

For Officer Review Board

MAJORS ALLAN AND VALERIE SMITH (R)

Major Allan Smith's status as a retired officer is now in question. He is currently a fugitive from the law.

When Allan Smith was due to face a Perth court in May 1996, he left his home to travel to Perth. That was the last Val saw of him. He neither boarded the plane nor arrived in Perth. Val claims that she has no contact with him, nor any knowledge of his whereabouts, although his family have informed her that he is okay. He has apparently made some contact with his sister in Western Australia.

At present the Army retirement allowance of \$91.90 per fortnight is being paid into the Smith's bank account. This is the married rate.

The points to be considered are:-

1. Should Major Allan Smith lose his officership status because he is a fugitive from the law and subject to an arrest warrant?
2. If he loses his officership status, he should presumably no longer receive the retirement allowance, and Val Smith should receive a single allowance.
3. Recommended that Val Smith be offered a retired officers' unit, (Preston), as a single officer, to pay single ingoing donation and single fortnightly rent.
4. That if Allan, at any time in the future is able to restore his relationship with his wife, that the arrangements for provision of a unit be subject to review, since she is only being offered the unit as a compassionate gesture because of her circumstances. (At their early retirement, because of the circumstances surrounding it, they were told that a unit would **not** be provided.
5. Should Allan be subsequently cleared of all charges pending against him, the Salvation Army should presumably reconsider his status and consider restoring normal retirement entitlements.