



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE NEWS RELEASE

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PAGE:1

PAEDOPHILE TASK FORCE

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Mal Hyde, has announced that South Australia Police has set up a Paedophile Task Force to investigate allegations of child sexual abuse within the Anglican Church.

Commissioner Hyde says he has set up the Task Force in response to being contacted by Anglican Archbishop Ian George.

"I was contacted by Archbishop George in regard to 65 complaints received by the Anglican Church Help Line. Our early information indicates that these calls have named 17 different offenders."

"I have set up a Paedophile Task Force, headed by Chief Inspector Grant Stevens. For the preliminary phase of investigations, I have assigned three detectives and one analyst to assist CI Stevens in identifying the scope of the matters to be investigated. Further resources will be allocated to the Task Force as required."

"Police investigations will be far reaching, as I have directed officers to investigate all allegations, including those alleged to have occurred before 1982."

The Paedophile Task Force, which will be known only as that, will report through Major Crime Investigation Branch and liaise with Child Exploitation Investigation Section.

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