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POLICE - CONFIDENTIAL

MEDIA STATUS: NOT FOR PRESS

SOUTH REGION - SITUATION REPORT

v2.6

INITIATING LOC : MAJOR CRIME SQUAD, SOUTH
SITREP NO. : 96/1REF :
2:46PM, 5 JUNE 1996ISSUE:

Investigation into allegations of sexual and physical abuse upon boys in the care of the Salvation Army, Bexley Boys Home during 1970's.

BACKGROUND:

On 24 May, 1996, police from the C.P.I.T Major Crime Squad, South Region, received a file from Sergeant HELSEN of the Criminal Research Bureau concerning alleged sexual and physical abuse of boys in the care of the Salvation Army Bexley Boys Home during the 1970's. This file was initially generated as a result of a complaint made by a Mr EP to the Police Royal Commission. The allegations raised by EP include homosexual intercourse, oral sex and general physical abuse perpetrated by a Captain Laurie WILSON. WILSON was at the time of the alleged offences officer in charge of Bexley Boys Home. Other offences were also committed upon him by an employee at the home known to him only as X12. As a result of EP allegations the Police Royal Commission passed the matter on to the NSW Police Service for further investigation.

CURRENT POSITION:

I interviewed EP at his home on Tuesday the 28 May, 1996, and I have formed the opinion that his complaints are genuine. He has approached the Salvation Army with his allegations and they have cooperated with him to some extent. They are in fact providing financial assistance to him for psychological counselling. EP also provided me with the names of four other persons who are also allegedly victims of WILSON and other supervisors at the home during the same time. They include FV of REDACTED

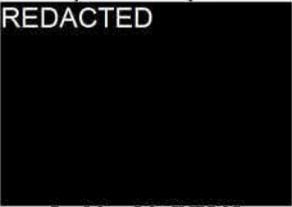
REDACTED FT of REDACTED and REDACTED I have spoken to all of these persons apart from ET who has since made a formal statement to Victorian Police (a copy of this statement is now on hand at C.P.I.T). REDACTE stated that he had never been the victim of sexual abuse and did not wish to lodge a formal complaint as such. The remaining persons have been the victims of abuse and are prepared to make formal statements to police. I have also contacted a Chris COLE from the head office of the Salvation Army, Sydney. She has spoken to the person's listed above and has been acting as link between these victims and the Army. She has control of records pertaining to the staff, students and operation of the home which police envisage accessing by way of search warrant in the very near future. I have also spoken to a Ms Camila TAYLOR, of Chris MURPHY Solicitors, who is acting on behalf of FT. She is currently preparing civil proceedings for a large group of former state wards, some of whom may well have been cared for at the Bexley Boys Home. She has agreed to provide me with details of any of those persons who wish to speak to police and provide statements.

FURTHER ACTION:

Police intend to obtain statements from the victims listed above and to seize documents relevant to the home currently in the possession of the Salvation Army, Sydney. Upon gaining access to these records further inquiries will be made regarding other victims who may be prepared to make formal statements to police.

OFFICER IN CHARGE: Detective Senior Constable A.M. McLEAN

REDACTED



A.M. McLEAN
Detective Senior Constable
Major Crime Squad, South
Eagle Net 46745
5 June 1996

1. Unit Leader, C.P.I.T
2. Co-ordinator, C.P.I.T/Motor Unit
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