



William Booth, Founder
Jarl Wahlstrom, General

THE SALVATION ARMY

Eva Burrows, Territorial Commander

THE OPEN DOOR

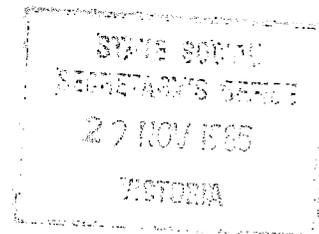
166 Boundary Road, North Melbourne, 3051

Telephone 329 6988

ADMINISTRATION ADMISSIONS ASSESSMENTS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

CONFIDENTIAL!

28th November, 1985.



Lieut.-Colonel A. Pilley,
State Social Services Secretary,
VICTORIA.

Dear Colonel,

Re: CAPTAIN ALLAN SMITH.

I write in response to Major Colin Leggett's phone call regarding an incident involving Captain Allan Smith and a young person attending The Open Door.

The person concerned is **REDACTED**, a 16 year old lad who was referred to The Open Door by Ms. Leah Pearn of the Children's Court Advisory Service, Department of Community Welfare Services, Heidelberg. Captain Smith took the referral call and arranged an appointment on the same day, Friday, 4th October, 1985. (I was off duty on that day). The appointment was kept and the Captain interviewed the lad alone. It was decided not to admit him to the centre as he was too young. However, accommodation was arranged with Mr. Barry Rawlings, Supervisor of Carinya Hostel, Footscray. It was also agreed that **RED** should attend The Open Door on three days a week to participate in the Bridge Programme. Captain Smith also arranged to see the parents of the boy the same evening, which appointment was also kept.

On Thursday, 10th October, I received a phone call from Captain G. McClimont advising me he had received a report from Mr. Rawlings regarding **RED**. **RED** had spoken to Mr. Rawlings and reported that Captain Smith had made homosexual advances to him. I immediately spoke to Captain Smith who denied having touched the boy in any way whatsoever. I gave instructions to Captain Smith that he was to have no further contact with **RED** in any way at all, nor was he to contact the parents of the boy.

I also contacted Mr. Rawlings and spoke with him regarding the matter, advising that we were discharging **RED** from the Bridge Programme. It was during this conversation I discovered that Captain Smith had maintained a series of contacts with the lad. To provide some brevity here, I have enclosed a copy of the complete file we hold on **REDACTED**. This includes full details of the Captain's dealings with **RED** over a period of seven days.

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A nation-wide Salvation Army programme for the treatment of alcoholism



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Suffice to say here, the most significant report is that of Monday, 7th October. Captain Smith was on late duty and decided to take the lad back to Carinya. On the way he stopped the bus and had a "frank and open question and answer session" with **RED**. I understand the discussion included sexual attitudes.

Following my conversation with Mr. Rawlings, I immediately contacted Major Les Duck and advised him of all these details. He supported my actions and we decided to let the matter rest, pending any further developments.

On Friday, 11th October, I was contacted by Ms. Leah Pearn who had been spoken to by **RED**'s parents. I repeated the action I had taken. She agreed this was the best course to take and felt the matter would go no further. She said Captain Smith had maintained full contact with her, including reporting the "frank and open question and answer session". She said Captain Smith had told her he had given the boy a hug at the end of this talk. Captain Smith is not aware Ms. Pearn contacted me.

REDACTED was discharged from the Bridge Programme on Friday, 11th October, 1985. There has been no further mention of the incident by any of the people involved.

Yours sincerely,

(Russell Adams) Major.
MANAGER.