

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Subject:

"ALKIRA" ADMINISTRATIONTo: The Senior Child Care Officer (Residential Care)

RECORD NUMBER	DS	MINUTE
90I/1/0		<p>On 23rd March, 1976, Brigadier Reddie and Captain Hall called on me for the purpose of introducing me formally to the Captain.</p> <p>Captain Hall advised me that he enjoyed a very close relationship with the Child Care Officer presently attending "Alkira", and at least from what was said, a harmonious relationship appears to exist. I have noted Miss Doyle's comments of 22nd March, 1976, on file 90I/1/0. The question of the flow of boys to "Alkira" was again raised and Captain Hall argued the need for a disciplined environment, and said that he thought the Department's approach to some people in care was a bit "cushy".</p> <p>While I do not necessarily agree with Captain Hall's comment, I think it is important for Officers to consider that we are acting in the best interests of the child and are not identifying with the child. Captain Hall raised with me his problems about "Alkira" appearing to receive only children who can't be placed elsewhere, or who can't be fostered. I attempted to explain to him the Department's policy in this regard.</p> <p>I raised the question of a possibility of "Alkira" accommodating some girls, carefully saying that I had not discussed the matter with anyone in this Department, and it was just an issue that I was raising. Captain Hall welcomed the idea, but said that of course, it would be subject to the Salvation Army and his Superior Officer's decision. I noticed some reticence on the part of Brigadier Reddie, although he did not commit himself.</p> <p>Perhaps I could have the benefit of your opinion in this matter, and a discussion with other Officers involved with "Alkira" in the residential care field.</p>

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Quicker

*This is being
 considered & will
 be reported on to
 you in due course*

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(Robert Plummer)
 Director

25th March, 1976