



The Salvation Army — Social Services Headquarters — Victoria

(AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN TERRITORY)

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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!

2nd December, 1985

Lieut.-Colonel G. Fischer,
TERRITORIAL SOCIAL SERVICES SECRETARY.

Dear Colonel,

re: CAPTAIN ALLAN SMITH.

The following are details which you have requested concerning the incidents between Captain Allan Smith and **REDACTED**, a resident of Carinya Hostel and a participant for a brief period in the alcohol rehabilitation programme at "The Open Door". **REDACTED** was resident at "Carinya" between the 4th of October and Friday the 11th of October. He was placed at "Carinya" by Captain Allan Smith after he (**REDACTED**) had been sent to "The Open Door" on the recommendation of a Magistrate to participate in the Alcohol Recovery Programme for a period of 6 months. The person who recommended "The Open Door" was H.P.O. Leah Pearson who knows Major Russell Adams well. **RED** arrived at "Carinya" on Friday the 4th of October. He was accompanied by Captain Allan Smith. On the following day, Saturday the 5th, Captain Smith picked him up and took him out and brought him back mid-afternoon. The following day, Sunday, **REDA** remained at "Carinya". On Monday, **RED** went to the programme at "The Open Door" and came back late Monday evening. On Tuesday, **RED** went to work with Sidchrome and went via "The Open Door" on his way home before returning to "Carinya". On Wednesday the 9th, Barry Rawlings, Supervisor of "Carinya" had a long discussion with **RED**. Thereafter, Barry thought it appropriate to curtail **RED**'s connections with "The Open Door" and Captain Allan Smith. He did this on my advice.

The following is the content of a conversation as reported by **RED** **REDA** to Barry Rawlings. This conversation took place on Wednesday afternoon. On Monday afternoon this conversation, in fact, took place in Allan Smith's car which was parked up the road from "The Open Door" and in this conversation, Allan Smith relayed details of his own sexual preferences and these included homosexual references. Further, he talked about a relationship with "a kid in the West". **RED** said that

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Allan kept calling him (RED) by the name of that boy.

REDACTED also reported that on Tuesday evening after coming back from work, Allan Smith gave him a big hug. The context of this was a conversation in which RED had described his success at work that day and Allan was demonstrating his delight that REDA had done so well.

RED also reported that Allan had given him small gifts. These included the gift of a biro and small amounts of money.

The concerns that Barry expressed were related to Allan Smith having long conversations with RED in his car and what Barry perceived to be a more than usual interest in the young fellow, i.e. Allan Smith spent his day off on Saturday with RED. On this Saturday, Allan came dressed in his "civvies" to take RED out.

The other concern that Barry had was that RED who was a rather attractive, young male and very worldly wise, could easily have trapped Allan Smith into a compromising situation in which he would have been able to effectively exercise power or control over him.

When Barry had the conversation with RED on Wednesday night, Barry indicated to me that he felt quite uneasy about the developing situation and felt that he needed to curtail it at once. I concurred with that view. We then decided to prevent RED from going to "The Open Door" or having any further contact with Allan Smith. I informed Major Russell Adams of the situation that had occurred on the Friday i.e. the 11th of October and Russell informed me that he thought that such a suggestion was outrageous. My concern was that whether or not the suggestion was outrageous, Captain Allan Smith needed protection and the best way to provide that was to at least warn him of the accusations that were being made thus, preventing a nasty situation from developing. I did not inform anybody in the State Office of the situation because I felt that whilst there may have been some tendency towards some homosexual activity, we don't think it did occur and our object was to prevent it from happening. I was concerned that there be no repercussions for Captain Allan Smith and that if he was made aware of the accusations that RED was making, then further contact with the lad would cease.

When the Field Change moves were made public, I became aware that Captain Allan Smith had been appointed to the Bayswater Y.T.C. and felt that I should inform Major Leggett of the situation that had appeared to be developing between Allan Smith and REDACTED. My concern was that if it was true, then Allan Smith was being placed in a position where he would be under great pressure. By that, I mean he would be in a situation where young people may be able to pick up any particular sexual preferences that he had that were slightly unusual and be able to exploit them by enticing him into personal involvements which would place him to some degree, under their influences, such behaviour is not uncommon in prisons and certainly at Bayswater Y.T.C. there would be a percentage of boys who have been involved in male prostitution and practiced homosexual activities themselves.


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For these reasons, I hope the information that I have provided is of some use in your deliberations and whilst I realise the gravity of the contents of this letter, I, nevertheless, feel that I acted responsibly under the circumstances. In the light of further information provided to me through the State Office here, I most firmly believe that to be the case.

Yours sincerely,



(Graeme H. McClimont), Captain,
DIRECTOR, YOUTH SERVICES.

c.c. Lieut.-Colonel A. Pilley.