

REDACTED

6 - 1 - 09

Major P. Farthing  
Sydney.

Dear Peter,

There are a couple of things I would like to say in connection with JF accusation, that I did not want to put in my official response, that I believe are relevant.

Firstly, I am fairly certain that the three REDACTED Boys were wards of the State. As such they had regular access to the Director of Child Welfare in the State Children's department as it was then called. His name was a Mr Smith, a very kindly and understanding man who came out periodically and personally interviewed every State ward. Had any of JF's complaints been valid he would have spoken up at the time. I did not put this in my official response, because I am only 99% sure of the fact that he was a State Ward.

The other thing that I recall, and once again cannot guarantee 100% accuracy. But as I remember The REDACTED children came from a shocking family background, and the three boys saw their father murder their mother. I am quite sure this had a far more disastrous impact on them than anything that happened at Indooroopilly.

Lastly, Discipline at the home was strict, and yes at times was overdone. Because we had three male Officers always in charge of the boys, and many other homes had mainly female supervision, the State Children's department gave us more of the difficult boys. This situation would certainly at times intimidated some of the more sensitive children, of whom Stan would have been one.

I don't want to be suspicious, but I wonder whether some psychiatrist has dug up what I believe they call "repressed memories". It has happened with many other cases.

Trusting this may assist your overall picture

God Bless you  
Yours sincerely

X18

Major.