

REDACTED

ET

From: "ET" <REDACTED>
To: <www.Pam_cameron@AUE.salvationarmy.org>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 October 2001 9:46
Subject: Bexley Boys Home

REDACTED

- check figure
Proposed

REDACTED

Tuesday October 23 2001

add cost of legal costs
settle for less than \$250,000. on Gov. legal costs.
\$75,000.
indeterminate number.
40 = \$10mil.

Dear Colonel.

I do apologise for taking you by surprise with the increased amount of money that FV and myself put forward after speaking to you in Sunday.

You did take us by surprise with your call, and FV and I didn't have time to discuss the amount we were willing to settle on. After all we have become so use to the Army playing games with us all these years we thought we had better start higher than expected so we could negotiate the final figure. Please note the amount is negotiable, but there is a limit to what we will accept.

Let me tell you just a little of my life at BexleyBoys Home, just so you can have a glimpse of what we had to endure.

March 11 1965:

ET is abandoned to the care of The salvation Army.

Lieutenant X5 is appointed as a single officer.

I am playing in the playroom with the other boys due to inclement weather. I do something wrong and am ordered to stand in the centre of the room. Being an obedient 6 year old I do as ordered.

Lieutenant X5 walks past me, looks at me and I look into his face and tell him "I hate You".

The next instant I am punched to the floor and kicked the entire length of my body. He continues to pound into me, as I scream my lings out begging him to stop. My cries for forgiveness fall on deaf ears. The entire playroom is deathly silent except for my screams of pain. By the time the beating subsided I was exhausted and crawled into a corner to hide. My body was so sore and I had no more tears to shed, but my eyes never left Captain X5 for fear he might wish to continue the beating.

This man was known to have a violent temper by the army and yet it put him in charge of children who had no way of protecting themselves. Major REDACTED knows of X5 as they were both in the same session together. Ask him what sort of man X5 was.

I finally left the Boys Home on Friday December 12 1975.

Physically that is. Mentally I am still there

Fore ten and a half years I and many others endured physical, mental and sexual abuse at the hands of men of God. Captain John Mcgiver was an unforgiving man who kept a diary of everything we ever did wrong and would play the most damaging psychological mind games on us and took great joy in watching us beg for forgiveness when he was thrashing us. Captain Lawrence Wilson was a huge man who loved power and sex with younger boys and used his position to abuse us and sent us out for sexual favours with his friends. He used his knowledge as a male nurse as an excuse to give us all regular medical examinations.

Captain X15 used his weight to stand over us and forced us to play football with him. If we refused then we were punished by having privileges taken away.

Only four officers ever showed genuine love, compassion and respect to us. They were Major Lionel Bray, Major Neville Bedwell and Captain Thelma Hill. Bedwell and Hill cared too much and were transferred, never to be seen again.

Do you know that captain Thelma Hill was the first female to ever hug me. I was 14 at the time and was scared to death.

By that age it was too late. The hatred had been bred into me the day Kenneth Judge first sunk his boot into body.

So what price do you think I should agree on Colonel?

Take back off
Can't happen in a minute



23/10/01

As I wrote in my document that I sent you, FV and I have both been diagnosed as having post traumatic stress disorder by qualified psychiatrists, yet the Army's lawyers and solicitors refuse to accept these reports. Why would that be? Why is it that no one wants to accept the responsibility of what occurred at Bexley?

Do you have any idea what it is like to be told every day for 10.5 year that no one loves you or cares for you, that you would be better off dead?

There was only one thing that kept me sane during my years there, and that was the Army music. I was fortunate enough to become a member of the Hurstville Band, and they are the only good memories I have of the Army, not of Bexley.

Please ensure that you present mine and FV's request for negotiations. I am still waiting for the fax that you were going to send, but like all Army officers it's quite obvious where your priorities are.

This week end we will be contacting your sponsors and sending all corps copies of the letters we have sent you.

We intend keeping all Corps up to date, as well as T.H.Q in London.

Once again I do apologise if I embarrassed you when you received our letter on Monday.

I do hope we can come to the negotiating table as civilised adults and put the past behind us and get on with our lives.

I really don't want to be spending the next few years typing out weekly up dates to your Corps and sponsors but I will.

Sincerely

ET

Bexley Boy 1965-1975