

PUBLIC

THH by Sgt Jm
Clarysse 10/09/03

James Albert CLARYSSE

PUBLIC

STATES

1. I am a Sergeant stationed at the Kiara Police Station.
2. In 1992 I transferred to the Midland District, now East Metropolitan District and was stationed at the Midland Police Station.
3. During my time at Midland Station I had numerous dealings with Mr Robert BROPHO and the people at the Swan Valley Nyungah Community, situated in Lord St Lockridge, as this was a volatile community and for police to attend and perform their duties, they required back up vehicles as there was always the possibility of missiles being thrown at police and other forms of resistance met whilst effecting an arrest or making inquiries into an incident.
4. Some of the dealings I had with Mr BROPHO in those days were not always cordial, in fact on numerous occasions we agreed to disagree.
5. In November 1998 I transferred to the then Lockridge Police Station, now Kiara Police Station and one of my initiatives was to formulate a working relationship with Robert BROPHO and other members of the Swan Valley Community so that Police from this District and in particular Kiara Police Station could enter the community to

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perform the functions of their office with out fear of any resistance.

6. I had many meetings and some heated discussions with Robert BROPHO over the years in order to gain some sort of rapport with him and his community so that the local police could attend there and perform their duties.
7. Over the years from time to time Robert BROPHO would telephone me at the station and I would attend at his office to discuss any issues he had.
8. I found that complaints such as minor assaults and other issues such as solvent abuse would be reported but bigger issues such as child abuse and sexual assaults were not and we were finding out about these issues through other sources which were in due form passed on to local detectives.
9. Prior to the Susan Taylor death in 1999 police had to attend at the campsite with a back up vehicle in case of trouble but since that incident and the Gordon Inquiry in 2002, local police have had no difficulty in gaining access to the community to perform their duties and have not had to rely on backup vehicles before entering as initiatives were put in place by my self and Robert BROPHO to prevent that.
10. Over the years I have had to charge Robert BROPHO and his sons Herbert and Harvey

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with numerous offences, the latest being in December 2001 when Robert assaulted a Channel 7 news crew and was charged with one count of Assault Occasioning Bodily Harm and one count of assault.

11. Although I have had to charge these people it has not altered the police /aboriginal rapport that I have built up.
12. In December 2002 I attended at the campsite in company with Superintendent PARKINSON and other members of government agencies to implement one of the Gordon Inquiry recommendations to have unimpeded access for all agencies who may have business at that community.
13. Superintendent PARKINSON and myself went to the community first in order to pave the way for the other agencies and although met some mild resistance the meeting was a success.
14. On the 22nd May 2003 I received a telephone call from Robert BROPHO requesting me to attend a meeting at the campsite and that the Hon Derek TOMLINSON MLC would be in attendance. I attended this meeting in company with Inspector Robert MUMME and also present was Bella BROPHO, Ivor HAYWARD-JACKSON and Margaret JEFFERIES.
15. Numerous issues were discussed which revolved around acts of violence but very

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9/10/07 12:00

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few were related to the campsite. They were mainly incidents, which had occurred in other areas.

16. The question of Government departments having access came up which was denied by BROPHO and I and Inspector MUMME could only give the Police Service perspective in that we did not have any problems gaining access to the campsite.
17. On Friday the 13th June 2003 I attended at the campsite along with the appointed administrator, Barry JAMESON and stood by whilst he advised Robert BROPHO of the Reserves Bill.
18. Robert BROPHO was the only occupant of the Swan Valley Nyungah community at the time as he had moved all the other occupants to other areas.
19. My part in this exercise was to stand by to ensure that there were no breaches of the peace in which there was none.
20. Since January 2003 there has been 6 incidents where Kiara Police have been requested to attend at the campsite. These incidents have been of a minor nature and one minor assault where the complainant has elected not to have any further action taken by police.
21. One such incident necessitated a submission of a domestic violence form in one occasion.

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22. See Annexure A for details of the mentioned tasks attended at the campsite, summary and copies of station action reports.
23. Annexure B refers to a Briefing note submitted by me on the 1/10/02 on the removal of the school building, which was situated at the campsite and belonged to the Education department.
24. Annexure C refers to a briefing note submitted by me on the 17/3/03 where the Gordon Implementation Group had concerns that Robert BROPHO was still an influence over the other members of the community and that there is still potential for another death or serious assault at the campsite.
25. Since the closure of the Swan Valley campsite I have had limited dealings with the BROPHOS. Robert BROPHO has contacted me in relation to a dog being shot at the community in Saunders Street Herne Hill, which I have dealt with. Harvey BROPHO was recently charged by staff from this station for assault offences. Herbert BROPHO has contacted me to advise me that he has had a domestic argument with his wife Charlotte and that she is going to come in and see me.
26. I declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I that I have made this statement knowing that if it is tendered in evidence I will be guilty of a

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12/10/07

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crime if I have wilfully included in this
statement anything which I know to be false
or that I do not believe to be true.

Signed

JA 5/9/03

Witnessed at

Kiana Police Station

On

5/9/03 at *13.00*

By

Officer Lobb 9707

Rank

1/c Reg *9707*