

716105

1730hrs

[REDACTED]  
Perth.

Aaron Dale TASKER states.

My full name is Aaron Dale Tasker, I reside in Perth Australia, am aged 37 years born on [REDACTED] I am a self employed [REDACTED]

I am making this statement to Detective Sergeant Malcolm Inglis about an incident involving a friend of mine Phil Weaver and Mr Benson-Pope a teacher at Bayfield High School.

I got to know Phil Weaver at Tahuna Intermediate School. I hadn't known him before that, but we became friends at school.

We both when from Tahuna to Bayfield High School, starting in 1981.

We were both put in the same form together and moved through to the 4th form in the same class, it was 4G that we were in.

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During the 4th form year we had Benson-Pope as our Social Studies teacher.

Other teachers that I had that I remember were [REDACTED] for science, Mrs [REDACTED] at some stage as an English teacher, [REDACTED] as a history teacher, [REDACTED] for wood work, [REDACTED] for metal work.

We could have had [REDACTED] for music, [REDACTED] but I'm not sure when I had [REDACTED] we had [REDACTED] also at some stage.

[REDACTED] was a maths teacher earlier on as was Mrs [REDACTED] for Gustik

I didn't really get into much trouble at school, just the normal boy things. I wasn't  
A.D. Tasker

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a goodie goodie, but I wasn't walking around getting into trouble.

We didn't get around as a gang, we were just friends who got around together and did what boys did. We were just normal boys. I would think that did normal boy things.

I wouldn't remember what time of the year it was or whether it was in the afternoon or morning, but we went to Benson-Pope for Soviet Studies. He was in the two storied Block and had an upstairs class room.

The desks in the class room were in a U shape with his desk at the front. They were single desks pushed up against each other.

I think they were normal flat top desks.

In that class we would normally sit in the same place in the class, you would try and sit beside your friends.

On this day I was sitting beside Phil because we were friends. Benson-Pope was teaching something, Phil would be talking and most probably to me, he would have been told to shut up a few times.

Benson-Pope also had a tennis ball on the end of an arrow and he would hit you on the head with it if you were doing something.

As he was the tennis coach he also had a box of tennis balls and he would throw one of those at someone if they were doing something. I thought that to be quite funny.

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at the time.

On this occasion Phil must have kept talking because Benson-Pope has come in stuck the tennis ball into Phil's mouth. I don't remember anything being said, just the tennis ball being put into his mouth.

Phil took the tennis ball out of his mouth, but Benson-Pope came over and put it back in.

He then taped his hands to the corner of the desk so that he couldn't take it out of his mouth.

I couldn't say how far into the class it was, but Phil was like that for awhile, with his hands taped to the desk and a tennis ball in his mouth.

I wouldn't remember what type of tape it was. I think it was a green tennis ball, the one on the arrow was green and the ones he threw were green.

I don't remember who untaped Phil, but it was at the end of the day, I would imagine Benson-Pope untaped him. We just went on to the next class or lunch whatever time it was. The class lasted for 40 minutes then.

I wouldn't say that Phil and Benson-Pope got on, but like you did with other teachers, ~~but not with him~~. But they weren't like getting at each other or anything.

off

A.D. W

Benson-Pope never cared me at anytime.  
 I remember that I may have had Benson-Pope  
 for another class, but I'm not sure, I had  
 him for PE and at School Camp.  
 At school camp he made us stand outside in the  
 cold in our underepants. It was at the Scout  
 camp of Three Milk Hill, there had been some  
 talking at bedtime so he had lined us up outside  
 in our underepants. I was at the end and the  
 wind was blowing right at me, I was just  
 freezing and he wouldn't let us come in.

I didn't get cared at school at all, but  
 someone did have to write lines.

I didn't like Benson-Pope as a teacher or  
 a person, I didn't like him after the under  
 incident, but I don't hold a ~~great~~ grudge  
 for years. AD1.

This came to light with me when I was in  
 Dunedin at the start of this year, it was in  
 February.

I had dropped into [redacted] place and  
 [redacted] turned up  
 [redacted] said that this guy was just coming  
 around to talk about Benson-Pope.  
 It was then that Dence Garner turned up.  
 I didn't know until then that he was  
 coming around.

He was just asking things, I think he  
 was most interested in talking to Brent.  
 I mentioned the Phil invited to him  
 we were talking about tennis balls and things  
 like that.

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I didn't hear from him after that, he asked if he could do an interview, but I said no. He offered to blank our faces out and that, but I didn't hear anything else until, I think it was [redacted] that phoned me and told me that it had been on T.V.

I was told that Bensa-Pipe was going to see T.V. 3 and [redacted] phoned me and told me what was going on. T.V. 3 phoned me and so did Rodney Hiddle. It was some guy from T.V. 3 who was saying that they were going to be sued and needed to speak to the people involved. I think I gave Rodney Hiddle Phil's number, he knew of that, so I spoke to Phil, and then gave it to Rodney Hiddle.

The next thing they were flying over to Perth to interview us.

I haven't got a axe to grind with Bensa-Pipe, I don't believe it has come to this. The only thing that gets to me is that he has gotten up in Parliament and said he didn't do these things and we are liars.

I have no reason to make any of this up and it wouldn't have come up if someone hadn't been investigating it.

I now believe it was [redacted] sitting on the other side of Phil when his hands were taped to the desk.

The other thing that someone has said and would have been in the newspaper was that myself, Phil and [redacted] hung [redacted] and the window. I believe it was a Paul  
A.D. W

Cox, who said this.

I was not even there when this happened, I believe [redacted] may have done it.

I stayed overnight through school leaving at 18 year old.

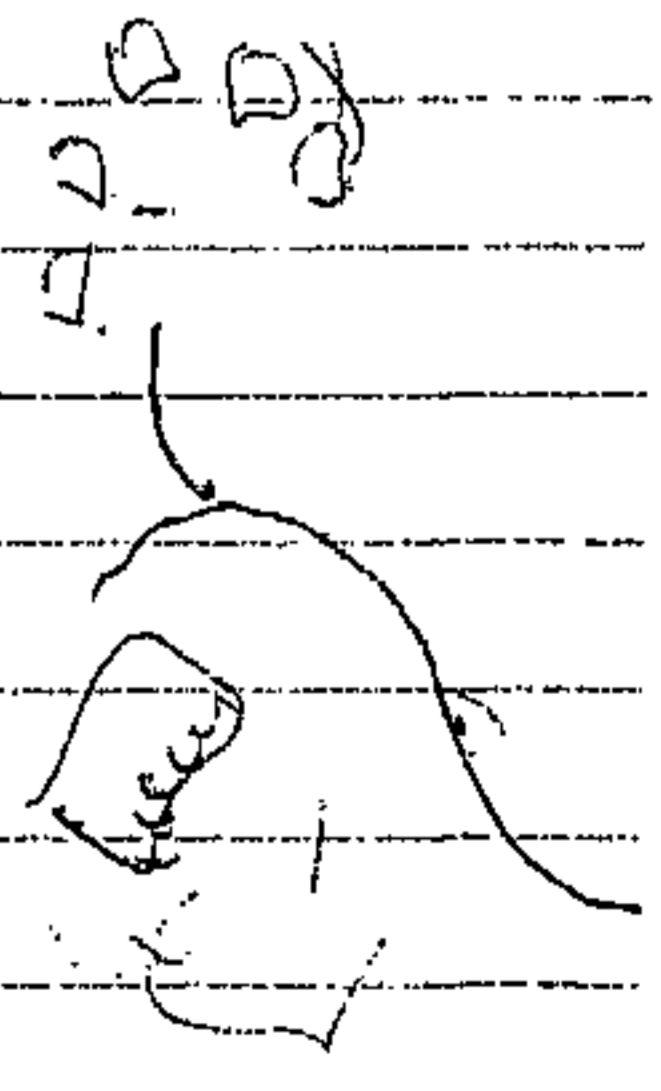
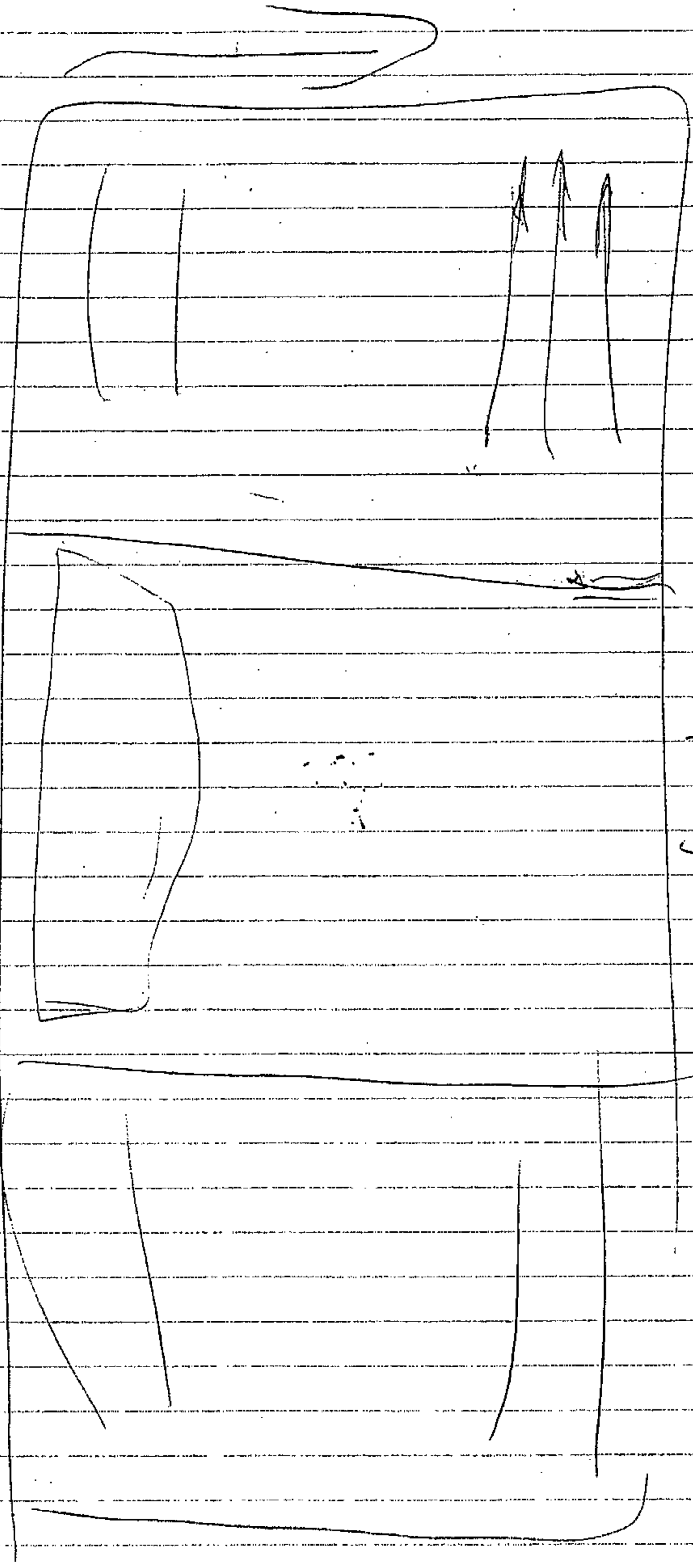
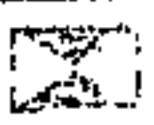
There is nothing else that I can add. I did witness what happened to Phil Taylor in his class room.

I have read this statement and it is true to the best of my memory

A.D. [Signature]

Statement filed by witness

[Signature]  
ASST 641



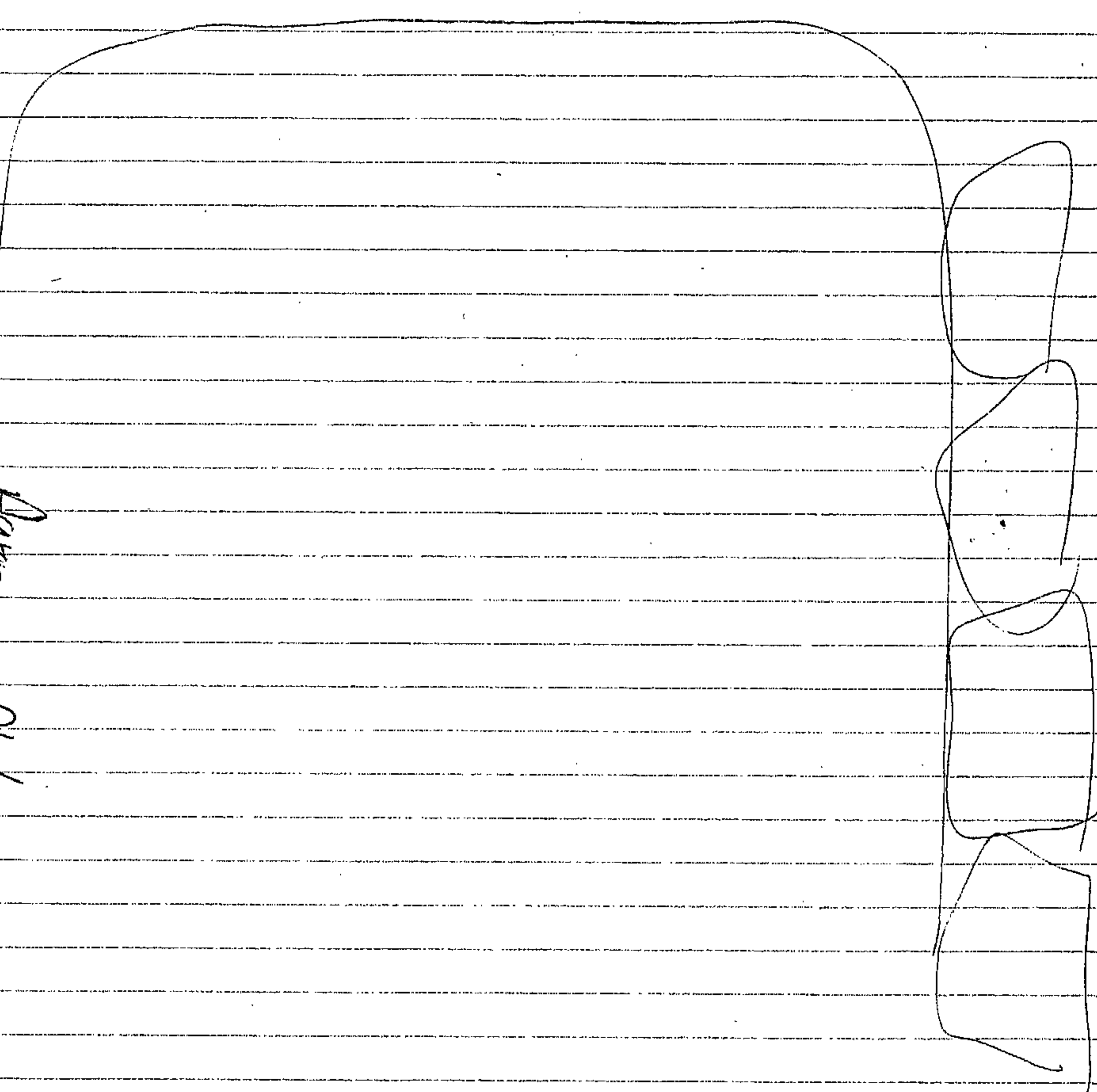
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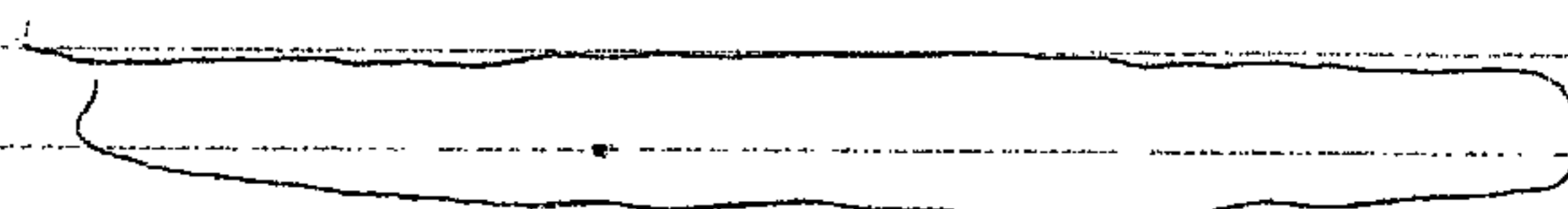
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Down



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