

SCOTTISH CHILD ABUSE INQUIRY**THE SALVATION ARMY****SECTION 21 NOTICE ON THE MIGRATION OF CHILDREN****PARTS 3, 4 AND 6 TO 8**

We refer to the section 21 notice issued by the Chair of the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry dated 24 September 2018. We are pleased to have the opportunity to assist the Inquiry with its work and to provide both responses to specific investigations and documents showing our past involvement with child migration.

On 19 November 2018 we provided our response to parts 1 and 2 of the section 21 notice. We are now providing our response to the remaining parts. We attach an inventory in respect of documents retained by The Salvation Army and falling within these parts of the notice. However, as there are very limited documents available for disclosure we considered that it would also assist the Inquiry to provide some further explanation of record-keeping and document retention.

Records of individual children

Most of The Salvation Army's migration schemes were accessed by application. We would therefore have received application forms. It is reasonable to assume that the application forms submitted by potential migrants would have been kept either at the Head Office in London or one of the Migration Department's branch offices (Glasgow, Liverpool, Belfast, Aberdeen, Southampton) for a period of time.

As stated in the reports for 'The General's Scheme for Boys', the records involved in the application process included a statement of consent of parents, a medical certificate, and two character references. After completing training at Hadleigh Farm, an additional reference from the officer in charge would be supplied and there would have been a financial statement (of which we have one surviving example) detailing how the costs were shared between the migrant, The Salvation Army and other sources such as government subsidies.

The other schemes through which individuals under the age of 18 could have emigrated were the Scheme for Women (which was not exclusively for juveniles but did include 16-18 year olds) and the scheme for orphans and unwanted children. The surviving publicity material we have for these schemes tells us nothing about the kinds of records that would have been created in the first place and whether or how they were retained.

There are more surviving records relating to The Salvation Army's post-Second World War migration schemes than for pre-Second World War schemes. An extant letter in the personal papers of Commissioner David Lamb, Director of Migration (1903-1929), tells us that some of his own papers relating to pre-WW2 emigration were lost when International Headquarters was bombed in May 1940. Many early Salvation Army records are known to have been lost or damaged at this time, but it is not known whether the records of pre-war migrants were lost in this bombing or whether they had been disposed of earlier, be that as part of a planned disposal policy, as a reactive measure when the Migration Department Head Office or branch offices closed, or by transfer to the receiving country.

Responsibility for retaining records relating to migration

Responsibility for the aftercare of migrants transferred to the Salvation Army Immigration Departments in the receiving countries once the migrants arrived in their destinations. There is some evidence that The Salvation Army took responsibility for sending or taking the necessary paperwork to the receiving country on behalf of the migrant as part of their conducted passage service. However, we do not know whether all records originally created in the UK were also transferred to the receiving country or whether copies were retained in this country as well for a limited period.

Retention of records overseas

We have corresponded with the Directors of the Salvation Army Heritage Centres in Canada, Australia and New Zealand in order to respond to this section 21 notice. We now understand that after-care records of some migrants who travelled on Salvation Army schemes survive in Canada and New Zealand. These mainly date from the 1920s.

Canada and Bermuda Territorial Archives, 26 Howden Rd, Scarborough, ON M1R 3E4
Heritage_Centre@can.salvationarmy.org

New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga Territorial Archives, Booth College of Mission, Upper Hutt, 5140
archives@nzf.salvationarmy.org

After-care records have not survived in the Australian Territorial Archives.

Planned document retention policy

To the best of our knowledge, neither the UK Territory with the Republic of Ireland (1990-present), nor any of its predecessor components, the British Territory (1880s-1990), the Scotland Territory (1958-1991) and the Scotland and Ireland Territory (1936-1958), had a planned document retention policy prior to the current Retention of Information Procedure (BA07), introduced in January 2014.

However, the Migration Department, which oversaw the UK end of The Salvation Army's migration schemes, and the Social Services Headquarters, which ran its residential homes, were affiliated to International Headquarters. There is some evidence that a planned system of records management has operated at International Headquarters at certain times but the retention policies used for the management and disposal of records have not been transferred to the archives at the Heritage Centre.

Existence of records other than with The Salvation Army

Outgoing passenger lists for ships leaving UK ports are held by the UK National Archives. Immigration records are held by National Archives in the receiving countries.