trace of the married couple could be found. Investigators made the assumption that the bodies found in the house were the remains of Mr and Mrs Straw. Police conducted a preliminary investigation and recorded statements from witnesses and individuals associated with the owners of 54 Lillywood Avenue.

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