# Fw: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

From: "penelope\_brown, staff/nswpolice", "penelope\_brown, staff/nswpolice"

To: "steven\_morgan/staff/nswpolice%nswpolice", "steven\_morgan/staff/nswpolice%nswpolice"

Cc: "christopher\_olen/staff/nswpolice%nswpolice", "christopher\_olen/staff/nswpolice%nswpolice"

**Date:** Sun, 26 Feb 2017 08:56:49 +1100

FYI - keeping you in the media whirlpool!

#### Penelope (Penny) Brown

Detective Sergeant | Homicide Squad - Un solved Team | State Crime Command | NSW Police

Level 8 - Tower B - Police Headquarters - 1 Charles Street Parramatta NSW 2150





---- Forwarded by Penelope Brown, Staff/NSWPolice on 26/02/2017 08:55 -----

From: Anthony Crandell // Staff/NSWPolice

To: Ainslie Blackstone/ Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice

Cc: Michael Willing/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Craig N Middleton Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Jason

P Dickinson (Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Penelope Brown/ (Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Brooke

Eggleton Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice

Date: 24/02/2017 18:17

Subject: Re: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Ainslie,

Mick and I are still wounded from the last 'background' chat with Blackfella Productions that led to the Deep Water debacle.

Having said that I will take your counsel on whether we should participate. I foresee potential media criticism of Parrabell however in the wash up we are likely looking at about 25 cases of gay hate bias or suspected bias rather than 88 and that is being generous in my opinion. Nevertheless, Parrabell is a good news story that will not only rectify the public record, but may also allow us to explore the concept of bias crime classification according to alternative models.

In short I am game if Mick is and assuming you are comfortable with the reporter's integrity and intent - their capability to tell the truth will be fine.

# Regards



# A/Assistant Commissioner Anthony Crandell | Commander

Education & Training Command Level 5, 20 Charles Street, Parramatta NSW 2150





Tainslie Blackstone---24/02/2017 13:05:51---Morning Sirs, I have spoken to the producer, who didn't know much basically she has read a mix of

From: Ainslie Blackstone /Staff/NSWPolice

To: Michael Willing Staff/NSWPolice, Anthony Crandell Staff/NSWPolice

Cc: Craig N Middleton Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Jason P Dickinsor / Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice,

Penelope Brown Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Brooke Eggleton // Staff/NSWPolice

Date: 24/02/2017 13:05

Subject: Re: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

#### Morning Sirs,

I have spoken to the producer, who didn't know much - basically she has read a mix of the media coverage and they want to do a story about gay-hate murders, which would include the ongoing police investigations.

They're also hoping to be able to speak with a former member of the gangs about the bashings to get "inside the mind"... In my opinion, I think they've seen the Wentworth Courier article about McNab's book and want to make a tv version of his ideas in that article: <a href="http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/wentworth-courier/author-duncan-mcnab-hopes-one-of-the-gay-hate-crime-gang-members-finally-speaks-out/news-story/048b57ac5c3a0a01312f6da11ac228de">http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/wentworth-courier/author-duncan-mcnab-hopes-one-of-the-gay-hate-crime-gang-members-finally-speaks-out/news-story/048b57ac5c3a0a01312f6da11ac228de</a>

So, to help her understand, I gave a basic explanation about Op Parrabell - including it's uniqueness and why it is important. I outlined the difference between Parrabell and Taradale (she thought it was the same thing), and said that while the Coronial Inquest into the death of Scott Johnson is ongoing, we wouldn't able to talk about that side of things.

I also said Parrabell has not yet been finalised, so we aren't in a position to talk about results and findings yet, but depending on their timeframe. She said they're only in the research phase at the moment - and don't have a specific air date in mind, and could wait, depending on when we thought the review would be finalised. She went on to talk about exclusive announcements, etc, which I shut down pretty quickly.

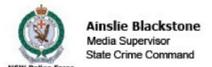
At this time, she would be keen to talk background with both of you and discuss what contribution we might be able to have in the story. Apart from seeking out former offenders, they haven't approached anyone else for interviews.

What are your thoughts on getting together to talk unofficially on background and discuss what is possible and what is not?

Ideally, they'd like to do this sooner rather than later, so I wonder (if you're happy to do so), could we set up something in the next week or two?

Happy to discuss,

Α







Michael Willing---21/02/2017 18:07:20---

From: Michael Willing, Staff/NSWPolice

To: Anthony Crandell Staff/NSWPolice@nswpolice

Cc: Ainslie Blackstone/ Staff/NSWPolice@nswpolice, Jason P Dickinson/ Staff/NSWPolice@nswpolice,

Penelope Brown/ Staff/NSWPolice@nswpolice, Craig N Middleton/ Staff/NSWPolice@nswpolice

Date: 21/02/2017 18:07

Subject: Re: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

#### A.

I agree with TC. Try to find out what you can and we will collectively take it from there.

Ta

MJW

Michael Willing APM Detective Superintendent

Commander Homicide Squad **NSW Police Force** 

On Feb 21, 2017, at 5:49 PM, Anthony Crandell

Hi Ainslie,

I would like you to make the inquiries indicated. The findings of Operation Parrabell will show a marked difference between what has been portrayed as facts that 88 men died because of gay-hate bias and the true figures. Of that I am completely confident.

> wrote:

The story becomes important to a number of players and their reputations, not the least of which are Thomson, Tomsen and McNabb who seems to have also jumped on the band wagon. For these reasons alone I will be more than happy to correct the record with a suitable, and dare I say it, reputable media partner.

I have a meeting this Friday with academic reviewers regarding final findings of Parrabell and of their review, after which I will write an Executive Summary and get some legal advice on Parrabell's release etc. Thereafter I will be in a position to comment, however as discussed with Mick today, I would only do something with your ultimate coordination according to timings most suitable to the NSWPF.

## Regards

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Ainslie Blackstone---21/02/2017 11:01:10---Morning Gents! Please see below from Sunday Night.

From: Ainslie Blackstone Staff/NSWPolice

To: Michael Willing/ Staff/NSWPolice, Anthony Crandell/ Staff/NSWPolice Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice Penelope Brown/

Date: 21/02/2017 11:01

Subject: Fw: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

#### Morning Gents!

Please see below from Sunday Night.

While I'm sure this is something we would want to steer clear of at the moment, I wonder if you think it would be worth me finding out what research they've done, who they are hoping to speak to (Johnson family, Thompson/Tomsen, etc), and maybe what they're planning to cover in their story.

I don't know how much background she has on Parrabell vs Taradale and Scott Johnson, but it might be worth her knowing the difference.

If the story would go ahead regardless, I think we need to have a voice in it. You have all worked too hard on both the investigations and the review to have it compromised.

Happy to discuss

### Α

<0.8098.jpeg>

 Forwarded by Ainslie Blackstone/ Staff/NSWPolice on 21/02/2017 10:42 ----

From: #PMU/Staff/NSWPolice

To: Ainslie Blackstone Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice

Date: 21/02/2017 10:39

Subject: Fw: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Sent by: David Rose

#### AB,

Another in the series of requests for info on Op Parrabell.

I assume the same response is still current!

Regards, DR Media Unit

#### **NSW Police Force**

--- Forwarded by David Rose.

/Staff/NSWPolice on 21/02/2017 10:37 -----

From: "Dikeos, Thea" •

To: "media@police.nsw.gov.au" <media@police.nsw.gov.au> Date: 21/02/2017 09:57

Subject: Sunday Night Seven Network - Operation Parrabell

#### Dear Police Media,

I am a producer with the Sunday Night program on the Seven Network. We are currently researching a story into the review of the 88 deaths of gay men in Sydney from the 70s to the early 2000s.

I'm writing to find out if there is some way we can cooperate on a story about the work of Operation Parrabell which is conducting the review and I note that Superintendent Tony Crandell has spoken to the media about the review. We would like to find out how we may be able to assist the police by doing the story.

We would like to find out as soon as possible what sort of involvement we could expect from NSW police.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience and can be contacted on

or by return email

Best regards, Thea

Thea Dikeos Senior Producer Sunday Night

## Seven Network (Operations) Limited

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