

Report
on Educational Program Incident
24th May 1988.

A

TO:

Manager
 John Oxley Youth Centre

Date: 27 May 1988

Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

Refer to: J Foote

Section: John Oxley Youth Cent

COPIES TO:

Subject:

Interview with

was interviewed in my office on Wednesday, 25 May 1988. It had been brought to my attention that may have had sexual involvement with some male residents of the Centre while they were on a day outing with five staff members.

I asked whether she had sexual contact with any males while on the outing from the Centre and explained that if this had occurred, she would not be in any trouble. I also explained that if it had occurred, that the boys involved would be spoken to. said she understood.

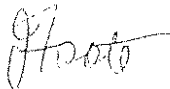
told me that she had not had any sexual contact while on the outing.

I had a further conversation with on 27 May 1988. This followed interviews with boys who had been on the outing. During these interviews it was stated that two boys had intercourse with while the other three watched. After became aware that the boys had spoken of what had occurred, she stated that she had intercourse with two boys on the outing.

In my conversation with on 27 May 1988 I told her that her mother was coming to the Centre to speak with the Manager and myself.

I explained that we intended to talk to her regarding the events that occurred during the outing on 25 May 1988. I also said that would have the opportunity to speak with her mother.

said that she had spoken to her mother the night before on the telephone and told her what had happened. indicated that her mother did not say much in reply.



JENNY FOOTE

Deputy Manager
 John Oxley Youth Centre

To: The Manager

Subject: Interview J.A.B. Officers Janelle Podlick and Sue Tomsett with

The two officers arrived here at 9.20am. I had spoken to at 8.30am informing her of their coming and letting her know that she could choose a staff member to sit in and support her. She chose Lorraine Hayward.

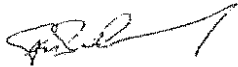
On arrival of the two police officers, and Lorraine came down from the wings and they all made themselves some coffee in the staff room. They all decided that the staff room was the nicer sunnier room to conduct the interview. I stayed in my office.

Some time later the two police officers came past and informed me that and Lorraine were discussing the issue. I then immediately went to the staff room and asked if she would like me to be present as well to which she replied yes. The issue discussed was what factors were stopping her from making a formal complaint. I immediately with consent, asked the two police officers to rejoin the interview. The time without them being present would not have been more than 3 to 5 minutes.

She implied that some of the reasons for not going ahead with the complaint were a. the length of time for it to come to court (6 - 12 months) and b. the fact that she was receiving verbal abuse from some of the boys and [redacted]. The interview finished at 10.48am after [redacted] was asked to sign a note she read out loud in the police officers notebook acknowledging the fact that she had decided she would not make a formal complaint. Lorraine and I were both asked to witness her signature and both police officers signed as well.

At the completion of the interview we arranged for [redacted] to be telephoned and Janelle Podlick informed her of [redacted] decision. [redacted] then spoke to her mother and we arranged to collect her from her home to visit [redacted] in the afternoon.

After my telephone discussion with yourself I went round each wing and informed all the children and staff of the consequence of any verbal abuse i.e. 3 hours in a room. I will also inform Mr Cox the oncoming Senior of this arrangement.


R. C. Pekelharing
Principal Youth Worker
Programs

28 May 1988

(41)

Dear Peter,

I was asked by _____ to be present with her during an interview with Policewomen from Juvenile Aid Bureau, Ashgrove, namely Detectives Janelle Podlick and Sue Tomsett. Mr Rudolf Pekelharing was also present, some of the time. She was duly advised of her legal rights and of what options there were, relevant to the incident which allegedly occurred the 24.5.88.

It was at this point the Policewoman suggested to _____ that maybe she would like to discuss the matter with me, on my own as she was unsure of what to do. _____ concern was the length of time for the matter to proceed and also that there had been threats made against her from residents in the institution, it was at this point that Mr Pekelharing joined us.

We spoke with her for approximately three to five minutes to ensure her that appropriate steps would be taken to see that she was protected at all times. All aspects were made as clear as possible to by the Police, Mr Pekelharing and myself.

_____ chose not to make an official complaint. The interview proceeded at approximately 9.30am and finished at approximately 10.48am.

Yours faithfully

Lorraine Hayward

Lorraine Hayward
Youth Worker

Outcomes of meeting 24/5/88 attended by Peter Coyne, Jenny Foote, Karen Merssiades, Bob O'Hanley, Gordon Cooper, Jeff Manitzky, Sarah Moynihan. Guidelines for future outings from the Centre.

1. Organization of an activity should include:
 - (a) planning meeting
 - (b) purpose of outing to be commonly known and agreed upon
 - (c) team leader
 - (d) discussion of individual roles of staff
 - (e) knowledge of procedures to be followed if absconding occurs
2. Should be thorough knowledge of location to be visited and assessment of its suitability.
3. Careful selection of young people and group dynamics.
4. Selection of staff in terms of skills and compatability.
5. Need for communication between staff to maintain the progress of the outing team leader should take responsibility for the outing.
6. The activity/outing should be a group experience.



Jenny Foote
Deputy Manager

30 5 28.

On Friday 27.5.28 I accompanied
to the Metropolitan Children
Hospital for a medical examination with
Dr. Marie Crawford from the Social Work
Section.

June West
Youth Worker.

PROGRAM NAME AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Environmental Trash Walk - Lower Portals area
Mount Rainier Nat Park

STAFF MEMBER (FINAL DECISION BY REVIEW PANEL)

Bob, Gordon, Sarah, Jeff, Karen + another worker.

DATES PLANNED FOR PROGRAM AND DURATION TIMES

Tuesday 24 May. 8:00am - 4:00pm

AIMS PROGRAM

Socialisation within a natural environment

PROPOSED CHILDREN (FINAL DECISION BY REVIEW PANEL)

[REDACTED]

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

School attendance.

MATERIALS REQUIRED AND WHERE OBTAINABLE

Bus, Station Wagon, Lunch

J. Hooper
Signature
K. Staley

APPROVAL

Revised 19/5

FUNDING

MATERIALS OBTAINED AND AVAILABLE

[Signature]

Signature

Principal Youth Worker Programs

20 June, 1988

Mr. P. Coyne
John Orby Youth Centre
Wacol.

Reference.

Thursday evening the 26th May, 1988 approx. 7 pm Mrs. [redacted] phoned to speak with [redacted] I was aware that Mr. Peter Coyne (Manager) had been trying to locate the [redacted], therefore I asked if Mr. Peter Coyne could phone her back in 5 minutes. I then phoned Mr. Peter Coyne to relate my conversation with [redacted] and to give him her phone number. Approx. 8 pm [redacted] phoned back after having spoken to Mr. Peter Coyne to speak with [redacted], I had [redacted] take the call in my office (S.U.W.). [redacted] was visibly upset during her conversation with both [redacted]

Friday evening at 7.15 pm Dr. H. Forbes phoned in re [redacted], after ascertaining that I was aware of the situation regarding [redacted], he gave me a list of contraceptive pills that could be taken by [redacted]. Whilst checking the Medical Room for the pills, two admissions arrived, these I processed.

At 8.10 pm Dr. H. Forbes rang back to ascertain if I had located any of the pills on the list, I advised him that I had located a packet of Equitor E.D.

At 8.15 pm I phoned Mr. Peter Coyne (Manager) and advised him of Dr. H. Forbes phone calls.

At 8.37 pm Mr. Peter Coyne phoned back for Dr. H. Forbes phone number. At 8.45 pm Mr. Peter Coyne phoned back re approval for the contraceptive pills to be given to [redacted] as per Dr. H. Forbes prescription.

T.S. Cox
S.U.W.



Mater Misericordiae Childrens Hospital

Chartered by the Corporation of the Trustees of
the Order of the Sisters of Mercy in Queensland

South Brisbane, Queensland 4101 Phone 240 8111

9th June 1988

Our Ref MC:iw
Your Ref
Phone

Dr. Harold Forbes,
John Oxley Youth Centre,
139, Wacol Station Road,
WACOL Q.4076.

Dear Dr. Forbes,

RE :

I was asked to examine on 27th May 1988 on the request
of the Juvenile Aid Bureau.

On examination was fully pubertal with adult female genitalia.
There was no evidence of trauma. Bimanual and speculum examination
were normal. Cervical swab cultures were negative and cervical
smear showed normal endometrial cells but no endocervical cells as
she was menstruating at the time. I am not aware of the forensic
swab results.

Superficially, appeared unperturbed by events. She has not had
adequate contraceptive advice to date.

Kind regards,

Dr Maree Crawford
Paediatrician



World Expo 88

Official Hospital caring for visitors to World Expo 88

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

(27)

Mr George Nix
D/Director-General
(Community and Youth Support)

Date: 27 May 1988
Our Ref.:
Your Ref.:
Refer to: Mr P. Coyne:TP
Section: John Oxley Youth Centre

COPIES TO:

Subject: Report on the Educational Program - 24 May 1988

On the 19.5.88 two teachers Mr R. O'Hanley and Mr G. Cooper, submitted a proposal to conduct an educational program to the review team at John Oxley Youth Centre. The program was an environmental bush walk to the Lower Portals area at Mount Barney National Park on Tuesday the 24th May, 1988 from 8am to 4pm. The children selected to attend were

[redacted] and [redacted] (Details relating to these children are attached). These children were selected on the basis of their school attendance. The following staff were selected to take part in the program. Mr R. O'Hanley (teacher), Mr Gordon Cooper (teacher), Mrs K. Mersiades (teacher), Mr J. Manitzky (psychologist), and Ms S. Mounihan (youth worker).

The program proposed was considered by the John Oxley Youth Centre review team which is made up of the Manager, Deputy Manager, three Principal Youth Workers, Psychologist, Supervising Social Worker, Senior Youth Worker on duty and Teacher-in-Charge. The program was subsequently approved.

On the 24th May, 1988 the above mentioned staff and children left John Oxley Youth Centre at approximately 8.15am. At approximately 3.15pm Mr O'Hanley phoned John Oxley Youth Centre and advised Ms J. Foote, Deputy Manager that four children, namely [redacted] and [redacted] had absconded. Beenleigh Police later contacted the Centre at approximately 4.45pm to advise that the four absconding children had been detained by Police and were being returned to the Centre.

I contacted Mr Ian Peers, Executive Director, Youth Services at 4.50pm to advise him of the absconding and subsequent detention of the four children. On duty staff were also informed of this information. Shortly after this phone call Mr O'Hanley and Mr Cooper returned to the Centre with [redacted] and [redacted]. The children were returned to the living area and I, Ms Foote, Mr O'Hanley and Mr Cooper spoke briefly. We were all relieved that the children had been located as our major concern at that time was for their safety. We were particularly concerned, they may have become lost in the rainforest and experienced low overnight temperatures. We then left the centre to go to our respective homes.

Subject:

. 2 .

I received a phone call at 6.45pm from Mr J. Manitzky who was concerned about the events of the day. He was also concerned that [redacted] and [redacted] were refusing to leave the admissions area and were actively provoking a physical confrontation. I gave brief instructions and then immediately drove to the Centre and arrived at approximately 7.15pm. I went to the admission area to find the children yelling, swearing, banging walls and doors as well as whistling on high note. They were still attempting to provoke the two staff in the admission area, Mr T. Cox, Senior Youth Worker and Mr E. Kaltner, Youth Worker, into a physical confrontation. I decided not to enter the room for fear that it may escalate the situation and in the hope that in time the children would tire, relax and voluntarily go to their rooms.

In the conference room next to the admission area I met with Mr J. Manitzky, Mrs K. Merslades and Ms S. Moynihan who were all concerned about the events of the day. They were most concerned about a suspicion that [redacted] may have been sexually assaulted. We spoke for over an hour and agreed a meeting should be held at 9am the next day. The purpose of the meeting was to analyse the program, debrief staff, gather information for future planning and to develop a strategy for investigating the concern about [redacted] being sexually assaulted. Mr Manitzky, Mrs Merslades and Ms Moynihan then left the Centre.

The children in the admission area at this point in time became very loud and agitated, so I entered the admission area because of concern for staff safety. I gave the children an ultimatum and they agreed to go quietly to their rooms. The children were then taken one by one to their rooms to prevent them escalating the disturbance with other children. This process lasted about 45 minutes.

When the four children were in their rooms I went to see [redacted] however, she was asleep in her bedroom. I then spoke with Mr Cox the Senior Youth Worker on duty about the incident in the admission area. I left the Centre at approximately 10pm.

At 9am on the 25.5.88 a meeting was held between Ms J. Foote, Mr O'Hanley, Mr Cooper, Mr Manitzky, Mrs Merslades, Ms Moynihan and myself. We discussed the events of the previous day for approximately 1½ hours. There was a concern that [redacted] had been sexually assaulted but no direct evidence was available.

At 10.30am I spoke with Mr M. Freemantle a Youth Worker on duty in the company of Ms W. Kropp, Acting Supervising Social Worker. He informed me [redacted] had told him [redacted]. He was also concerned for safety at morning tea. The meeting was quickly terminated and Mr Freemantle returned to Blaxland Living Area to ensure [redacted] safety.

Subject:

FOI
RELEASE

I placed [redacted] and [redacted] in their rooms at approximately 11am. I enquired about the possible sexual assault of [redacted] the absconding, and the behaviour in the admission area with all four boys. I spoke with [redacted] on 3 occasions, [redacted] on 3 occasions, [redacted] on 2 occasions and [redacted] on 2 occasions. I also spoke with [redacted] about the possible sexual assault of [redacted] on one occasion.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

After these interviews I spoke with Ms J. Foote who had spoken with [redacted] A copy of her report is attached.

Shortly after lunch I spoke with [redacted] in the interview room. I explained to her that I had spoken to the five boys. I asked her if she had sexual intercourse with anyone the previous day. She said "Yes, with two boys". I asked who they were and she indicated [redacted] and [redacted]. I asked about her willingness to participate and she indicated that no physical force was used. However she indicated she felt under a lot of pressure from the boys. She was unable to explain what this pressure was but I assumed it to be both peer pressure and psychological pressure. I then asked if she wanted the boys to be charged by the Police and she tentatively said yes. I explained to her that I would need to contact her parents and advise them of these events. She didn't want me to contact them because she

FOI
RELEASEFOI
RELEASE

Subject:

. 4 .

Deleted

I then contacted Mr Ian Peers, at approximately 1.50pm to advise him of the information I had obtained and to seek his advice. After speaking with him, Ms Foote and I convened a meeting with Mr O'Hanley, Mr Cooper, Mrs Merssiades, Mr Maniaky and Ms Moynihan. I advised them I believed [redacted] had been sexually assaulted. I then requested them to provide me with a report about the previous day. The reports are attached for your information. At approximately 3.30pm I spoke with [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted] was also moved to another living area.

After the Review Team Meeting on Thursday, the 26 May 1988, I reviewed the reports prepared by staff. I then approached the five boys about being reinterviewed so as to collect more specific information about the incident with [redacted]. They all declined to be reinterviewed.

At 4.30pm I informed Mr G. Butler, the Family Services Officer with responsibility at Beenleigh about the incident relating to [redacted] and my intention to contact [redacted] parents. I attempted to contact [redacted] by phone at 4.40pm and 4.50pm without success.

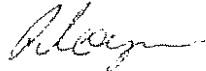
Mr T. Cox, Senior Youth Worker, on duty contacted me at home at 6.45pm and advised me that [redacted] had rang the Centre and he had obtained her new phone number. I rang [redacted] and informed she and [redacted] about the incident involving [redacted]. An appointment was then made for them to visit John Oxley Youth Centre at 11am on Friday 27.5.88 to discuss the matter more fully. I also encouraged [redacted] to ring and speak with [redacted]. Mr Cox later contacted me saying [redacted] and [redacted] had spoken together on the phone.

On Friday the 27.5.88 at 12.30 Ms Foote and I spoke at length with [redacted] about the incident with [redacted]. [redacted] then spoke privately with [redacted] for approximately 30 minutes. Ms Foote and I then rejoined them and they both indicated they wanted a complaint made to Police about [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was not involved in any way. I immediately contacted Inspector Dave Jeffries, J.A.B. Brisbane who will organise an investigation of the complaint.

Subject:

. 5 .

I have also reviewed a video tape of the outing but it provides no information about the alleged offences.



Mr Peter Coyne
Manager
John Oxley Youth Centre

NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ AGE: _____

CURRENT STATUS: 18. 2.88 - Care and Control 6 months

17. 3.88 - Care and Control 6 months

REASON FOR ADMISSION: 17.3.88 - Break and Enter

with Intent; Break, Enter and Steal - Convicted. Care and Control

6 months. Rest. \$315.00. Recommended that balance of 6 months

Care and Control order of 18.2.88 (ie. 5mths) be served in custody.

ADMISSION DATE: 29 February 1988 RELEASE DATE: 18 August 1988

HISTORY:

- 16. 1.86 - BEI(2) - Admonished and Discharged. Rest.\$18.
- 20. 3.86 - BEI(4) - Supervision 3 months. Rest. \$20.
- 17. 4.86 - BEI - Supervision 2 months.
- 16.11.86 - Steal - Convicted. Supervision 4 months.
- 18.12.86 - B&E(2); Wilful Damage - Convicted. Fined \$20.
- 17. 9.87 - Assault; Steal - Convicted. C&C 3 mths. Rest.\$21.82. (B'Leigh)
- 16.10.87 - Steal(4) - Care and Control 6 months.
- 17.12.87 - BEI(3); Steal(4). Convicted. C&C 3 months. Rest.\$288.50.
- 4. 2.88 - BEI - Convicted. C&C 2½ months. Rest. \$25.
- 18. 2.88 - Steal - Convicted. Care and Control 6 months. Rest.\$157.
- 17. 3.88 - Break and Enter Dwelling with Intent - Break and Enter with Intent; Steal - Convicted. Care and Control 6 months. Rest. \$315. Custody recommended.

(15)

25/5/88

To Peter Coyne, Manager, John Oxley Youth Centre

This letter details events concerning the outing to the Lower Portals at Mt Barney on Tuesday May 24, 1988.

I departed the John Oxley Youth Centre at approximately 8.30am in the company of Gordon Cooper, and Jeff Manitzky (Staff Members).

We travelled in the mini-bus with four youths. [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] and arrived at the Lower Portals parking area at approximately 10.00am. We set off to walk into the area and I proceeded with the group of faster walkers and arrived at the Lower Portals at approximately 11.30am.

Upon arrival we selected a lunch area, left our backpacks and began to explore the river environment. A group of Youths including [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] headed upstream on the far side of the river towards the Lower Portals main pool (80 metres upstream) and I followed along with them. At the pool, [redacted] and [redacted] waded near the edge as the water was very cold. After approximately 15 minutes we began to head back to the lunch area. As the boys began heading downstream [redacted] removed her jeans and began to wade. She accidentally slipped and fell into the pool. [redacted] continued down the side of the river adjacent to the lunch area where she threw her jeans from a large rock to Gordon Cooper. The other boys and I continued along the far bank of the river to the lunch area. [redacted] climbed from a large rock, directly to the lunch area.

The slower walkers arrived at the lunch area at approximately 12.00 and began to explore. I had lunch at this time with [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted]. Over the next 15-20 minutes others also had lunch.

A group consisting of [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] moved across the river and began to drift upstream. I was moving back and forth across the stream and returned to the lunch area to get the video camera. [redacted] came with me and we began to video the area (approximately 10 minutes).

Jeff Manitzky indicated that he thought the group had headed up the bank near the larger pool and that he was going to check. I crossed the stream from the lunch area and moved to the upper pool where I began to whistle loudly as we had used this signal throughout the morning to keep the youths together.

I returned to the lunch area at approximately 12.45pm and was informed by Karen and Sarah that Gordon had gone to assist Jeff in locating the group. They returned at approximately 12.50pm.

We set off on the return journey at approximately 1.10pm and arrived back at the car park at approximately 2.10pm.

As we approached the car park on a downward track four of the boys indicated they were going to the toilet block and raced towards it. I proceeded to the mini-bus which was parked 50 metres from the toilet facilities and began to pack the bus. The rest of the group congregated near the vehicles. We became suspicious that the boys were still at the toilets and I proceeded to investigate only to discover that four boys had absconded. They were: [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted].

It was decided that Gordon Cooper and myself would take the car with the remaining three youths and drive to the nearest Police Station to report the abscondings. The other three staff remained at the car park. Instead of driving to Rathdowney or Boonah we stopped at the first farmhouse and I phoned the Rathdowney Police and the John Oxley Youth Centre. The time was approximately 3.15pm.

I returned in the vehicle to relate to the other staff at the car park that the Police Officer from Rathdowney was on his way to the parking area. Gordon Cooper, myself and three youths then proceeded to return to the Centre. We passed and flagged the Rathdowney Police Officer on our way out of the Mt Barney reserve (approximately 3.30pm). He spoke briefly to us and as I had phoned him he asked for my full name. We arrived back at the Centre at 5.05.

R O'Hanley

R. J. O'Hanley (Teacher)



(13)

Outline report on the excursion from John Oxley Youth Centre to the 'Lower Portals' area of Mt Barney National Park

The party - Group 1 in Lite-Ace Mini-Bus:

Gordon Cooper)
Robert O'Hanley) Staff
Jeffrey Manitzky)

[Redacted])
[Redacted])
[Redacted]) Students
[Redacted])

- Group 2 in Falcon Station Sedan:

Karen Mersiades) Staff
Sarah Moynihan)

[Redacted])
[Redacted]) Students
[Redacted])

We left John Oxley Youth Centre at about 8.25am on Tuesday 24th May, travelling in tandem, with no stops until we reached the car park for the Lower Portals area at about 10.00am.

After walking for a short while it was obvious that there were differences in the speeds we were going to walk at and a group of four were separated. The faster walkers waited at about halfway point of the 3 1/2 kilometre track for the others to catch up.

The second half of the walk went similarly with a faster group getting ahead, I was with this group.

We arrived at the Lower Portals at about 11.15am. The backpacks containing the lunches were left at the site chosen for lunch and we - Robert O'Hanley, Myself, [Redacted], [Redacted] and [Redacted] began to explore the creek area.

After about 10 minutes 'Bob' (Robert O'Hanley) and the 5 students crossed the creek on rocks to explore further (it is only possible to go about 100 metres further along the bank). I stayed by the backpacks to wait for the slower group.

Bob and the students came into view at about 11.45am. I went to the creek bank opposite them. [Redacted] climbed onto a rock in the creek about 4 metres from me and threw her jeans and shoes for me to catch. These were wet. [Redacted] informed me that she had fallen in the water. She was wearing a long 'T' shirt and panties.

The slower group arrived at this time and informed us that they had taken a wrong turning.

It was decided to have lunch straight away, some of the students ate quite quickly and all except [Redacted] went back to the creek area with Bob. [Redacted] sat with Jeff and Sarah at first, and then he came to where Karen and I were sitting by the creek, some 10 metres away. He had the video camera and slowly worked his way across the creek.

From our position I saw some of the students on the near side of the creek, climbing on some large rocks. They were about 40 - 50 metres away from us and opposite the area Bob had taken them. They went from my view on the far side of the rocks and I felt they had gone back to the creek where Bob had taken them.

Some 10 - 15 minutes later Jeff Manitzky told us that they could not be seen and I went with him up a steep hillside. The six students (all except [redacted]) were near the top. Jeff had arrived a few metres ahead of me and I saw the group coming towards us slowly.

We all went back to the lunch area where we rested - some went for a swim - until we left for the return journey.

On the way back four of the boys tried to get a long way ahead so Jeff caught them up and had them slow down. I then decided that I would take the lead and try to slow the speed down.

I was partially successful but I didn't know at this stage that party was troubled by a blister. We stopped at a creek crossing for the party to re-group and treat foot then we stayed fairly closely together for the rest of the walk. We arrived at the car park at about 2.30pm.

As we approached the car park area, about 100 metres away, the four boys who had tried to walk very fast earlier - [redacted] and [redacted] - all said they had to go to the toilet. Someone - I can't remember who - told them to hurry so that we wouldn't be late back. The toilet is a small wooden structure some 50 metres maximum from the car park area. I saw them waiting as though to take turns, then I began checking that the backpacks were all stowed in the vehicle.

Bob called over to the boys, who were not in sight, to hurry. Then he immediately went over from the car park and informed us that they had gone.

Jeff and Bob went into the area beyond the toilet and Karen and Sarah also went to that area. I stayed with the three students who were left, [redacted] and [redacted] were in the station sedan and [redacted], ignoring my request to stay by the vehicle, also went over to the toilet area. One of the other staff brought him back to the car park. I think this person was Sarah but I cannot be sure.

Jeff suggested that Myself, Bob and [redacted] and [redacted] go to inform the police and John Oxley Youth Centre.

This we did by phone from a nearby farmhouse.

We returned to the car park and told Karen and Sarah that a policeman was on his way from Rathdowney (Jeff, we were told, had gone in search of the boys).

We left in the Station Sedan at 3.30pm and arrived back at John Oxley Youth Centre at 5.05pm to be informed that the four boys were safe and on their way home.

G. Cooper (Teacher)

(11)

Jeff Manitzky
Psychologist
John Oxley Youth Centre

P. Coyne
Manager
John Oxley Youth Centre

Re: Educational Outing 24.5.88

On 24.5.88 I left John Oxley Youth Centre at 8.15am for a day outing at the Lower Portals via Rathdowney. I travelled to the Lower Portals car park with Gordon Cooper (teacher), Bob O'Hanley (teacher), [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] (residents), in the Centres mini-bus. We were followed by Karen Mersiades (teacher), Sarah Moynihan (youth worker), [redacted] and [redacted] (residents).

When we reached the Lower Portals car park at approximately 10am we alighted from the bus, joined the others and began the walk to the Lower Portals. On the way down the group became spread out because the children were excited and travelling at different speeds. I attempted to maintain contact with all the party members but eventually stayed with [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], Sarah and Karen in a separate party at the rear.

We reached a river and took an incorrect turn. After walking for about a kilometre we decided that we were going in the wrong direction, turned around and headed back to the river crossing.

At the river crossing we took another path and reached the Lower Portals at approximately 12.10pm.

When we reached the Lower Portals I discovered that the other group, Bob O'Hanley, Gordon Cooper, [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] had already had lunch and were off exploring the area. [redacted] had apparently fallen in the river and had removed her jeans. She had a jumper wrapped around her waist. I am unsure how that occurred.

I sat down to have lunch with [redacted] and Sarah Moynihan. [redacted] had gone to join the other children playing in rock pools about 10 metres away.

When I completed lunch I noticed that the children were out of sight. I decided to go and ascertain their whereabouts. I headed off in the direction of where I last noticed the children playing. A period of about 10 minutes had elapsed. I had a good look around and foraged through nearby bushes before returning to express my concerns to the rest of the group about not being able to locate the children before heading off to search for them.

Gordon Cooper and myself scaled a nearby small hill in search of the children. When I got to the top of the hill all the children were standing in a group. I do not think they heard me coming. [redacted] and [redacted] were standing up embracing. I enquired as to what the group was doing. [redacted] ran over to me and the rest of the group began to point out a further hill that they claimed to have scaled. [redacted] did not appear unsettled. [redacted] then admonished the children for disappearing and mustered them back down to the main party. The total time elapsed from the time I sat down to have lunch and the time that I located the children at the top of the hill was about 15 - 20 minutes. (This includes searching time).

My suspicions were aroused about possible sexual contact between the children while they were missing when I saw them on top of the mountain. My brief investigation there failed to prove this hypothesis.

While we were walking back to the car park, I kept close surveillance on [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted]. Towards the end of the track [redacted], [redacted] and myself paused to allow Sarah, Karen and [redacted] and [redacted] to catch up. During this pause the 4 boys were talking about sexual activity with

Whilst this talk was similar to the talk that these boys would engage in, in their normal conversation, combined with the fact that they had spent some time missing, my suspicions were further raised. Again I talked briefly with the boys about what happened while they were missing but they wouldn't answer my questions.

We resumed walking and a short time (5 minutes) after we reached the car park. The boys, [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] went to the toilet. I went to discuss my suspicions with the remainder of the staff who were approximately 25 metres from the toilet block.

Bob O'Hanley then went to the toilet to check on the boys. He returned to the group saying that they were gone.

I ran over in the company of Karen Mersiades and we began to call to the boys to return. Although we could hear the children in the bush, we were unable to pinpoint their exact location. I decided against pursuing them, as it was late in the day and I feared that they could become lost in the scrub for the night. I decided it was better to prevent that then pursue them. After yelling general instructions to the boys to make sure they were not going to wander deeper into the bush and get lost I returned to the car park and instructed Bob O'Hanley and Gordon Cooper to drive to the nearest police station with the remaining 3 children and alert them.

While Gordon and Bob were away doing that I spent about 1 1/2 hours scouring the bush and retracing our steps looking for the boys.

At approximately 4.30pm a police officer arrived with the 4 boys in the back of his car. Sarah, Karen, the 4 boys, [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] and myself drove back to John Oxley Youth Centre.

We arrived at John Oxley Youth Centre at approximately 6.45pm. On arrival the boys were very aggressive and non compliant. I phoned Peter Coyne, Manager at home about the outing and he came to the Centre arriving about 7.15pm.

A meeting was held immediately between Peter Coyne, Sarah Moynihan, Karen Mersiades and myself at which we discussed the events of the day and my concerns and suspicions. A decision was made that the suspicions of sexual activity would be investigated as early as possible on the 25.5.88.

I then went home at approximately 9.15pm.

Jeff Manitzky (Psychologist)

(4)

REPORT ON OUTING TO LOWER PORTALS -24/5/88

by Karen Mersiades

The group comprised:

5 Adults

Karen Mersiades (Teacher in Charge)
Bob O'Hanley (Teacher)
Gordon Cooper (Teacher)
Jeff Manitzky (Psychologist)
Sarah Moynihan (Art Worker)

7 Young People

[REDACTED]

The group arrived at the site by way of two vehicles and proceeded to walk 3.7 kilometres to the Lower Portals.

The group soon became widely spaced apart and I was with the last group which included Sarah, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Half way in the journey the first group waited for us. We set off again, the group again quickly separated into two widely spaced groups, and I was in the last group with Sarah, Jeff, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

On near arrival at the portals my group took an incorrect turn and it was thirty five minutes before we re-joined with the first group at the Portals.

On arrival at the Lower Portals I stayed with my group and went down to the lower pool. The first group had already done this activity and had had lunch.

My group returned to the site chosen for lunch. At this stage the first group were splashing around in the rocks nearby. [REDACTED] had gone to join them.

I sat down to have lunch near Gordon and [REDACTED]. It was while I was organising lunch for my group that the young people, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] proceeded up a near-by mountain. I was unaware of their departure.

Five to ten minutes passed. I don't know where Bob was but he came over and took [REDACTED] to the lower pool. Jeff alerted me that he could not see or hear the children. Jeff and Gordon raced up the mountain and I proceeded to the lower pool to alert Bob who was with [REDACTED] to return as we may have had difficulties.

Five minutes later the children returned with Jeff and Gordon. The children spoke of the views, [REDACTED] did not appear at all stressed and I had no idea an incident had occurred during their 15 minutes absence.

I then organised the packing up of the rucksacks while Jeff was supervising the children in the water. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] remained in my company along with Sarah and Gordon.

We commenced our return to the vehicles. Once again the group separated and was widely spaced. I was in the last group with Sarah, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

The children were tired and difficult to keep moving. The groups changed formation and I arrived at the vehicles with Sarah, [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted] were at the toilet. I then had problems with [redacted] and after sorting these out learned from Jeff that an incident may have occurred at the Portals when the children were absent from us. I told Jeff that he must report his fears to the Manager on our return.

At this time during our discussion the boys were sneaking from the toilet into the bush. The other children, [redacted] and [redacted] were in or near the station wagon.

Bob went to see why the boys were taking so long and reported that the children had disappeared.

Jeff and I immediately went a short way into the bush to call them. We could hear the boys, asked them to come back and asked them to go no further into the bush. We did not chase them as we feared they would go even further. We were in a rainforest area, it was getting dark and cold and I thought there was a very real danger of them becoming lost.

I remained there trying to establish some communication with the boys while Jeff and Sarah organised Bob and Gordon and the three remaining young people to report the absconding to the police and John Oxley Youth Centre.

Jeff retraced the track to the Portals in case the boys had gone there in the hope of acquiring a work vehicle which they had seen.

I waited with Sarah at the vehicle site until Bob and Gordon returned. They told us that the police had been notified and were on their way. They had also rung the deputy manager at John Oxley Youth Centre and she was aware of the absconding. I instructed Bob and Gordon to return to John Oxley Youth Centre with the three remaining young people.

The police arrived and Sarah and I gave him a description of the boys. He then left to search the local area.

Jeff returned and approximately 1 1/2 hours after the police departure the policeman arrived with the four absconders.

Jeff, Sarah and I transferred the children into the mini-bus and transported them back to John Oxley Youth Centre.

On arrival at the Centre I ensured that the boys were admitted through the secure admissions area into a further secured area. At this point the boys became unco-operative, boisterous and a management problem. We contacted the Senior Youth Worker, Trevor Cox who then phoned for a Youth Worker, Eric Kaltner to come down to offer further assistance.

At this time Jeff rang the Manager, Peter Coyne, at his home and informed him that we had had a difficult outing and that the boys were very unsettled. Peter immediately left his home in Ipswich and came into the Centre.

Upon arrival at the Centre Peter assessed the situation with the boys and then had a conference with Jeff, Sarah and I about the days events. We had discussions for approximately an hour and decided that a meeting would be called first thing next day. All the staff who were on the outing would then be present and we intended to review the outing in full.

Karen Merriades

Karen Merriades (Teacher-in-Charge)

(1)

REPORT

Walk to Lower Portals - 24 May, 1988

We left John Oxley in two cars and arrived at the site at approximately 9.30am.

We set off on our walk and almost immediately broke into two groups, myself and Karen Mersiades (teacher) bringing up the rear with [redacted] and [redacted] (residents) because [redacted] was carrying the video camera. The first group waited for us about half way to the Portals. We met them, set off once again and broke up into two groups. I was once again in the rear group being made up of Karen Mersiades, [redacted] and Jeff Manitzky.

Before arriving at the Portals we took the wrong track and was lost with Jeff Manitzky, Karen Mersiades, [redacted] and [redacted] by this time had ran ahead to the first group.

After 2 hours of walking we finally arrived at the Portals. I went off with our group to look at the Lower Portals and then returned to eat lunch. [redacted] went over to the other children while we ate lunch.

I finished my lunch and Jeff asked where the kids had gone. He went to look for them where I had last seen them shortly before. After looking for them he came back and indicated he couldn't find them. Jeff and Gordon then ran up to the top of the Portals and Karen went to the Lower Portals. I stayed put with [redacted]. Jeff, Gordon and the young people came back down the hill shortly after.

A short time later we set off to the two cars. I walked with Karen Mersiades [redacted] and [redacted].

Once again the first group waited for us to catch up. After the meeting I walked with Karen Mersiades, [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted] and Jeff Manitzky were with us some of this time.

We arrived back at the cars. [redacted] and [redacted] were apparently in the toilet. At this point Jeff told the group [redacted] may have been assaulted.

[redacted] and [redacted] got into one of the cars. Bob O'Hanley went down to hurry the boys and shouted to us they were gone.

Karen and Jeff went down to the toilets and shouted to the boys not to go too far into the bush.

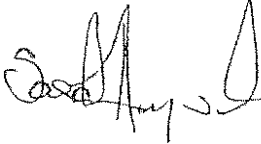
I stayed with [redacted] and [redacted] at the car. [redacted] started to walk down the the toilet block. I tried to negotiate with him to stay. However he ignored me and I followed him in an attempt to get him back to the car. Jeff and myself organised Bob and Gordon to ring the police and Peter Coyne. When they left with [redacted] and [redacted] Jeff ran along the track back to the Portals. Karen and I stayed with the car and waited for the police.

Bob and Gordon returned, told us the police were on their way and then took the remaining young people back to John Oxley Youth Centre.

The policeman arrived and Karen and I gave him the details of the missing young people. The police officer then left to look for them. Jeff returned and we waited for the policeman or the young people in the hope they would return because of the cold temperature.

An hour and a half later the policeman arrived with the four young people. We put them in our vehicle and returned to John Oxley Youth Centre.

Mr Coyne, Manager was contacted and a meeting was held shortly after he arrived at the Centre.



Sarah Moynihan
(Practical Training - Arts)





Mr Freemantle's is not correct.
In paragraph 19, in that he
did not "reiterate all", he gave
some limited information because
he had to return to his work.

M. J. J.



REPORT BY:

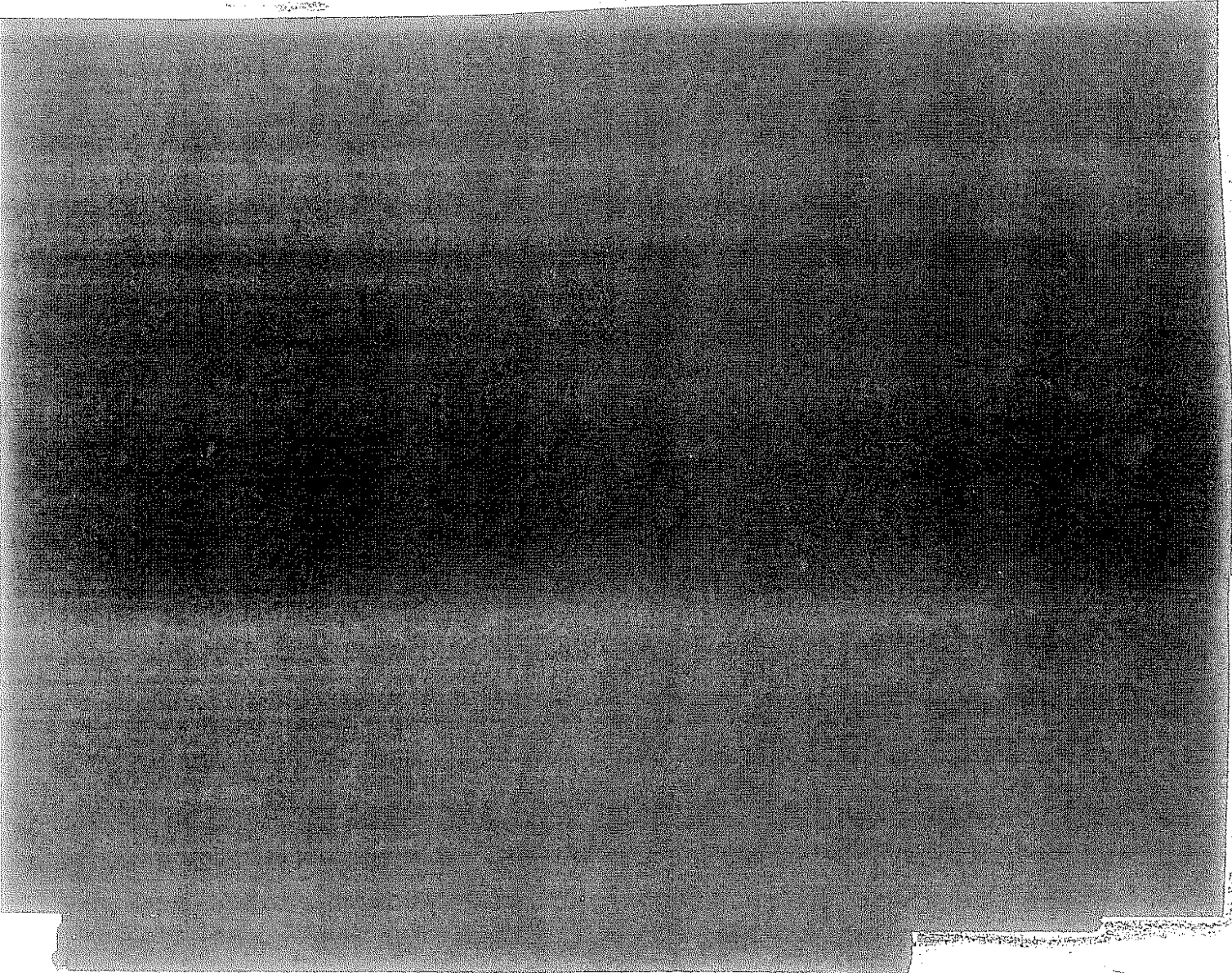
Mark J FREEMANTLE
John Oxley Youth Centre
Youth Worker - Blaxland Wing

INCIDENT:

Conversation with [REDACTED]
(resident of Blaxland Wing) and
consequent actions thereafter.

FOI
RELEASE

On the morning of 25 May 1988, following an "environmental bush-walk" outing and abscondings the previous day (24 May), the residents in our section were quite unsettled.



.../2

FOI
RELEASE

FOI
RELEASE



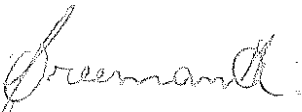
This information was to say the least, startling and in my opinion, had to be passed onto management as soon as possible.



At this time, I went to see Wendy Kropp who had already arranged for Peter Coyne to be present. I just simply reiterated all the information to Peter and Wendy (to the best of my ability).

Peter requested that I not speak to other staff members about this incident until he had had the opportunity to speak to all the persons involved and gather more information himself, this I did.

At this stage, my direct involvement ceased until 5.00pm Tuesday, 31 May 1988, when Peter asked me to complete this report, and this report took a few days to complete.


MARK J FREEMANTLE

Youth Worker
Blaxland Wing
John Oxley Youth Centre

**John Oxley File
Admin File 1904**

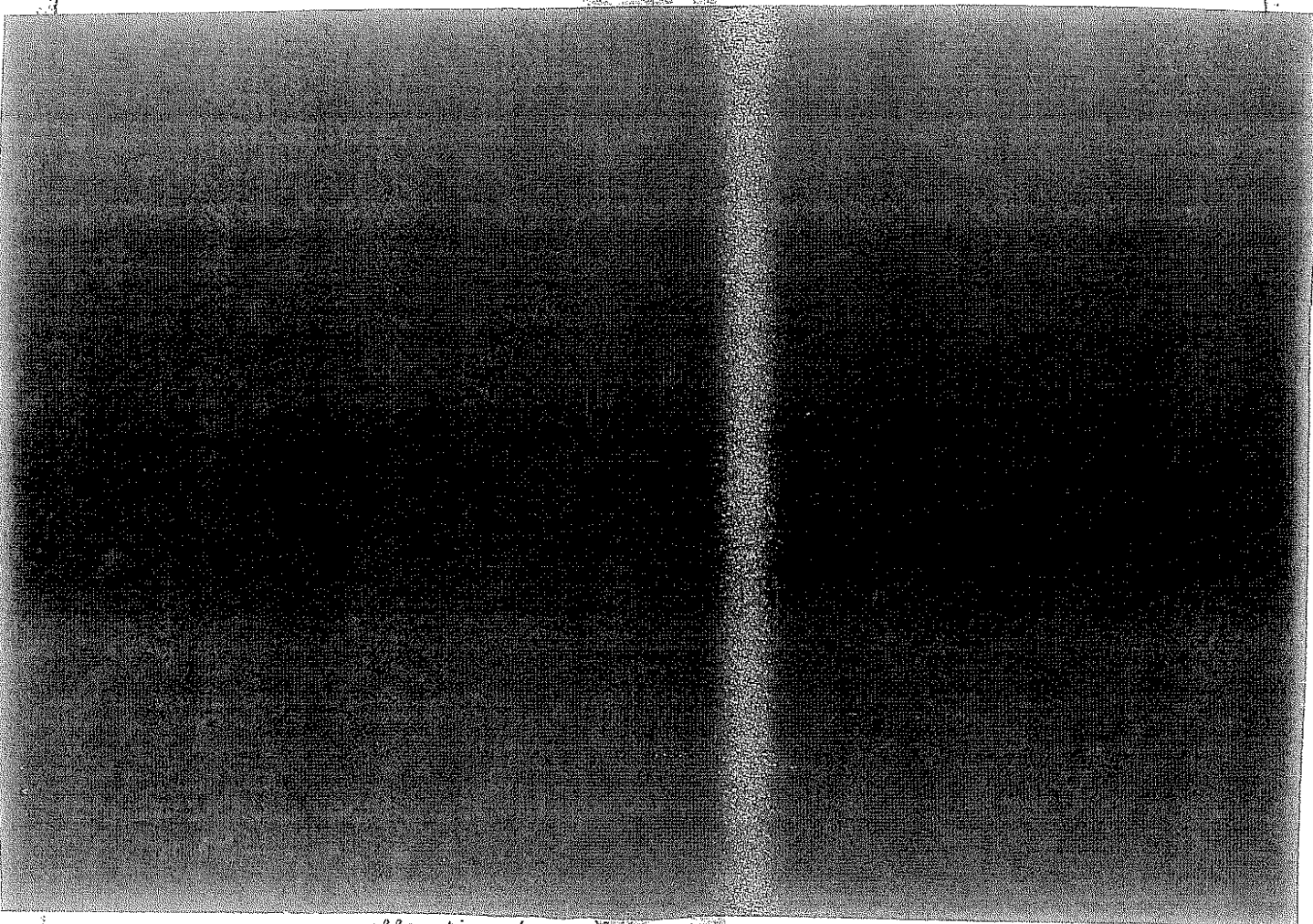
WATER

FOI

FOI

(27)

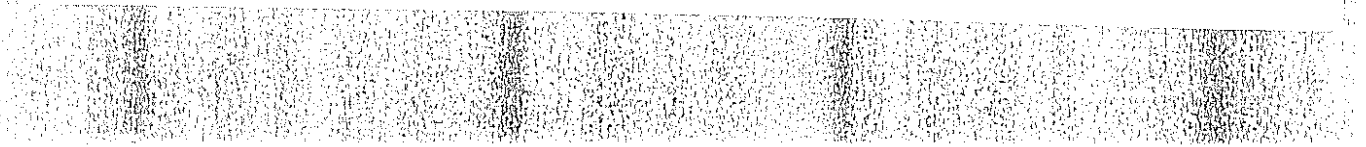
REQUESTS OF POLICE TO COME TO
I.O.V.C.
July 1988 to November 1988



allegation of sexual interference at the Port Holes.

FOI
RELEASE

FOI
RELEASE



190879
away
25
10



DEPARTMENT of FAMILY SERVICES

WVA

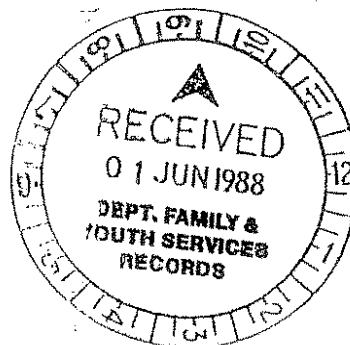
Telephone:

Reference:

Refer to:
Sections

Your Ref.:

30th May, 1988



HON. THE MINISTER

I received word late on Friday afternoon that there was a problem during a recent picnic outing by a mixed group of children from the John Oxley Youth Centre. Apparently four boys interfered with one of the girls.

I suppose there is some possibility of this leaking to the media and a full report has been requested by Monday.

The girls parents have been contacted and they are not placing any blame on the staff.

A.C. Pettigrew

A.C. Pettigrew
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

RECEIVED

Full report given
to Minister

A.C.P.
31/5/88

WVA
31/5/88



DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

2A 9

TO: DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Date: May 30, 1988

Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

Refer to:

Section:

COPIES TO:

Subject: Re - John Oxley Youth Centre

Mr Peter Coyne, Manager, John Oxley, rang to advise that on Friday [redacted] was medically examined at the Mater Hospital. This was arranged with the police investigating the matter and on Saturday police again interviewed [redacted] who indicated that she did not wish to make a formal complaint.

[redacted] mother was then contacted and brought to the Centre where she spent a couple of hours with her daughter. Initially, [redacted] was upset that her daughter had made this decision, but after spending a couple of hours with her daughter, she was interviewed by the training officer and advised that she was happy for her daughter not to make a complaint.

Mr Coyne advised that [redacted] had two main reasons for not wishing to make a formal complaint. These were:

1. The court process would take from six to twelve months.
2. Other children at the Centre were teasing her and threatening her.

Mr Coyne said that he had spoken to the other children involved in the teasing and threatening, and has advised them of the outcomes should they continue in this fashion. Overall, everything has settled down at the Centre.

Mr Coyne also advised me that one particular staff member (that they have had a lot of trouble with) was saying that there had been a cover-up and a whitewash. Peter Coyne is having a talk to him this afternoon together with other staff, where they will be advised that the complaint has been investigated properly and that all the information has been passed on.

Mr Coyne also advised that there was very little chance of [redacted] becoming pregnant. The Paediatrician had advised that she had started her period immediately after the incident and it was very unlikely that she would fall pregnant.

Submitted for your information.

G.E. Nix
G.E. Nix,
Deputy Director-General
(Community and Youth Support)

See by Minister
[Signature]
31/5/88

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

11/19 VJW/NA
Bury
11 (5)

TO: Mr George Nix
D/Director-General
(Community and Youth Support)

Date: 27 May 1988

Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

Refer to: Mr P. Coyne:TP

Section: John Oxley Youth Centre

COPIES TO:

*Mr George Nix
Ministry
& dist school. Please
sup. my request for further
developments.*

30/5/88

Subject: Report on the Educational Program - 24 May 1988

*noted
ref. EDYS 21.6.88
file*

On the 19.5.88 two teachers Mr R. O'Hanley and Mr G. Cooper, submitted a proposal to conduct an educational program to the review team at John Oxley Youth Centre. The program was an environmental bush walk to the Lower Portals area at Mount Barney National Park on Tuesday the 24th May, 1988 from 8am to 4pm. The children selected to attend were

[redacted] and [redacted] (Details relating to these children are attached). These children were selected on the basis of their school attendance. The following staff were selected to take part in the program. Mr R. O'Hanley (teacher), Mr Gordon Cooper (teacher), Mrs M. Mersiades (teacher), Mr J. Manitzky (psychologist), and Ms S. Moynihan (youth worker).

The program proposed was considered by the John Oxley Youth Centre review team which is made up of the Manager, Deputy Manager, three Principal Youth Workers, Psychologist, Supervising Social Worker, Senior Youth Worker on duty and Teacher-in-Charge. The program was subsequently approved.

On the 24th May, 1988 the above mentioned staff and children left John Oxley Youth Centre at approximately 8.15am. At approximately 3.15pm Mr O'Hanley phoned John Oxley Youth Centre and advised Ms J. Foote, Deputy Manager that four children [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] had absconded. Beenleigh Police later contacted the Centre at approximately 4.45pm to advise that the four absconding children had been detained by Police and were being returned to the Centre.

I contacted Mr Ian Peers, Executive Director, Youth Services at 4.50pm to advise him of the absconding and subsequent detention of the four children. On duty staff were also informed of this information. Shortly after this phone call Mr O'Hanley and Mr Cooper returned to the Centre with [redacted] and [redacted]

The children were returned to the living area and I, Ms Foote, Mr O'Hanley and Mr Cooper spoke briefly. We were all relieved that the children had been located as our major concern at that time was for their safety. We were particularly concerned, they may have become lost in the rainforest and experienced low overnight temperatures. We then left the centre to go to our respective homes.

*Note
should
have come
in for
Ministry
Press brief
D.G.*

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES

4

Subject:

I received a phone call at 6.15pm from Mr J. Manitzky who was concerned about the events of the day. He was also concerned that [redacted] and [redacted] were refusing to leave the admissions area and were actively provoking a physical confrontation. I gave brief instructions and then immediately drove to the Centre and arrived at approximately 7.15pm. I went to the admission area to find the children yelling, swearing, banging walls and doors as well as whistling on high note. They were still attempting to provoke the two staff in the admission area, Mr T. Cox, Senior Youth Worker and Mr E. Kaltner, Youth Worker, into a physical confrontation. I decided not to enter the room for fear that it may escalate the situation and in the hope that in time the children would tire, relax and voluntarily go to their rooms.

In the conference room next to the admission area I met with Mr J. Manitzky, Mrs K. Mersiades and Ms S. Moynihan who were all concerned about the events of the day. They were most concerned about a suspicion that [redacted] may have been sexually assaulted. We spoke for over an hour and agreed a meeting should be held at 9am the next day. The purpose of the meeting was to analyse the program, debrief staff, gather information for future planning and to develop a strategy for investigating the concern about [redacted] being sexually assaulted. Mr Manitzky, Mrs Mersiades and Ms Moynihan then left the Centre.

The children in the admission area at this point in time became very loud and agitated, so I entered the admission area because of concern for staff safety. I gave the children an ultimatum and they agreed to go quietly to their rooms. The children were then taken one by one to their rooms to prevent them escalating the disturbance with other children. This process lasted about 45 minutes.

When the four children were in their rooms I went to see [redacted] however, she was asleep in her bedroom. I then spoke with Mr Cox the Senior Youth Worker on duty about the incident in the admission area. I left the Centre at approximately 10pm.

At 9am on the 25.5.88 a meeting was held between Ms J. Foote, Mr O'Hanley, Mr Cooper, Mr Manitzky, Mrs Mersiades, Ms Moynihan and myself. We discussed the events of the previous day for approximately 1 1/2 hours. Their was a concern that [redacted] had been sexually assaulted but no direct evidence was available.

At 10.30am I spoke with Mr M. Freemantle a Youth Worker on duty in the company of Ms W. Kropp, Acting Supervising Social Worker. He informed me [redacted] had told him [redacted] He was also concerned for safety at morning tea. The meeting was quickly terminated and Mr Freemantle returned to Blaxland Living Area to ensure [redacted] safety.

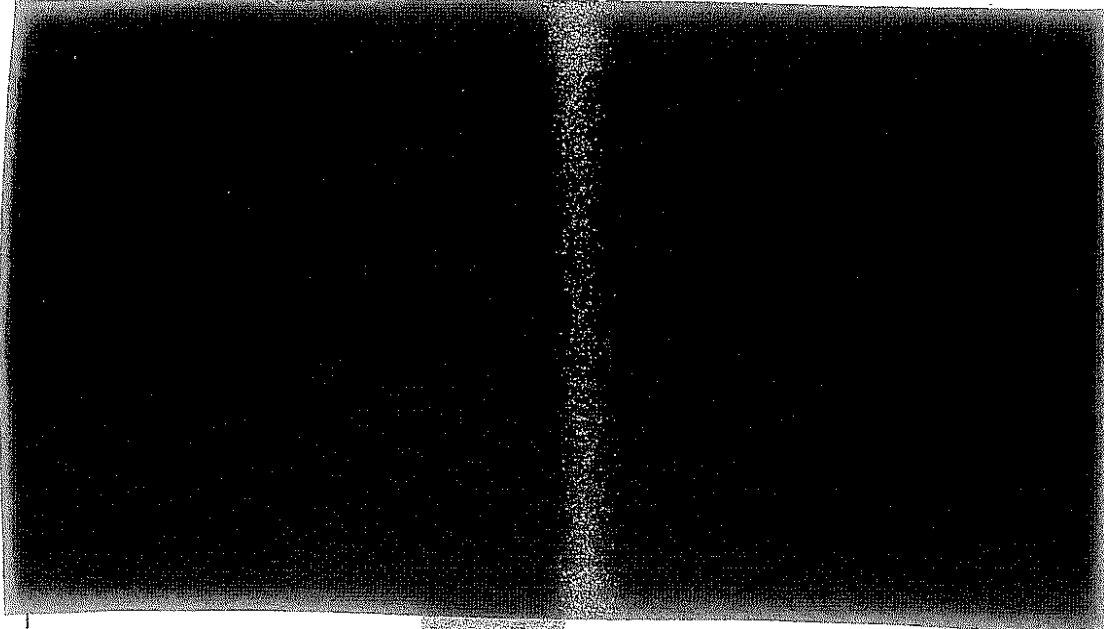
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES

3

Subject:

FOI
RELEASE

I placed [redacted] and [redacted] in their rooms at approximately 11am. I enquired about the possible sexual assault of [redacted] the absconding, and the behaviour in the admission area with all four boys. I spoke with [redacted] on 3 occasions, [redacted] on 3 occasions, [redacted] on 2 occasions and [redacted] on 2 occasions. I also spoke with [redacted] about the possible sexual assault of [redacted] on one occasion.



After these interviews I spoke with Ms J. Foote who had spoken with [redacted]. A copy of her report is attached.

Shortly after lunch I spoke with [redacted] in the interview room. I explained to her that I had spoken to the five boys. I asked her if she had sexual intercourse with anyone the previous day. She said "Yes, with two boys". I asked who they were and she indicated [redacted] and [redacted]. I asked about her willingness to participate and she indicated that no physical force was used. However she indicated she felt under a lot of pressure from the boys. She was unable to explain what this pressure was but I assumed it to be both peer pressure and psychological pressure. I then asked if she wanted the boys to be charged by the Police and she tentatively said yes. I explained to her that I would need to contact her parents and advise them of these events. She didn't want me to contact them because she

FOI
RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES

(2)

Subject:

deleted

I then contacted Mr Ian Peers at approximately 1.50pm to advise him of the information I had obtained and to seek his advice. After speaking with him, Ms Foote and I convened a meeting with Mr O'Hanley, Mr Cooper, Mrs Mersiades, Mr Mahitly and Ms Mounihan. I advised them I believed [redacted] had been sexually assaulted. I then requested them to provide me with a report about the previous day. The reports are attached for your information. At approximately 3.30pm I spoke with [redacted]

[redacted] was also [redacted] another living area.

After the Review Team Meeting on Thursday, the 26 May 1988, I reviewed the reports prepared by staff. I then approached the five boys about being reinterviewed so as to collect more specific information about the incident with [redacted]. They all declined to be reinterviewed.

At 4.30pm I informed Mr G. Butler, the Family Services Officer with responsibility at Beenleigh about the incident relating to [redacted] and my intention to contact [redacted] parents. I attempted to contact [redacted] on phone at 4.40pm and 4.50pm without success.

Mr T. Cox, Senior Youth Worker on duty contacted me at home at 6.45pm and advised me that [redacted] had rang the Centre and he had obtained her new phone number. I rang [redacted] and informed she and [redacted] about the incident involving [redacted]. An appointment was then made for them to visit Oxley Youth Centre at Ilam on Friday 27.5.88 to discuss the matter more fully. I also encouraged [redacted] to ring and speak to [redacted]. Mr Cox later contacted me saying [redacted] and [redacted] had spoken together on the phone.

On Friday the 27.5.88 at 12.30 Ms Foote and I spoke at length with [redacted] about the incident with [redacted]. [redacted] then spoke privately with [redacted] for approximately 30 minutes. Ms Foote and I then rejoined them and they both indicated they wanted a complaint made to Police about [redacted] and [redacted]. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was not involved in any way. I immediately contacted Inspector Dave Jeffries, J.A.B. Brisbane who will organise an investigation of the complaint.

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES

①

Subject:

. 5 .

I have also reviewed a video tape of the outing but it provides no information about the alleged offences.

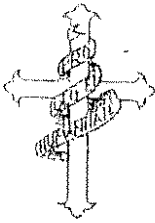
Peter Coyne

Mr Peter Coyne
Manager
John Oxley Youth Centre

*Director General,
submitted for your information.
I will keep you informed of
the outcome of the police
investigation.*

*P. Coyne
27/5/88*

(62)



Mater Misericordiae Childrens Hospital

Conducted by the Corporation of the Trustees of
the Order of the Sisters of Mercy in Queensland

South Brisbane, Queensland 4101 Phone 240 8111

9th June 1988

Our Ref. MC:iw
Your Ref.
Phone

Dr. Harold Forbes,
John Oxley Youth Centre,
139, Wacol Station Road,
WACOL Q.4076.

Dear Dr. Forbes,

RE :

I was asked to examine [redacted] on 27th May 1988 on the request
of the Juvenile Aid Bureau.

On examination [redacted] was fully pubertal with adult female genitalia.
There was no evidence of trauma. Bimanual and speculum examination
were normal. Cervical swab cultures were negative and cervical
smear showed normal endometrial cells but no endocervical cells as
she was menstruating at the time. I am not aware of the forensic
swab results.

Superficially, [redacted] appeared unperturbed by events. She has not had
adequate contraceptive advice to date.

Kind regards,

Dr Maree Crawford
Paediatrician



World Expo 88

CLINICAL EXAMINATION

JOHN OXLEY YOUTH CENTRE
ADDRESS STATION RD D.O.B.

WACOL. SEX F.

AFFIX PATIENT IDENTIFICATION LABEL HERE

27.5.88

Tuesday afternoon

On hostel picnic. ie from John Oxley
had been swimming. see dent & pants
on.

4 boys took into bushes.
look off pants, laid on top of her
penetrated vagina with penis.

ie [redacted] [redacted]
Can't remember if ejaculated, Semen present
Went swimming after.
No STC out pants.

menstruation at present time

[redacted] - says didn't want to have
intercourse. NOT physically held.
and struggle

PH sexual intercourse ~ Jan '88

S/E

Pubertal.

Vulva normal. no bare abrasion.

Hymen early admitted speculum.

Normal cervix

Bimanual exam normal.

anus

normal

Forensic swabs taken.

Clamydia - none.

Swab C&S

M. J. Cairns

Yc Justice Directorate

Requested by:

Departmental Reference: *D16562*

Urgent **Non-urgent**

DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES

Memorandum for Approval Speaking Points
 Briefing Note for Information

SUBJECT

- Letter to the Police Commissioner in relation to rape allegations concerning who was a young person in custody at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre in 1988.

PURPOSE

- To have the attached letter considered by the Director-General for signature.

RECOMMENDATION

- That the Director-General signs the attached letter to the Police Commissioner.

*Tracy,
The letter is
now outdashed
since a file has
been located
for updating asap pls.
Thanks,
7/11/01.*

RECEIVED

06 NOV 2001

Executive Services Branch
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES

<p>NOTED / ENDORSED / NOT-ENDORSED</p> <p align="center"><i>PA Ross</i></p> <p>Pauline Ross Deputy Director-General</p> <p align="center"><i>7/11 / 2001</i></p>	<p>NOTED / APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</p> <p align="center"><i>FJ Peach</i></p> <p>FJ Peach Director-General</p> <p align="center">/ / 2001</p>
<p>COMMENTS:</p>	<p>COMMENTS:</p>



Department of Families

Office of the Director-General

Mr R Atkinson
Commissioner of Police
Queensland Police Service
GPO Box 1440
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Atkinson

Alleged rape of a young person at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre in 1988

On 23 August 2001, Sergeant P Hennessey of the Sexual Crimes Investigation Unit of the Queensland Police Service wrote to this Department indicating that she was making inquiries into a complaint by [redacted] that she was raped whilst in custodial care at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre, between July and September 1988.

Sergeant Hennessey requested that this Department review its files and provide her with any references to the alleged incident. On 4 September 2001, the Manager, Information Services Unit, of this Department, verbally informed Sergeant Hennessey that no references to the incident could be located on file.

On Saturday 3 November 2001 the "Courier Mail" reported broadly on this matter. The article asserted that the young person concerned had been raped on two occasions. ~~As the Department has no formal record of this alleged incident it is now taking action to compile all information known about [redacted] residence in youth detention and to then refer the matter to the Criminal Justice Commission for assessment.~~

The Department is keen to ensure that it does not interfere with any continuing inquiries that the Queensland Police Service may be making in relation to this matter. Any information that you consider relevant about the matter that is able to be provided to assist in this Department's management of the issue would be appreciated. I would also like to confirm this Department's full co-operation in any further inquiries that may be undertaken by the Queensland Police Service.

Should you require any clarification of these matters you are welcome to contact Mr Terry Macdermott, Acting Executive Director, Youth Justice, on 3247 5357.

Yours sincerely

F J Peach
Director-General

7th Floor, 111 George Street
Brisbane Queensland 4000
GPO Box 806 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
General Enquiries:
Telephone +61 7 3224 8113
Facsimile +61 7 3225 8833
Email mailbox@families.qld.gov.au

Youth Justice Directorate

Requested by:

Departmental Reference:

Urgent

Non-urgent

D16611

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES**

95338 F

Memorandum for Approval

Speaking Points

Briefing Note for Information

SUBJECT

Alleged rape of _____, former resident of the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre, in 1988.

PURPOSE

To have the Director-General sign the attached letter to the Police Commissioner, enclosing further departmental documentation concerning the alleged rape of _____ former resident of the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre

RECOMMENDATION/S


That the Director-General considers and signs the attached letter

RECEIVED

13 NOV 2001

Executive Services Branch
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES

RECEIVED

NOTED / ENDORSED / NOT ENDORSED	NOTED / APPROVED / NOT APPROVED
<p>N/A</p> <p>Pauline Ross Deputy Director-General</p> <p>/ / 2001</p>	<p></p> <p>F J Peach Director-General</p> <p>13 / 11 / 2001</p>
<p>COMMENTS:</p>	<p>COMMENTS:</p>



10 NOV 2001

Mr R Atkinson
Commissioner of Police
Queensland Police Service
GPO Box 1440
BRISBANE QLD 4001

FILE COPY

Department of Families
Office of the Director-General

Bob
Dear Mr Atkinson

Alleged rape of young person at the
John Oxley Youth Detention Centre in 1988

I refer to my letter of 8 November 2001 enclosing a departmental file concerning this matter.

Following further examination of departmental files, I have enclosed additional documentation relevant to the alleged rape. In particular, the additional documentation contains information concerning the names of the police officers who interviewed concerning the incident and the reasons why decided not to proceed with her complaint of rape.

The following documentation is attached:

- Memo dated 28 May 1988 from Lorraine Hayward, Youth Worker, to Mr Peter Coyne, Centre Manager
- Memo (undated) from Mr R C Pekelherring, Principal Youth Worker, to the Manager, John Oxley Youth Detention Centre
- Two Incident Report Forms dated 24 May 1988 from Trevor Cox, Officer-in-Charge
- File Memo (undated) from Jenny Foote, Deputy Manager,
- File Memo dated 30 May 1988 from June West, Youth Worker, John Oxley Youth Detention Centre.
- Medical note dated 27 May 1988 made by Dr Harold Forbes, John Oxley Youth Detention Centre
- Letter dated 2 June 1988 from Dr Harold Forbes to the Mater Childrens Hospital requesting results of an examination of Annette.
- Memo dated 9 June 1988 from Dr Marie Crawford, Paediatrician, Mater Childrens Hospital to Dr Harold Forbes, John Oxley Youth Detention Centre
- File Memo (undated) from Mark Freemantle, Youth Worker, John Oxley Youth Detention Centre.

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Mr Terry Macdermott, Acting Executive Director, Youth Justice, has consulted with Acting Superintendent Peter Martin of your office who is expecting the documentation.

My Department is continuing to research its file base and should further information come to hand, it will be forwarded to you promptly.

I am also providing copies of the relevant documentation to the Criminal Justice Commission for their consideration.

Should you require any clarification of these matters you are welcome to contact Mr Macdermott on 3247 5357.

Yours sincerely



F J Peach
Director-General

enc

CONFIDENTIAL

539
J
L

DELETED MATERIAL
NOT RELEVANT.

1035 hrs 28.5.88

On Saturday 28th
May, 1988. U9

Spoke
with Det. Poollich and
Det. S. Tomatt from
Ashgrove Juvenile Court
Brisbane in the presence
of Leslene HAYWARD and
Adolf Pickelhaier at John
Osby Youth Centre in
relation to a sexual

type incident which
occurred on Tuesday
the 24 May 1988 at
Mt Bergin. I do not
wish to make an official
complaint to the Police
and I am happy with
Police enquiries made in
relation to this matter.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RELEASED
UNDER THE FOI ACT BY THE
QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE FOR

Witness of Hayward.

[Signature]
[Signature]
P/S/c 3399. P. Tomatt
P. Const 5392.

1988

May

DATE

PARTICULARS OF DUTY AND PLACES VISITED

Thursday

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RELEASED
UNDER THE FOI ACT BY THE
QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE FOI UNIT

DELETED. MATERIAL
NOT RELEVANT.

FRIDAY 27

Rest Day

SATURDAY 28

Rest Day 8am - 4pm - (Redhill)

Longwood

to John Oakley for the Centre re allegations
of rape by
by 2 males present 14 yrs



May

PARTICULARS OF DUTY AND PLACES VISITED

		of the Centre. Alleged to have occurred on 24.5.88 at Gold Coast Heights during bush walk. She advised me to make an official complaint. Examined by doctor on Friday afternoon. Withdrawal of complaint in protocol. N.T.A.D
--	--	---

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
 DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RELEASED
 UNDER THE FOI ACT BY THE
 QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE FOI UNIT

Sunday 29
 Monday 30

DELETED. MATERIAL
 NOT RELEVANT.

DELETED. MATERIAL
 NOT RELEVANT.

Count
 Result



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATE CRIME OPERATIONS COMMAND
Sexual Crimes Investigation Unit
GPO Box 1440
BRISBANE Q 4001



TELEPHONE (07) 3364 6197 FACSIMILE (07) 3364 6516

FACSIMILE

Our Ref: 2001/408
Your Ref:

TO: Department of Families
Attention: Mr Nick PRINS

FAX No: (07) 34043570

FROM: Sexual Crimes Investigation Unit
Plain Clothes Sergeant P.M. HENNESSEY *Pat*

SUBJECT: John Oxley files from 1988

TOTAL PAGES: One (1)

DATE: 23rd August 2001

I am making inquiries into the alleged rape of a female adolescent whilst she was in custodial care at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre. The alleged offences occurred between July and September 1988.

The alleged offence was reported to the Centre Management, however no action appears to have been taken. Inquiries to date have revealed that there is no record of the Police having been advised of the alleged offence.

The complainant in this matter is

Could you please check the records of the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre which are held by your department and ascertain if there are any references to the alleged incident. If the result of the search is favourable, would it be possible for me to obtain a copy of the relevant paperwork.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number should you require any further information.

Your assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

P.M. Hennessey
P.M. HENNESSEY
PC Sergeant 3276

Can send by 1:00 [Handwritten signature]

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, AND MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE AND/OR PUBLIC INTEREST IMMUNITY. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, ANY USE, DISCLOSURE OR COPYING OF THIS DOCUMENT IS UNAUTHORISED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS DOCUMENT IN ERROR, PLEASE TELEPHONE (07) 3264 6197

originals on ADM/
Part 3.

NOTE FOR FILE:

I contacted Pat Hennessey this morning just after 11 am.

I advised that the only material that we had located relating to the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre for that time was a folder containing Incident Reports from May 1998 to October 1998. However, there was no mention of the particular incident that she mentioned.

I indicated that the files had been checked as well to see if there was any reference to the assault. There was nothing. The files were available for her perusal if she thought that they might contain something relevant.

I indicated that the Department had done a very thorough search for John Oxley records in 1998 as a result of a CJC request.

Pat will get in touch with the investigating officer and relay this information. The Police have to wait for the complainant to telephone them as they do not have her address.

I provided my direct telephone line, and recommended that they ask for Greg Dalton if I was not available.

Documents that were examined are
Incident Reports May – October 1998

- 95338F
- Case File Part 1
- Part 2
- Part 3
- Part 4
- case file 152714/CA

- Box 10498
- Bar code 184660
- Bar code 184659
- Bar code 184658
- Bar code 184657
- Bar code 184655
- Bar code 108179



Nick Prins
4 September 2001

CONFIDENTIAL

FILE COPY



Queensland
Government

93

8 NOV 2001

Department of
Families

Office of the
Director-General

Mr R Atkinson
Commissioner of Police
Queensland Police Service
GPO Box 1440
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Bob
Dear Mr Atkinson

Alleged rape of a young person at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre in 1988

On 23 August 2001, Sergeant P Hennessey of the Sexual Crimes Investigation Unit of the Queensland Police Service wrote to this Department indicating that she was making inquiries into a complaint by [redacted] that she was raped whilst in custodial care at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre, between July and September 1988.

Sergeant Hennessey requested that this Department review its files and provide her with any references to the alleged incident. On 4 September 2001, the Manager, Information Services Unit, of this Department, verbally informed Sergeant Hennessey that no references to the incident could be located on file at that stage.

On Saturday 3 November 2001 the "Courier Mail" reported broadly on this matter. The article asserted that the young person concerned had been raped on two occasions. Following this article a further search of departmental records was undertaken which has revealed the existence of a general departmental file containing information about the alleged incident.

I have enclosed this file - Number 1904 (Res Care - JOYDC - Children - Offences) containing this additional material for your urgent consideration in relation to any continuing inquiries being undertaken by the Queensland Police Service. In particular, I draw your attention to a memo dated 25 May 1988 from Peter Coyne the then Manager of the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre to Mr George Nix the then Deputy Director-General, Department of Families, indicating that Mr Coyne had contacted Inspector Dave Jeffries, Juvenile Aid Bureau, who was to organise an investigation into the incident.

I am also able to advise that I am referring a copy of this file to the Criminal Justice Commission for consideration for any possible misconduct on the part of departmental staff.

Should you require any clarification of these matters you are welcome to contact Mr Terry Macdermott, Acting Executive Director, Youth Justice, on 3247 5357.

Yours sincerely

F J Peach

F J Peach
Director-General

enc

7th Floor, 111 George Street
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BA GROUND

- On Saturday 3 November the *Courier Mail* ran a story which detailed the allegation by [redacted] that whilst resident at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre in 1988 that she had been raped on two occasions whilst on a supervised outing from the centre.
- On 23 August 2001 Sergeant P Hennessey of the Queensland Police Service, Sexual Crimes Investigation Unit, wrote to the Department seeking a check on records in relation to the above incident, which was the subject of a formal complaint by [redacted] to the Police Service. On 4 September, Nick Prins, Manager, Information Services Unit, of this Department, verbally advised the Police Service that no references to any incident of this nature could be located on departmental files.

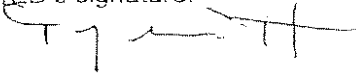
DETAILS/ISSUES

- As this allegation refers to the period July to September 1988 considerable time has elapsed, making access to both written material and staff who may have been at the centre at this stage difficult.
- In order to manage this issue the Department is undertaking a package of responses which include the following:
 - co-operation and support for the Police Service investigations;
 - active review of the departmental written records;
 - interview by Misconduct Prevention Unit of identified staff;
 - referral of the matter to the CJC for action as appropriate; and
 - response to the Courier Mail.

Action Officer: Shane Ryan

Title: A/Director, Youth Detention Operations Branch
Ph: 3239 0093

A/RD/ED's signature:



Name: Terry Macdermott
Title: A/Executive Director Youth Justice
Ph: (W) 3247 5357

Date: 6 / 11 / 2001

CONFIDENTIAL

BA GROUND

- On 8 November 2001, you wrote to Mr Bob Atkinson, Commissioner, Queensland Police Service, attaching a file concerning the alleged rape, on 24 May 1988, of [redacted] who was then a resident at the John Oxley Youth Detention Centre

DETAILS/ISSUES

- On 9 and 12 November 2001, the Information Management Branch provided me with further John Oxley Youth Detention Centre files that hold information concerning the alleged rape additional to that which was provided to the Police Commissioner on 8 November 2001.
- The additional documentation contains the identity of the police officers who investigated the alleged rape and the reasons that [redacted] gave for not following through with the complaint.
- This afternoon, I contacted Acting Superintendent Peter Martin from the Office of the Police Commissioner and informed him of the new information. He requested that I forward this additional information on to him.

Action Officer: Terry Macdermott

Terry Macdermott

Title: A/Executive Director, Youth Justice
Ph: 324 75357

RD/ED's signature:

Terry Macdermott

Name: Terry Macdermott
Title: A/Executive Director
Ph: 324 75357 (W)

[Redacted]

Date: / / 2001

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT BRANCH

FILE NOTE

During the afternoon of 7 November 2001, I advised Mr Ross McSwain, Acting Senior Advisor, Minister's office, that a file had been located containing information concerning the alleged rape of [redacted] in 1998. I was asked by Mr McSwain to prepare a Ministerial Brief which I proceed to do. At approximately 4:00 pm, on 7 November 2001, Mr McSwain came to my office and briefly perused a number of the memos relating to the incident in my presence.

No documentation was given to Mr McSwain.



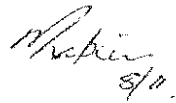
Terry Macdermott

8 November 2001

File No1904 (Res Care – JOYDC – Children – Offences) was hand delivered by Michael Napier to a staff member from the office of the Police Commissioner at approximately 11:00 am – 8 November 2001. * Mr. Toddy Drummond.

Location of copies taken:

Frank Peach, Director-General
Ken Ezzey, Manager, MPU
Terry Macdermott, Acting Executive Director,
Youth Justice Directorate



CONFIDENTIAL

DELETED MATERIAL
NOT RELEVANT.

1035 hrs, 28.5.88

On Saturday 28th
May, 1988

Spoke
with Det. Poollich and
Det. S. Tennant from
Ashgrove Juvenile and
Brisbane Div in the presence
of Lawrence HAYWARD and
Adolf Prekelbering at John
Osby Youth Centre in
relation to a sexual

type incident which
occurred on Tuesday
the 24 May 1988 at
Mt. Bonython. I do not
wish to make an official
statement to the Police
and I am happy with
Police enquiries mechanism
relating to this matter.

Witness L.M. Hayward

[Signature]
D/S/c 3399

[Signature]
P. Tennant
5392

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QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE FOR

1988

May

DATE

PARTICULARS OF DUTY AND PLACES VISITED

Thursday

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
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FRIDAY 27

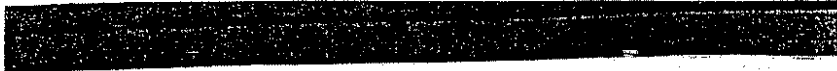
Rest Day

SATURDAY 28

Rested 8am - 4pm - (Rolloid)

Correspondence

to John O'Leary South Centre re allegations
of rape by _____, 14 yrs
by 21 males present



May

PARTICULARS OF DUTY AND PLACES VISITED

		of the Centre. Alleged to have occurred on 24.5.88 at Gold Coast Heights during bush walk. SL advised me to make an official complaint. Examined by doctor on Friday afternoon. Withdrawal of complaint in protocol. N.T.A.D
--	--	--

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Sunday 29	
Monday 30	

DELETED. MATERIAL NOT RELEVANT

DELETED. MATERIAL NOT RELEVANT.

Cont	
Result	