

[NOTE - The breakout described here took place on Sunday May 30, 2015, which was NINE MONTHS AFTER the gassing of detainees in the Don Dale detention centre, but two months BEFORE a report on the conditions in Don Dale became public. The story of the escape by JOSIAH BINSARIS and ETHAN AUSTRAL, published by the NT News in June, 2015, including the ram-raid by Josiah and Ethan, smashing through the roller gates of the detention centre, occurred TWO YEARS BEFORE the world was shocked by VIDEO FOOTAGE taken in AUGUST 2014 showing the use of TEAR GAS and spit hoods and the abuse of ISOLATION CELLS in the Don Dale detention centre.]

This is how the Northern Territory News on Tuesday, 2 June, 2015, page 6, reported the escape:

#### ANATOMY OF A BREAKOUT

6.35pm Trouble begins in B-Wing of B-Block when four detainees begin disruptive behaviour.

Concerned Youth Justice officers move to contain the situation but find the detainees have managed to disable locks preventing them from accessing B-Wing.

In response to the disturbance in B-Wing the six staff on duty move to lockdown the four detainees in A-Wing of B-Block.

While staff manage to contain two inmates in A-Wing the other two elude them by climbing out of their reach to positions on the unit wall.

By this stage detainees in B-Wing have broken through the roof into the common area separating the two units. They arm themselves with metal beams pulled from the ceiling. They threaten staff and begin damaging the common area, smashing the perspex windows of staff offices and turning on the fire hose. With the situation getting out of control, staff withdraw.

Staff cut water to the detention centre to shut down the fire hose.

7.00pm Youth Justice staff contact Darwin Corrections Centre calling for urgent back-up, An Instant Action Team is dispatched to Don Dale. Other senior Youth Justice staff are also contacted to lend assistance.

The detainees from B-Wing next smash through into the ceiling separating the common area from Tivendale School. One inside the school they arm themselves with more metal weapons. Computers are smashed, furniture destroyed and the library trashed.

The door separating A-Wing from Tivendale School is forced allowing the two groups to join.

The six next turn their attention to A-Wing, trashing accommodation units and the common area.

7.10pm Police called. Soon after the group heads toward the former isolation unit of the Darwin Prison. They use a fire hose box on the wall to access the roof, which is made of heavy-duty mesh.

Five of the detainees somehow manage to force a hole through the mesh giving them access to the roof of the detention centre. Once they climb from the roof into the yard two fences separate them from freedom. The inner-fence is topped with razor wire.

7.30pm Two of the detainees successfully negotiate their way through the razor wire and over the outer fence. One of the detainees is caught on the razor wire. Once between the fences the other two have a change of heart and head back toward the detention centre. One of the detainees becomes entangled in the razor wire on his way back into the centre and has to be freed by staff. The final detainee manages to climb back into the centre where is apprehended.

Two detainees remain at large.