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A-3118/03 (C4/85)

DRP:KT

20 June 2003

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter dated 13 June 2003, in relation to fox investigations and related matters. Dealing with the specific questions that you posed, I can advise as follows:

- Tasmania Police has not conducted investigations or received any further information concerning the introduction of foxes into this State, since 2002. As you are aware, there has been a special Fox Task Force established within the National Parks and Wildlife Department. Any information received by Tasmania Police, either through Crime Stoppers or elsewhere, is passed onto the Task Force. Tasmania Police members are available to, and do assist, the Task Force as and when required.
- There have been no further conclusions reached since the original reports.
- No persons have been confirmed as introducing foxes into this State.
- Tasmania Police has received information that a number of persons have been responsible for the introduction of foxes into the State. Investigations to date have failed to provide any evidence to prove this.
- There is no evidence currently in possession of Tasmania Police to prove that any particular person has introduced foxes into this State.
- At this stage Tasmania Police does not have sufficient evidence to prosecute any person with the importation of foxes into this State regardless of Statue of Limitations.

- As you would be aware, as of 1 January 2003, the Statue of Limitations covering this particular matter have been increased from six months to five years.
- Tasmania Police will investigate additional information relating to the introduction of foxes into this State as it comes to hand.

I trust this information has sufficiently covered the questions posed.

Yours sincerely



L R PRINS
Assistant Commissioner of Police
Crime and Operations