

Gympie RSL Sub Branch

217 Mary Street

Gympie, Qld, 4570

7<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Department of Veteran Affairs

Reference: File SPA 0073-02

REQUEST FOR A RECONSIDERATION OF A CLAIM FOR MR DAVID SPARREBOOM UNDER (SRCA)

Mr Sparreboom has requested for a reconsideration of a claim that was originally submitted to your Department by a Social Worker Ms Josephine Bartley.

The claim for Severe Depression has been returned to Mr Sparreboom with the decision of disallowed dated, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

It is believed that information that was not included on the original submission may be evidence to support the claim that Mr Sparreboom was subjected to abuse during his service at the Army Apprentice School during the early 1970,s.

Mr Sparreboom has stated that he did report incidents of abuse which led to severe depression to Captain Wemyss, who was an Education Officer and his Platoon Sergeant [REDACTED] a Regular Army Non Commissioned Officer both posted to the Army Apprentice School at the time that the abuse was suffered. The outcome of action taken is not known.

Mr Sparreboom has not been in contact with either of the above since his time at the Army Apprentice School and does not know their current whereabouts.

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Mr Sparreboom strongly believes that the onset date still to be in 1970 even though he did not seek medical assistance until 1991.

He has stated that he has quietly suffered depression through other employments since his time at the Army Apprentice School and did not seek medical assistance until 1991 in fear that it could have a negative impact on current and future employment.

Mr Spareboom has also stated that he has had an inability to engage in normal social events and has problems with personal relationships since his years at Army Apprentice School.

For your consideration.



Ian Bowd

Pension Officer Level 2

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