

THQ MEMO

TO: Commissioner N Howe
Colonel V Skinner
Lt-Colonel E Schmidtke

FROM: John Dalziel
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

DATE: February 13, 1997

RE: ALLAN SMITH COURT APPEARANCE

I have just heard from Major Stan Caple who was present at the brief court appearance this afternoon by Allan Smith.

(3/2)

Allan Smith was charged to appear in the Perth District Court on 27th February to answer the following charges:

- * Indecent dealing 48 charges
- * Indecent assault 16 charges
- * Carnal knowledge 10 charges
- * Gross indecency 2 charges
- * Breach of bail 2 charges

He informed Major Caple that he would plead guilty to all charges, we can only hope that this is the case. Major Caple reports that the date for some of the charges goes back to 1958 (prior to him going to college). It involved him at a large number of centres where he served as Salvation Army officer. Bail of \$10,000 and surety of \$10,000 was set and if he can find the money he will reside with his sister in a suburb of Perth reporting to the Midland Police three times a week. If not, he will be put in a special unit in jail.

There were four victims present in court and outside the court they were vocal, emotional and in need of counselling and care which was provided by the social and welfare personnel at the court. Detective Sergeant Bill O'Reilly refused to believe Stan Caple's assurances that Allan Smith had been suspended and it is now clear that it is this detective sergeant that has said that The Salvation Army was harbouring Allan Smith in Launceston.

All the media were present and were handed our media release by Stan Caple. To date I have conducted an interview with 'The West Australian' which according to Stan was an accurate representation of the facts. I have contacted through Major Ian Hamilton the Launceston Police and a Detective Le'Fevere has assured The Salvation Army that they are now in a position to make an arrest regarding the harbouring of Allan Smith in Launceston and that the people concerned have no

connection whatsoever with The Salvation Army. For what it is worth Allan Smith also assures Stan Caple that he had no help from The Salvation Army while in Tasmania.

Allan Smith approached Stan Caple and asked The Salvation Army to give surety and Stan Caple refused.

Major Stan Caple is very upset and was badly affected by the day's events and I would strongly recommend that a suitable officer spend time with him urgently.

I have been shocked by the number and severity of the charges and we have to face the fact that the damage to The Salvation Army is going to be very serious.

Yours sincerely,



John Dalziel
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

JD/ac