

53. The boys would have been asked to do chores around the house. The chores would have been the sort of chores that children in houses would have been asked to do, dusting, cleaning, mopping etc. They would not have been given any particularly difficult chore and they were definitely not beaten in the way described or at all in regard to these chores.
54. I never recall children being bathed in Jeyes fluid. I do recall Jeyes fluid being used around the home and in particular it being used in the bathroom for cleaning around the toilets. I did not at any time put Jeyes fluid in a bath and I do not in fact recall any incident when Jeyes fluid was put in a bath.
55. HIA 11 went to Derry City Council to petition to get me the Freedom of the City. He sent me a plaque of that nature which I still have. I am surprised at the allegations that HIA 11 is making as we seemed to have had a very good relationship. He kept in contact with me and it was not until very recently that these allegations have arisen.

HIA 13

56. I recall HIA 13. He was a lovely child. He joined the [redacted] I remember him coming with the [redacted] at Bishop Street when I was there. Local [redacted] would have attended to see the children and this was a treat for the children particularly at Christmas. HIA 13 would always have been there. I have a limited recollection of him at the Home though. I repeat that the boys would have been called by their Christian names and not by numbers. Numbers were used, but this was more as a labelling for clothing and not as a way of naming or monitoring the boys. I deny that I would ever have beaten him with a cane or a stick. I do not believe that I have ever struck a child with a cane or a stick. It is possible, although I cannot remember, there may have been incidents where a child may have been slapped or their hand or bottom and, it may be possible that a ruler would have been used for that. I cannot specifically remember anything like that but I have to accept that it could have happened.
57. I recall HIA 13 coming to see me after Mass in Derry just before I moved to [redacted]. The Sisters had a Mass for the closure of the children Home and HIA 13 came to that Mass. He came to speak to me after the Mass but there was so many people about that I did not have time to sit down and talk to him. He had said that he had a lot of things that he wanted to talk to me about. I regret to this day that I did not have the time to sit and talk with him and I have not seen him since.

79. I had a request from Migilligan prison if somebody could help to get him out of the prison as it was a not suitable place for him. A young couple whose name I am unable to recall offered to give [HIA 94] home. I felt that [HIA 94] was too much for a young family to take on. I approached St Vincent De Paul who purchased a mobile home with the results [HIA 94] had his own space and the family had their own privacy.

[HIA 125]

80. I vaguely remember [HIA 125] I think he was an older boy at the time I was there. I do not have any strong memories about him. I believe that he may have obtained a job at a [REDACTED]

81. I deny that I systematically beat the boy's everyday as described by [HIA 125] [HIA 125] as not in my group and as our groups were completely separate I would not have had any responsible over [HIA 125]

82. The boys were not made to stand in line naked in the bathroom waiting for their bath. However I cannot say what occurred because I was not in that group. I did supervise bath times and in our group the boys would have come in one by one to have their baths

83. As stated previously, I have no recollection of any incident where I would have checked the boys' underwear.

[HIA 196]

84. I do not remember [HIA 196] at all. I have no recollection of [HIA 196] or anyone of this name and I cannot recall [HIA 196] coming to see me to obtain details from me. This is quite possible as former residents would have come to visit and if I was the person whom they spoke to I would have assisted them.

### General Comments

85. I am aware of a number of complaints which have been made about the houses.

86. I have already said that the food which was cooked and served to the boys was the same food which was cooked and served to the Sisters. The same would have applied at Termonbacca as it was in Bishop Street. The house in Termonbacca was very lucky to have a farm where fresh vegetables could be grown to add to the food which the children were given. The food was limited in its scope. This was more a reflection of the times and finances available to the Sisters than any kind of comment on the preparation of the food itself. I would say that the food was always of a nutritious and balanced nature. I would not have thought that the boys were hungry and they were always given the meals during the day.

87. I do recall that Jeyes fluid was used around the house mainly for cleaning the toilet area. I do not recall Jeyes fluid ever being used in a bath and I did not do so myself.

1 what took place -- what was said during that  
2 conversation. If we can go to page CLO-675,  
3 paragraph 41 at the top there, if that could be  
4 highlighted, it says:

5 "I do recall that I did speak to HIA67 around a year  
6 ago. That is correct. During a conversation with",  
7 this other person, "he informed me of HIA67's [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED] He gave me HIA67's phone number and address and  
9 I did contact him because of the [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED] It was something which I felt very sad about and  
11 wanted to sympathise with him.

12 HIA67 did speak to me briefly about the abuse that  
13 he says occurred. HIA67 did tell me that he had been  
14 approached by" -- and I think I can give this name  
15 because it is important that I do -- "approached by  
16 HIA151. HIA67 told me, as he said in his words, 'I  
17 shouldn't be talking about this, but ..."

18 She says that you told her:

19 "HIA151 indicated to him that if he came forward  
20 with his story, the least he may get would be £10,000.  
21 HIA151 had been in contact with a number of the former  
22 residents, encouraging them to come forward and tell  
23 their stories."

24 Now what do you want to tell the Inquiry about that?

25 **A. That was never mentioned. There was never no mention of**

1 money. It was the other way about. She said to me  
2 about the SAVIA and HIA151, "What do you think of this  
3 carrying on going on with HIA151 and SAVIA?" and then  
4 I said what I said to her then. There was never no  
5 mention of -- that's the first I've heard of money or  
6 anything being mentioned.

7 Q. Did -- can I just ask you then did HIA151 and you have  
8 a conversation where he told you that you would get at  
9 least £10,000?

10 A. No. HIA151 -- the only dealings I had with HIA151 was  
11 when he approached me a couple of years back to say that  
12 he was trying to gather up boys that had been in --  
13 ex-Termonbacca boys to say that this may be coming up,  
14 you know, they were setting up a thing. Myself and the  
15 other boys didn't want nothing to do with it, but, you  
16 know -- but there was never, never, ever money  
17 mentioned.

18 Q. Now you said you gave a statement to the police as well  
19 in June 2011. That can be found at CLO-309, although  
20 I'm not going to open that up, but can I ask you now,  
21 HIA67, how you feel about those who cared for you while  
22 you were in Termonbacca? What do you feel about them  
23 today?

24 A. If you'd asked me that two years ago, I would have said  
25 hatred. Now I feel from the resources that they had and

<p>1 I think the wee girls that worked in the shop used to 2 break the biscuits, because there was always loads of 3 biscuits. There was always about ten or twenty of us 4 coming down, handing our sixpence in to get -- 5 Q. Broken biscuits. 6 A. -- broken biscuits, and there was always a bag of 7 biscuits for each of us. So I think the wee girls in 8 there went "Oops!" 9 Q. What about day trips? Do you remember going on day 10 trips? 11 A. They would take us day trips to like Buncrana or 12 something like that there, St. Vincent de Paul. You 13 would get an apple and orange and take you down to the 14 seaside. 15 Q. There is another photograph just about which shows 16 a group of boys, if I can just find it. It is 17 SND-14184. Now this seems to be -- and maybe it is 18 better if you describe what's in that photograph, 19 HIA125. 20 A. Well, obviously it is an awful lot of us there going 21 down -- it looks it is outside the Guildhall there. 22 I am in the centre, the very centre of that photograph, 23 so I am, in the second row. I don't know. Some elderly 24 people there too as well. I don't know. They could be 25 friends of Termonbacca or St. Vincent de Paul.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 145</p>	<p>1 dreaming. I thought I was dreaming", because the 2 Reverend Mother, the Holy Reverend Mother had just threw 3 me out of the bed. She walked away and there was me 4 standing there holding my head. 5 Q. You've talked about -- do you ever remember anybody else 6 visiting the home? 7 A. There was St. Vincent de Paul, they would come up, 8 visit, and again there was barbers come up and cut your 9 hair like, you know, and St. Vincent de Paul. 10 Q. Were there priests who also visited? 11 A. There was priests, aye, but I don't remember anything 12 about them really. 13 Q. Can you remember at Christmas were there concerts held 14 in the home? 15 A. Aye. I actually remember -- I can remember -- I can 16 remember now sailors coming up and showing us films, you 17 know, Charlie Chaplin, something like that. Parties. 18 I can't remember too much about it, to be honest with 19 you. There is nothing in particular stands out in my 20 mind. 21 Q. HIA125, can I take you to some of the specific 22 allegations that you make in your statement? At 23 paragraph 5 of your statement you describe the main 24 building and you talk about two nuns and you describe 25 them, and we've seen the photographs of the two nuns you</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 147</p>
<p>1 Q. Is it possible that this was a group of you going on 2 a day trip? 3 A. Yes. More than likely, yes. Even going to the 4 Guildhall was a day out, you know. Got you out of the 5 home. Piled you into the bus and you may have had a wee 6 party, ice-cream and jelly, you know. So that probably 7 was where the party was like, yes. Could have been 8 Derry City Council may have put something on or the Fire 9 Brigade used to put stuff on or Sea Eagle base. We went 10 there a couple of times to Sea Eagle base. 11 Q. So just going back then to you did go on day trips and 12 that's what you remember about them. Did you ever see 13 anyone from Social Services attend the home when you 14 were there? 15 A. Never seen them. Never. 16 Q. What about any senior nuns? 17 A. There was one incident where -- well, the Reverend 18 Mother decided to give the nun a hand to wake the 19 children up, and I slept on the top bunk, and this 20 Reverend Mother -- I had never seen -- I never seen her 21 before -- she woke me up. I opened my eyes and looked 22 and I seen this strange face. I thought I was still 23 dreaming. Closed my eyes again. She threw me out of 24 the bed. I struck my head on the locker on the way 25 down. I remember saying to the nun, "I thought I was</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 146</p>	<p>1 refer to in that paragraph. You talk about one of these 2 nuns, who is known here as SR2, and you say that the 3 young ones were put to bed about 7 o'clock. 4 "This particular nun hit us one at a time with 5 a stick, which was like a sally rod. She was hitting 6 everyone, and one day visitors from St. Vincent de Paul 7 arrived unannounced. She had white elastic garters on 8 her arms which she used when cleaning and she hid the 9 stick up her sleeve with the garter." 10 A. That's correct. When I says cleaning, nuns didn't 11 clean. Basically that -- them garters went from your 12 wrist to your forearm, and it was to keep her white 13 gown, whatever, clean. So if somebody comes, you take 14 it off, because -- as you have seen from the photos, the 15 place wasn't very clean. It was an old tin hut. They 16 want to be clean and immaculate and what have you. So 17 that's what they -- anyway the garter was there. She 18 was hitting us and next thing visitors come in. She 19 stuck the stick, the sally rod, up her sleeve, the same 20 sleeve she was shaking hands with them. I was waiting 21 to see if the stick would fall out, but it didn't. They 22 were asking, "Why are they crying? "Oh, they are all 23 scared. They are scared, like." After they went out 24 came the sally rod again. 25 Q. You go on to say that this beating by this nun didn't</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 148</p>

Sep 76

~~He~~ tell all the boys  
I was asking for them

In replying to this letter, please address the envelope as follows:

Number

Name

HIA 94

Dear SR 2

I just a few lines to let you know I am keeping well as I hope you are to I am getting on very well in and I hope to to this month. would you tell that I said I miss her very much would you tell ~~her~~ to come up to see me when ~~she can~~ when I will come up and visit you and I hope to will not be so long. Tell all the boys and Mums I was asking for them tell.

I was asking for her Sister I should be would like you to try get me a job if you can Sister I would like you to come up a visit me if you can I hope to be Christmas for about 6 days SR 2 could you send me up about \$5 and five holy medals and a chain please and an another pair of rosary beads and I will tell you the reason when you come up I will finish off here as I have to retire of the bed

Good Luck & God bless you know & always  
from HIA 94



Telephone Belfast 222

3311 Ext 258

**SR 2**

St Josephs Home  
Termonbacca  
LONDONDERRY

*Please reply to The Welfare Officer  
Your reference*

Our reference

Date

Dear **SR 2**

**HIA 94** brought me these two hankies for you. He received your parcel with the medals and rosary beads.

Yours sincerely

Welfare Officer

P.S. **HIA 94** also asked if you could send him some more hankies, some soap & a petrol lighter?

ENC

1 he was my pet, but that I also beat him made it even  
2 more hurtful.

3 I recall HIA94 coming to visit me when I was in  
4 hospital."

5 Can I just pause there? Have you a recollection of  
6 going to visit this nun in hospital?

7 **A. In hospital, no. In the home, yes, but not in the**  
8 **hospital.**

9 Q. She says that in the hospital you had a long  
10 conversation, that you seemed very caring, that it was  
11 nice of you to visit, that you told her that you'd  
12 bought [REDACTED] and that you were employed by

13 [REDACTED]  
14 "... and he was telling me about how difficult it  
15 was to keep a business going."

16 Now do you ever remember having any conversation of  
17 that type with this nun?

18 **A. The [REDACTED], no. I work for [REDACTED]**  
19 **[REDACTED] I don't want work for the [REDACTED], and**  
20 **hospital, I don't remember that either. I was in the**  
21 **home she is in, the care home, but I don't remember**  
22 **going to any hospital.**

23 Q. Well, she says -- she goes on to say that she never --

24 "I never beat him with sticks or any other implement  
25 as he describes. It is possible and I would have to



HIA 150

8. As a young child, HIA 150 was very quiet and timid . My memory of him is that he could have been easily pushed around by the other boys. I was always wary for the younger boys and I looked out for them. I would not have sewn boys pockets closed but I remember making boys shorts without pockets as I did not know how to make them at the time.

9.

HIA 237

10. I do recall HIA 237 but he never told me about any abuse. If I have been informed of any abuse, I would have acted to protect the victim and investigate any such complaint. I would never have beaten a child or used bad language towards them.

**Ex-Residents**

11. Before I came to Termonbacca, I do not know if ex-residents had been stopped from visiting the home. I did my best to help ex residents as I knew some were living in squats and I was concerned they were vulnerable, particularly given the ongoing PIRA campaign. SR 1 decided we needed expertise to assist us with the needs of residents and former residents and she arranged for the recruitment of a social worker which resulted in the employment of SND 332 who was a great asset to the home.
12. I reiterate that I never contemplated a risk that ex residents would sexually abuse boys in the home.

**Statement of Truth**

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

SR 2

Dated

26.03.2014

INTERNAL CASE REVIEW.

April 78.

To be completed by member of staff responsible for the child

Name of child: HIA 69Date of Birth:Date of Admission:Responsible Local Authority: Western Health Board (Derry)Referred by: WelfareResponsibility: Mrs SimpsonHouse or Group:1. Contact and relationship with child's own family:

- a) With parents: HIA 69 visits his mother, but no visits from her to the children.
- b) With siblings or other relatives: continual fights between HIA 69 and his older sister.
- c) With other outside contacts: none

2. Emotional Development and behaviour: Appears to be a very disturbed lad. hates any form of correction.3. Relationships in the children's home:

- a) With residential staff: Can not bear to be corrected. In conflict most of the time with staff. (Resident)
- b) With other children: not liked very much, very aggressive unless they fall in with HIA 69
4. Health: wishes

a) General Health and physical development:

Very good normal

b) Record of any serious illness:

none

c) Date of last Medical Examination and findings:

March 77.

WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD  
LONDONDERRY LITAVADY AND STRAFANE DISTRICT

## CASE — REPORT

Name ..... family..... Case Category .....  
Address .....

DATE	CASE DETAILS-Visitors, Reports etc.,
	<p>Took HIA 69 to see his mother as HIA 352 was sick. SND 484</p> <p>Called with ..... to arrange for a visit from HIA 352 on her own to compensate for the time she was sick. SND 484</p> <p>HIA 352 left for day's visit - appeared to be very happy with this. SND 484</p> <p>SND 332 contacted re. HIA 69 running away last Friday. Called at mother's - HIA 69 there but very unhappy at idea of going back to Temonbacca. Has been getting on badly with SR 6 - culminating in an incident where he alleges she caught him by the throat. However eventually agreed to go accompanied by ..... We talked to SR 6 who said that she understood that HIA 69 was unhappy but that she felt he was quite insolent to her and that she had lost her temper with him. .... agreed that we should try to find a placement for him in the family.</p> <p>Called with ..... feel they have enough to be contending with DL 70 - would not be interested in having HIA 69. Called with his aunt ..... has five children and expecting a baby soon so could not do it either. However, she seemed a very sensible woman who said that we needed to be wary of ..... as she was capable of using HIA 69 to meet her own needs and that contact with her might not be the best thing for him. SND 484</p>
	<p>HIA 69 and HIA 352 spent the whole day with their mother. SND 484</p> <p>Saw HIA 69 and HIA 352 at Temonbacca to let them know I would be on leave over Easter. SND 484</p> <p>..... Annual leave. DL 70 was home on holiday during this period. SND 484</p>
	<p>Talked to SR 6 about HIA 69 - feels she still cannot make any kind of relationship with him and that he is still defying her authority, although not overtly. SND 484</p> <p>Called with ..... thinks the visits are going alright. Asked her why she never called to see all the children at Temonbacca - she said that she did not feel welcome and that the nuns made her feel guilty.</p>
	<p>Same date - saw all four children. SND 484</p>

PRIVATE

HIA REF: SND 21

Witness Name: SND 21

**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF SND 21**

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I, SND 21 will say as follows:-

**Personal details**

1. I was born on [REDACTED].

**Role and responsibilities**

2. I was employed as a houseparent in Termonbacca for a [REDACTED]. Six months prior to being employed I did voluntary work in the home. This involved making tea, washing clothes and helping the children. When I was a houseparent my hours were 7am until 10pm or 3pm until 10pm seven days a week. During the time I worked in Termonbacca I attended [REDACTED] in Belfast and completed a Certificate in Residential Care. During term I continued to work in the home at weekends.

3. I was a houseparent in [REDACTED] group. The nun in charge of the group was SR 14. She was later replaced by SR 6. SND 57 worked as a cleaner in the group. SR 2 was in charge of the other group.

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4. I think there were approximately 17 children in my group. **HIA 127** was the youngest child in the group at **[REDACTED]** old and **SND 147** was the eldest. He was **[REDACTED]** years old. I had no formal training in child care and was not given any in Termonbacca. I was the eldest girl at home in a house of **[REDACTED]** children and I was used to looking after my brothers and sisters. My course in residential childcare introduced me to child care theory. When I tried to implement some of the theories **SR 6** said to me 'you are not coming here to introduce any theories to us'. When I tried to apply my training in any way the nuns did not like it and resisted it.
5. One day a boy called **SND 309** took a biscuit from the kitchen and **SR 6** **SR 6** caught him. He was only about 5 or 6 years old. As punishment she made him stand in a corner of the corridor all day. I stood up for him and told **SR 6** not to punish him that way. I told her I would not take the other children to the civic parade that day without **SND 309**. She then conceded and allowed him to go. I started to stand up for myself and to challenge certain practices in the home on occasion.

### Staff

6. **SR 14** was there for approximately **[REDACTED]** when I worked in Termonbacca. I would describe her as strict and controlling and did everything by the book. I felt that she was not emotionally attached to the children and viewed working in Termonbacca as a profession rather than a vocation. She shouted at the children a lot but I never saw her hit a child.
7. **SR 6** replaced **SR 14**. She had a strong brogue and played **[REDACTED]**. She was close to her family. **SR 6** appeared to be a get up and go nun when she first arrived. She was full of fun and always smiling but again she was controlling and everything had to be spick and span. She was cross with children and often threatened 'I will give you a kick up the ass'. I did see her kick children on the bum with her boot but this was to move them along

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rather than to hurt them. **SR 6** shouted at children but I never saw her hit a child with her hand or anything else. I sensed from the children that they were uneasy in her company. When she was at prayer, which usually lasted a few hours, I was in charge of the children and they were visibly relaxed and were themselves. I allowed the children in my group to watch TV which **SR 6** would not have allowed. When I did this I always made sure there was one child keeping lookout on the corridor for **SR 6** returning. If she caught the children watching TV she would not have been pleased. When I stayed in the home on a Saturday night I allowed the boys to sit up late and watch Match of the Day. So as to not wake the nuns they had to be as quiet as mice going up to bed. I also used to play football with them and take them down the town. I tried to ensure they had fun as children should have.

8. **SR 2** was in charge of the other group in Termonbacca. I didn't think she was very nice. On one occasion I saw her and **SR 6** talking about people who donated money and were visiting the home saying 'I wish they would go now'. I didn't think she had a nice attitude to people who were trying to help them. She backstabbed people who were good to them and kind to the children. **SR 2** appeared to be the matriarch in Termonbacca. I do know that some of the boys thought that **SR 2** was kind.
9. It was a very regimented life in Termonbacca. Uniforms had to be neat and shoes had to be polished. The nuns were very concerned about portraying a good image to the outside world.
10. Older boys came back to visit the home when I was on duty at weekends. They were often left in charge of children when the nuns were at prayer. The nuns did not seem to have a problem with the boys returning. I recall boys called **SND 4**, **SND 23** and **SND 122** visiting the home. A resident called **SND 33** was in my group and he used to stay by my side when the older boys came to the home. On one occasion **SND 33** took a knife to **SND 4**. When I asked **SND 33** why he did this he said that he did not like him. When I worked in Harberton House a few years later **SND 33** who became a

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resident in Harberton, told me that he had been abused by **SND 4** in Termonbacca. I did not know this when I worked there but looking back on it he did act differently when **SND 4** was around. **SND 33** also told me that **SR 6** **SR 6** didn't like him and that she shouted and roared at him when I wasn't there.

11. There was not enough staff for the ratio of children in Termonbacca. If the nuns had had their way I would have been on duty every night but I had other commitments.

### Life in Termonbacca

12. I believe that the nuns got money for each child that came to the home. At Christmas Du Pont sponsored presents for each child. On some occasions the Du Pont worker who donated the present came to the home on Christmas Day to see the children open their gifts. I believe the children kept their presents in their rooms.
13. My duties as a houseparent involved getting the children up around 6.45am and getting them ready for mass. Mass was at 7.30am every morning. After mass I served breakfast in the dining room. When the children went to school I tidied up and did the washing and ironing. Clothes were washed every day. On some occasions I brought children to my family home for the day. I took **HIA 126** and **SND 197** home. At the end of the day they did not want to return to Termonbacca. I found it hard bringing them back. I recall that **HIA 126** felt that **SR 6** wasn't nice to her at times. I think that **SND 197** was a favourite of **SR 6**
14. There was a bad tempered nun in charge of the kitchen. I think her name was **SR 64** The children told me that she had hit them. The food was just alright. It was brought up from the kitchen on a heated trolley and I served the

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food out the hatch in the canteen along with **SND 57**. If a child wanted extras there was no food left to give them.

15. There were a few children in my group that wet the bed. When this happened **SR 6** would have told the child off and made them take the sheets down and put them in the washing machine. I told **SR 6** that bedwetting was a result of feelings of separation and loss which I had learned from my course. She just looked at me and wasn't interested in what I had to say. On occasions I washed children's wet sheets and showed them how to do it so they would not get told off again. When **SR 6** was on holiday I made the children's beds and helped them as much as I could. I couldn't do this while she was there or she would have told me off.
16. Punishments in Termonbacca consisted of children being made to go to bed early, being deprived of things or not being allowed outside to play. The nuns commonly said to children 'I am in charge of you because you have no-one else'. I thought this was a cruel thing to say.
17. Children were made to do chores in the home. These included washing dishes, cleaning the kitchen, hoovering, making beds and cleaning floors. The children had to do chores from a young age.
18. I do not think poverty was the reason why the nuns ran Termonbacca in the way they did. I was of the view that the nuns were money led rather than needs led. One time I was in the convent and the nuns used the best china and had excellent furniture. They didn't eat with the children. They ate in their own dining room and I believe they ate better food than the children.
19. **SND 332** was employed by the nuns as a **[REDACTED]**. I thought it was a good thing that he joined. He had an office of his own and I believe that some of the older boys were close to him.



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20. I had a room in the home when I was staying overnight. One day while I was off duty in my room I heard a child crying at the end of the corridor where the toilets were. I went to see what was going on. Outside the toilets I found **SND 197** **SND 197** with her pants down at her feet. She was about [REDACTED] years old at the time. **HIA 69** came out of the toilets and scarpered. **HIA 69** was about [REDACTED] years old at the time. I lifted **SND 197** into my arms and comforted her. She said that **HIA 69** was touching her. I reported this to **SR 6**. I understand that she informed **SND 332**. I believe that **HIA 69** was removed from Termonbacca because of this incident in [REDACTED]. I think he was moved to Harberton House.

21. I do not recall any inspections in the home while I was there although children did have social workers and I would have had some involvement with them. I kept a day book which recorded appointments and daily events which involved the children.

22. I believe that **SR 6** had to leave Termonbacca and go to [REDACTED] but I do not know why. I believe complaints may have been made to the Mother General about her. I think she left child care.

### **HIA 352** (HIA 352)

23. I remember **HIA 352** in Termonbacca however I do not recall the incident which she describes. **SR 6** may have had a stick and she could have threatened children with it. However I never witnessed **SR 6** hit a child whilst I was in Termonbacca.

### **HIA 69** (HIA 69)

24. I recall **HIA 69** in Termonbacca and being at Shrove during the holidays. I was only there once. However I do not recall the incident which **HIA 69** describes. I would have remembered if I had pulled **SR 6** off him.

PRIVATE

Life after Termonbacca

25. I got increasingly frustrated with the system in Termonbacca. I was young myself, I was only [REDACTED] years old. I had learned new theories in child care and the nuns were not interested in my views or implementing my ideas despite my best efforts. The nuns did not seem to want change. As a result I left and got a job in [REDACTED]. When I left I prayed that Termonbacca would be closed down. It wasn't a nice place and it wasn't a good place for children to be brought up. In January [REDACTED] I came back home to Derry and I got a job working as a residential social worker in Harberton House.

26. In Termonbacca the nuns were very into praying and following their own rules. I used to go home and vent my frustration to my mother. I told her 'the nuns are supposed to be with God and I had not seen any proof of that in Termonbacca'. The gentleness, kindness and compassion which the children needed wasn't provided by the nuns. I learned a lot from my time in Termonbacca. I learned how to be a better social worker.

27. I loved the children in Termonbacca. I was young myself. I did the best that I could for the children and I hope they felt they got some love and kindness from me whilst I was there.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

**SND 21**

Dated

25 / 4 / 14.