

H

New South Wales Police

P.190
v2.6

STATEMENT in the matter of:

Place: Newcastle

Police Station


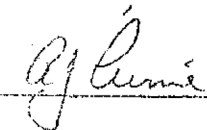
Date : 28 December 1997

Name: Allan James CURRIE
 Address: REDACTED
 Occupation: Engineering Officer

Tel. No.:

STATES:-

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 54 years of age.
3. I am the regional commissioner of the Hunter and Coastal regions for Scouts Australia, the area I am responsible for is from the Hawkesbury River to Murrurundi to Taree. I perform a large range of duties in that role which include, supervision of leaders, administration, supervision of training and appointing scout leaders to the region. I am also responsible for investigation of complaints and incidents made against and involving any member of the movement.
4. About the 10th of April 1997 I received a letter dated the 7th April, 1997 from Armand Boltink, a group leader at the RED Stockton Scout Group. The letter basically outlined an incident at Stockton Pool some time prior to the 6th of April, 1997 where it was alleged that a regional scout leader from the region was supposedly buying children lollies at Stockton Pool. As a result of the incident concerned parents contacted the

Witness: Signature: 

Page No: 3

P.190A.

STATEMENT (continued) in the matter of:

Name: Allan James CURRIE

told about and he confirmed everything that I had been informed of during the investigation.

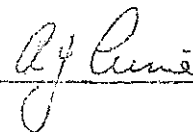
7. On Saturday the 3rd of May, 1997 I held an informal interview with Steven Larkin in the Mayfield Chamber of Commerce Office. Also present during the interview was Mr Peter Elliott, the regional commissioner (youth programs). I requested Peter to sit in on the interview because he had know Mr Larkins for quite a few years and he was also responsible for youth training and Mr Larkins had worked directly for him for at least five years.

8. During the interview I spoke to him about the incidents that had been relayed to me during the course of my investigations. Upon asking him about the incident at Stockton Pool, he confirmed that he was at the pool and that he had bought the children lollies. When I asked him why he had bought them lollies he indicated to me that he had bought himself a pie at the canteen and because he didn't want to eat alone he bought the children lollies so that they could eat with him. I also asked him about the hypothermia incident, he informed me that the child had been suffering hypothermia and that he jumped in the sleeping bag on the spur of the moment to assist in warming the child up. During the course of the investigation I was unable to ascertain if the child involved had actually suffered hypothermia as there had been no reports. It is usual procedure to submit reports when a child is hurt or sick, there were no such records of this incident.

9. In relation to the showering with the children and sleeping in the children's tents on camps he once again confirmed his actions and informed me that he had been silly and had been

Witness: _____

Signature: _____



Page No: 4

P.190A.

STATEMENT (continued) in the matter of:

Name: Allan James CURRIE

acting without thinking about his actions. At the conclusion of the interview with him I confirmed verbally to him that he had been withdrawn from face-to-face activities with children, and he would only be permitted to be involved in major camps such as Jamboree where there is full supervision not camps that involved smaller groups.

10. On the 20th of May, 1997 Craig WHITFORD the regional manager at the scout office at 518 Hunter street, Newcastle, received a phone call from AB [REDACTED], who was the mother of one of the scouts involved in the incident at Stockton Pool. She informed Craig that she believed the incident at Stockton pool appeared to be innocent, but informed Craig that her son had dropped out of the REDACTED Scout Group. There was a report of Mr Larkins taking two scouts from Stockton to Newcastle on Friday nights for scout meetings, but I was not able to confirm if AB [REDACTED]'s son was one of them. Craig had attempted to contact AB [REDACTED] back but had no success.

11. After speaking to AB [REDACTED] he wrote down the details and handed me a basic outline of the conversation that he had with AB [REDACTED]. Craig also informed me of several anonymous phone calls that he had received at the office about Mr Larkins and his actions but I am unable to supply any times or dates about the calls.

12. The current situation involving Mr Larkins is that he remains a regional scout leader and is attending the National Jamboree in Queensland between the 1st-12th of January, 1998. He will be under the direct supervision of Peter Elliott during the course of the Jamboree but will have no one-on-one contact with children.

Witness:

[Signature]
A.J. TORNEY
S/COR
28.10.97

Signature:

[Signature]