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Joanne email 12

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——— Forwarded message ———

From: **Peter Fox** <rosehill10@bigpond.com.au>

Date: 2 December 2010 23:19

Subject: Fox

To: Joanne McCarthy <jmccarthy@fairfaxmedia.com.au>

Joanne

The following is from my diary of events.

1/12/10

11.30am contacted by Justin QUINN requesting I provide to him any statements or documentation I had concerning any church related investigations. The conversation was amicable and I explained a lot of additional material I could provide from sources and contacts I had acquired over more than a decade of investigating Catholic Church paedophilia. He agreed to come to my office the following day with Kirin STEEL to pick up the statements and speak to me.

11.50am

Telephoned region and asked for TOWNSEND. Graham PARKER explained Tony was in Sydney. He advised he had given Tony the report I had sent the preceding week and was told by Tony that he knew about the matter. Left a message for Tony to call me as I wished to discuss my report and request for a task force investigation in more detail.

1pm

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Supt HAGGETT came to my room and said I was to be at Waratah Stn for a meeting the next day at 12md. I asked and was told it was in relation to 'The Catholic Church Investigation.' I was told staff from State Crime

and Newcastle would be present.

2/12/10

Arrived at Waratah 12.10pm meeting deferred to 12.20pm to await Wayne HUMPHREY & region staff.
(HUMPHREY never arrived)

Meeting consisted of HAGGETT who remained mute throughout. Kirin STEEL who also remained mute. Justin QUINN & Brad TAYLOR, both of whom had minimal to say. A young male (Not introduced & not known to me) took minutes of the meeting. Graham PARKER arrived during meeting and Tony TOWNSEND towards the end. Virtually all speaking was done by Max MITCHELL. Nothing regarding the investigation was discussed. No person from State Crime present. I was asked if I had any documents relating to investigations into the Catholic Church. I acknowledged that I did have (Which I have spelt out in two previous reports to region). I was 'told' that I was to hand over to Justin QUINN any statement and other documentation I held on these matters. I indicated I had already arranged to do that with Justin QUINN the preceding day. (QUINN nodded in agreement).

MITCHELL then explained that Newcastle City Command were to conduct the sole investigation and that had been agreed by the region commander. He did not wish for any other inquiry or persons to speak to witnesses and they were to retain sole autonomy. I was required to acknowledge that I understood this was the region commander's decision.

At this point it was evident that nothing relating to an investigation was going to be discussed and that the sole purpose for my attendance was to tell me to butt out. I felt that MITCHELL had been told by QUINN of our discussion of the previous day and he probably did not want me feeling that I could retain any role, hence the meeting to occur on 'his patch' as opposed to Raymond Terrace.

I was told the investigation related to AK and AL. I was asked about my dealing with these women and I explained I had spoken to both some months ago and not since. I had obtained a statement from AK which I understood QUINN had obtained. I stated I had planned to see AK when she came down around Xmas to complete her statement as she was not up to giving detail of the sexual abuse some months back, but had provided detail of the surrounding circumstances.

I was asked if I had obtained any other statements. I indicated AJ & MIKE STEWELL and explained who they were and made it very clear both were fragile and needed to be spoken to with care. I said it took 5 or 6 sittings to obtain AJ statement. MITCHELL asked if AJ was a witness or victim. I told him she was both. He asked when her offences were committed and I said 1961 and he appeared to look skyward. It gave me the impression 'don't tell me we are we looking at things that long ago!'. That's how it appeared to me. I told him she also had evidence implicating very senior members of the clergy in concealment, protection of offenders and inaction. REDACTED She is a very intelligence woman who moved in the inner workings of the church in this area and has a lot of knowledge. I described her statement as 'explosive' and that she needed to be dealt with correctly as she had suffered over the years and had not coped well, but had an excellent memory and was sure of events.

Asked how I came to contact AJ I explained that I came across her name in the FLETCHER investigations and that she had sought me out to speak to as she had spoken to a number of victim's families I had dealt with in the past. Also the fact I was an original investigator re McALINDEN.

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I was then told by MITCHELL that the matter would be investigated by Newcastle 'ONLY' and that I was not to speak to any media on the matter. He singled out Joanne McCARTHY who he stated his staff had met with.

She had been stirring the matter up in a series of articles and it had been decided to remove her from the investigation as she was endeavouring to impose herself as a mediatory with witnesses and this would not be allowed if the matter was to go ahead.

I was then told in no uncertain terms that I was not to have contact with Joanne McCARTHY and any attempt at contact was to be immediately reported by me in the form of an investigator's note or report. This had been decided upon between himself (MITCHELL) and the region commander. 'The region commander has made that very clear'. He looked to PARKER for acknowledgement. TOWNSEND then 'She has' No doubt my name is mud with her and I can only imagine what has occurred between her and MITCHELL. No doubt this will come back to me in some form at some time.

He then asked if I had any questions about that. I asked, "What exactly are you investigating?" He appeared annoyed at having given me this question and said the matters involving AK AL and Peter GOGERTY. (I didn't mention my knowledge of GOGERTY - nor do I know if he already knew)

I explained I had investigated these matters for over a decade and had numerous contacts throughout the church in the region that were prepared to assist. At some point I stated that most of that was in my report of last week and I said, "Which I assumed resulted in this meeting." MITCHELL stated he did not know of the report. I looked to PARKER who went to pull a copy out and MITCHELL motioned that he did not require it. Bullshit he had not seen it and I felt he wanted none of the others in the room to be aware of its contents.

I then spoke about the hurt these crimes had caused, the nun & priest who left over the conduct. That crimes went far beyond the matters raised and if this was going to be examined properly it would require a task force and for rabbits to be chased down all burrows. (I appeared to get a nod of agreement from STEEL) I then said, "From the statement of (AS) alone I believe there is enough to charge a number of high ranking clergy under section 316" I also said there are a lot more people that need to be interviewed if this is to be done properly and they need to be spoken to the right way, with care and experience. If I am able to assist with any of my knowledge or contacts I'd be happy to do so. I stated that my report also indicated first hand knowledge I had as I had been involved with McALINDEN from the start, had interviewed CLARK who had definitely lied to me in order to hide victims.

I received a wall of blank faces and silence. I said I have dealt with victims and these crimes are amongst the worse we can investigate and those that conceal these crimes are as bad as those that perpetrate no matter when they happened. They all appeared to look uneasily at each other but said nothing. Might just be me but it was a look as if they did not all agree with each other behind the scenes on my comments.

I said I had reported on these concerns 6 years ago and since then 4 or 5 more clergy had been charged. I hope this isn't repeated for more victims. MITCHELL said, "Who did you report that to." I said, "I sent 2 reports to state crime and created two intell reports and disseminated those also. They are still on the system" He said, "What happened about those?" I said, "They went into the black hole."

I was told to send all material I had to Newcastle by that afternoon without fail and thanked for coming. I returned as I had come down, separately to HAGGETT. I provided the documents in an envelope to Scott METCALFE to drop down.

Joanne I have no doubt they will periodically check my work mobile, desk phone for numbers in & out and look for yours. Also my work E Mail. I'll take the punt on my home internet and my wife's mobile. Penny is fine with his. If you do call her keep it very short and I will endeavour to get back to you. Sorry this has turned to 007 stuff but I have a hell of a lot to loose and Max would love to see me out of the job, because that is what would happen - disobey direction, breach of code of conduct etc.

I called in and told AJ what has happened and gave her two copies of her statement. I urged her to call you in the next day or two. I didn't want to tell her to do anything but she indicated she would not be talking to them without a support persons. She then said that would either be you or me. Don't know how that will go down but will leave that to her.

If my calls to you over the past 6 weeks are picked up I will just have to explain you were chasing up the Abernethy fires re David GEDDES.

In concluding I should keep my head down but this is all bullshit. I won't give up that easy but have to be very careful of any traps. Not sure how much I can do now but will just see what happens for a while. I have a lot they would need - if they are serious. Just not sure if they will come near me.

Why is this happening - not sure? None of it makes sense. If this was any form of genuine inquiry I would have been welcomed as an asset. They didn't even want to hear me out on what was very relevant first hand knowledge. With your knowledge, contacts etc you could have been signed up to some form of agreement and confidentiality until the investigation is over to ensure evidence is not tainted. I thought about this and tried to examine it objectively. It is very unusual to involve someone like you, but you have a lot more contacts and the ability to bring others forward. You also know how much of this fits together. A very unusual partnership but one that should be explored with the right motive and objectives in mine. Anyway that won't be happening with things as they are - will it?

I really cannot speak to you at all tomorrow and your appearance will be seen by them and reported to region as me thumbing my nose at what I was directed today.

The pricks can shove it. The whole thing stinks and they can bit me.