

**CONFIDENTIAL****OPERATION CORMORANT****Background**

On 21 August 1991, police searched an address at 17/93 Folkstone Road, Dover Gardens. The occupant was Brian Bertram Morris Perkins. Police located 2 rolls of unprocessed film, which were seized. The films were processed and further enquiries were made to identify the young males who were in various stages of undress and naked. The children were intellectually disabled and students of St Ann's Special School, Marion. It was ascertained Perkins was employed at a bus driver at St Ann's Special School. Police reattended at 17/93 Folkstone Road, Dover Gardens however the premises had been vacated.

On 10 September 1993, police attended at 12 Valleyview Crescent, Hackham West and spoke with the suspect Perkins. Police searched a caravan and shed and located a range of material depicting child pornography. Perkins was arrested and charged with inducing a child to expose their body for his prurient interest, indecent assault and possession of child pornography. Perkins was subsequently granted bail by the Supreme Court and in 1994 he absconded bail and a First Instant Warrant was issued.

In 1998 Perkins was located living in Queensland. However, at that time approval was not given for his extradition to this State.

Following recent concerns expressed by families of former students of St Ann's Special School, members of the Child Exploitation Investigation Section have attended a number of meetings instigated by the Public Advocate and Catholic Education to address their concerns.

On 4 March 2002 the Commissioner of Police directed that a Task Force be established to fully investigate allegations of sexual assault by Perkins and any other associates in relation to St Ann's Special School. The Task Force is also required to take whatever appropriate action is necessary to ensure Perkins return to this State to answer the outstanding charges.

**Aims**

To fully investigate allegations of sexual assault by Perkins and any other associates in relation to St Ann's Special School.

To ensure Perkins is returned to South Australia to answer the outstanding charges.

**Nature and Scope**

A dedicated Task Force will be established as of 5 March 2002.

The Task Force will be responsible for:

1. Conducting a review of the Perkins investigations to ensure that all facts/allegations have been fully addressed and all appropriate action taken.
2. Taking action to ensure the extradition of Perkins to this State.
3. Identifying and reporting on any shortcomings of the investigation/processes and ensuring that necessary follow-up action is undertaken.
4. Providing appropriate communication and reassurance to all victims and families.
5. Identifying and developing appropriate media strategies in relation to the investigation.
6. Liaising with the Catholic Church/Education and any other relevant body to ensure the successful completion of all investigations.
7. Undertaking any other necessary investigations in relation to Perkins or any associate(s) or network.

### **Intelligence Function**

The intelligence function will be performed using the analytic expertise of members of the State Intelligence Branch. The intelligence support to Investigators will include a review of all previous operations (Operation Deny), exhibits, records of interview and intelligence reports related to Perkins and associates.

Between 1993 and the present date, Perkins is believed to be residing interstate. SIB may provide Investigators with lines of enquiry to probe any criminal behaviour by Perkins interstate or overseas.

The security of all information gathered and used during this operation will be a prime consideration for members involved.

### **Execution**

During the course of this operation staff will adhere to the policies outlined in the Target Management Plan, especially in respect to the submission of:

- Investigation Plan – a phased operation, intelligence gathering, assessment, locating and interviewing witnesses/suspects, extradition of Perkins
- Exhibit Recording
- Progress Reports
- Post Operation Assessment

### **Recording and Reporting**

The case management system will be used to manage the overall investigative direction of the operation.

Detective Inspector McCaffrey will provide a written briefing to the Assistant Commissioner, Crime Service on a weekly basis.

### **Media**

Due to the sensitive nature of the investigation involving alleged child sexual abuse the release of information to the public and media will be strictly controlled.

Management of day-to-day media matters will be the responsibility of Detective Inspector Mccaffrey.

Corporate media release will be the responsibility of the Assistant Commissioner, Crime Service.

### **Administration and Logistics**

#### **Personnel**

A Task Force will be created and will operate from the Child Exploitation Investigation Section, Major Crime Investigation Branch.

A list of personnel is attached (Appendix A).

#### **Shifts**

A flexible roster shall be maintained during the life of the task force to accommodate the needs of the investigation. Roster changes are to be approved by the Administration Sergeant and will take into consideration operational requirements.

#### **Vehicles and Equipment**

Vehicles and equipment required for operational purposes shall be drawn from the Major Crime Investigation Branch and/or the Drug and Organised Crime Investigation Branch.

**J.R.White**  
**Assistant Commissioner**  
**Crime Service**

March 2002