

7 April 1998
Your Ref: P&ES Ryan 230398
RAS hpb

Mr. R. Savage, MLA
170 Eighth Street
MILDURA, Vic. 3500

Dear Mr. Savage,

**F.O.I. Request on Behalf of Ex Detective
Senior Constable Denis Ryan**

I refer to your letter dated 23rd March, 1998, to the Chief Commissioner, which has been referred to me for reply.

I am advised that a complete copy of Mr. Ryan's personal file was referred to him at PO Box 620, Red Cliffs, on or about 8th December, 1997. A letter advising you of this action was forwarded to your office on 8th December, 1997.

While I have a large amount of sympathy for the alleged victims of Day, as has been explained to Mr. Ryan, the prosecution was not proceeded with on advice from the Solicitor-General based on the law of the day in relation to corroboration and the time since the offences allegedly occurred.

The claim that the investigation was interfered with, and not vigorously pursued is untrue, as further statements were taken by senior police who were called in to oversee the investigation.

As you would be aware, the disappointment in failing to secure the conviction of a suspected person, is often extreme. This is particularly so when the offence is serious, the complainants numerous, and the evidence apparently strong. However, as with all disappointments, they must be put behind us.

The resignation of Mr. Ryan was his decision. While the decision was one he may have preferred not to make, other options were open to him at the time. His resignation was not unrelated to the investigation of Day, but the investigation was not the cause of it.

There has never been any suggestion that Mr. Ryan did not do his job well and in accordance with the traditions of Victoria Police.

Yours sincerely,

Neil O'Loughlin
Deputy Commissioner (Policy & Standards)