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Title:

Statement: Royal Commission into administration of juvenile courts

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date.....October 7, 1976..

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
227 2688

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO ADMINISTRATION OF JUVENILE COURTS

A Royal Commission is to be held into the administration of the Juvenile Courts system in South Australia and into the allegations by Judge A.B.C. Wilson of the Court.

Announcing the enquiry, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, told Parliament the Government had nothing to hide in the matter.

"The Government is proud of the Juvenile Court of South Australia which was set up by the Labor Government and which is recognised as leading the world in the treatment of young offenders", Mr. Dunstan said.

"We have endeavoured to maintain its status and work.

"In view of the allegations by Judge Wilson and particularly the allegations that, in some unspecified manner, we have interfered with its judicial independence, the Government has decided to appoint a Royal Commission into administration of the Juvenile Court system in South Australia and the Judge's allegations.

"The Government has absolutely nothing to hide and we are happy for the matters to come out publicly and be the subject of a proper, independent and public enquiry.

"The Royal Commissioner will be Judge Mohr of the Local and District Criminal Court, an experienced judicial officer.

"The terms of reference will be announced by Executive Council shortly".



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