

Establishments Division.

(AF/LH).

Allegations against Mr. D. Monaghan,
Superintendent, Training School for
Girls, Parramatta.

On 29.5.73 Mr. E. Greenham, Deputy
Superintendent, Relief Staff, informed Mr. Mayhew, Assistant Chief
of Establishments Division, that he thought girls at Parramatta
were being hit by the Superintendent, Mr. D. Monaghan, and by the
Deputy Superintendent, Mr. G. Gilford. He stated that he had not
seen anything himself but understood that this was happening on
his days off. Parramatta is one of the Institutions relieved by
Mr. Greenham in his position of Deputy Superintendent, Relief Staff.

I interviewed Mr. Greenham on 4.6.73
at Head Office. Mr. Greenham alleged that he had no first-hand
knowledge of any illtreatment of girls by either Mr. Monaghan or
Mr. Gilford although he stated that he had seen one girl with a
black eye.

He also said that QE told him
that she had been hit by Mr. Gilford. QE had said to
Mr. Greenham "I thought he was going to kill me."

He cannot recall other names but said
that there had been quite common talk of similar occurrences.

On questioning he said that he had also
been informed of these allegations by Mr. P. Valentine, Relieving
Deputy Superintendent, Parramatta, and by OO visiting
psychologist to the Training School for Girls, Parramatta. A
statement by Mr. Greenham is attached.

On 4.6.73 I also saw Mr. Valentine and
questioned him about the allegations. He was uncomfortable during
the interview and said that he had not witnessed any illtreatment
except for one incident about two years ago.

He alleged that on that occasion he had
seen Mr. Gilford strike a girl. He could not recall her name at
that time. Subsequently, in a statement which he prepared, he
named this girl as QP Mr. Valentine stated that at
that time he spoke to Mr. Monaghan about the assault and he was
told "If you want to become an efficient administrative officer in
a girls institution, you will have to learn to do this." He con-
firmed that he had discussed allegations with Mr. Greenham.

When questioned about the girl with the
black eye (OQ) he said he did not have first-hand
knowledge of this. He said it was alleged the girl had been mis-
behaving over a period in an effort to get out of the Arts and
Crafts class conducted by RJ RJ had complained
and Mr. Gilford had dealt with OQ who then returned to the class
and caused no further bother. He believed that RJ was
aware of what happened and thought it was a good thing.

Mr. Valentine mentioned the alleged
assault of other girls involving Mr. Gilford. He also alleged that
during a conversation with QX a Senior Instructor at the

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training school, she had said to him that she would be prepared to lie in the witness box if it were necessary to protect the men. A statement by Mr. Valentine is attached.

OO [redacted] visiting psychologist to Parramatta, was also interviewed on 5.6.73, as she had been mentioned by both Mr. Greenham and Mr. Valentine as a person who had some knowledge of the allegations. At interview she stated that she had no first-hand knowledge of illtreatment but in her work with girls at the training school had been told of numerous cases of hitting by the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent by both alleged victims and other girls. She stated that from the allegations made to her that Mr. Gilford's illtreatment of girls seemed to be predictable as he appeared to use this method as a means of reinforcing discipline, whereas it appeared that Mr. Monaghan's behaviour in this regard was unpredictable. She expressed particular concern about the alleged assault of a girl named ON [redacted] who was said to have suffered a split lip, swollen eye and bruised face as a result of an assault by Mr. Monaghan. OO [redacted] stated that she had seen ON [redacted] in a upstairs room in Bethel House four days after the alleged assault and marks were still visible on her face at that time. ON [redacted] told OO [redacted] she had been assaulted by Mr. Monaghan. A statement by OO [redacted] is attached.

ON [redacted]

This girl is currently at the Institution for Girls, Hay. She was interviewed by the Acting Manager, Hay, on 6.6.73 and made a written statement alleging that on the Sunday night immediately after her return from Hay after a previous period of training on 25.8.72, she was taken from the dormitory by Mr. Monaghan to a segregation room in Bethel House where he punched and "bashed her in the face and stomach". A statement from ON [redacted] is attached.

The night officer on duty in the main institution on the night of the incident (RK [redacted]) confirms that on the night of 27.8.72 ON [redacted] was taken from the dormitory by Mr. Monaghan. A statement from RK [redacted] is attached.

QY [redacted] The night officer on duty at Bethel House, when interviewed, stated that on that night she heard screams and could hear Mr. Monaghan hitting somebody. She said Mr. Monaghan came down the stairs and told her to go up and fix the girl up, and change her nightie. She states that she went upstairs and found ON [redacted] in a "pretty bad way" with blood over her face and nightie. Her statement is attached.

It will be noticed that OO [redacted] psychologist, saw ON [redacted] four days later and was told by the girl that Mr. Monaghan had hit her. Marks were visible on her face at that time.

A number of girls who were at Parramatta at the time have stated that ON [redacted] had black eyes and bruises on her face. QC [redacted] and OV [redacted] saw her taken from the dormitory and later saw her with facial injuries.

In a report dated 25.10.72 recommending the transfer of ON [redacted] to Hay, Mr. Monaghan instanced a series of incidents in which ON [redacted] was said to have been involved. He reported that on 10.9.72 he removed ON [redacted] from the dormitory after causing a serious disturbance. He stated that she was truculent and aggressive when removed but surrendered meekly when out of the sight of the other girls. The night officer's diary for the main institution covering this period cannot be

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located but there is no evidence that any girl was removed from the dormitory on that night and it seems likely that the matter referred to occurred on Sunday, 27.8.72 and not on Sunday, 10.9.72. Sunday, 27.8.72 was the first Sunday after ON returned from Hay. Copy of this report is attached.

OT

This girl alleges that she was "bashed" in segregation by Mr. Monaghan after she had refused to take her medicine. Her statement is attached.

QN saw OT in the cabin with her eye swollen and clothing ripped and was told by OT that she had been "bashed" by Mr. Monaghan. Statement is attached.

RL states that OT said Mr. Monaghan had "bashed" her while she was in a cabin in Bethel.

QF

This girl states that on 5.6.73 Mr. Monaghan hit her across the side of the face a number of times in the office. He later found out that she was the wrong girl and she states that in the office in the presence of Mr. Valentine, he said "I think I owe you an apology". Statement is attached.

OY states that she was in the holding room adjacent to the office, when QF was taken into the office and she heard noises "As though QF was being hit by Mr. Monaghan." When Mr. Monaghan brought QF back to the holding room she was crying. Statement is attached.

Mr. Valentine states that Mr. Monaghan said "Oh my God, I dealt with the wrong girl," and later he apologised to the girl. See Mr. Valentine's statement.

OY

This girl states that Mr. Monaghan hit her across the head a number of times on Sunday or Monday, the 3rd or 4th of June, 1973. Statement is attached.

QF states that she was in the holding room whilst OY was in the office with Mr. Monaghan. She heard noises as though his hand was hitting against skin. Statement is attached.

QJ states that OY told her she got a "bashing".

RL states that she saw OY crying in the office. OY told her that Mr. Monaghan had "slapped her around". Statement is attached.

Throughout the statements there are many references of girls being in "segregation". ON alleges she was in segregation for 18/19 days. She was seen there by OO. OO QY refers to attending to her in segregation. In March, 1971 the Superintendent of the Girls, Training School, Parramatta was instructed that "only in special circumstances and with Head Office approval can segregation be used." Segregation is tantamount to isolated detention, which is permitted under strict conditions laid down in the Child Welfare Act. Such punishments are

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to be recorded in the Punishment Book (see Section 56 (8) and Regulation 68) and on Departmental instructions are to be reported to Head Office on the weekly Punishment Return. The only record of ON [REDACTED] being awarded isolated detention at the relevant time is on 31.0.72 when she was awarded a period of 24 hours isolated detention for disobedience of the rules.

It is considered that the evidence is sufficient to warrant action in respect of Mr. D. Monaghan in terms of Section 58 of the Public Service Act.

A separate report will be prepared in connection with the matters involving Mr. G. Gilford.

It is recommended that these matters be reported to the Public Service Board.

A. Fury,
Chief, Residential Care Division,
.6.73.