

1 that good-looking boy". What she meant I don't know,
2 because that's just what she said, and she didn't say to
3 me, "HIA408, would you like to come with me? Is it
4 okay?" Nothing. Just you were sold out like a slave or
5 an object, and at the end of her saying she put her hand
6 in her bag and went like that to the Sister -- the
7 Mother, to the Sister, and what she put in their hand
8 I don't know. I didn't see any money, but I suppose it
9 was money. I don't know.

10 Q. Some form of donation of some kind maybe to the home.
11 You don't know yourself what it was.

12 A. No, but I should imagine it was money. I should
13 imagine. I don't know. I didn't see nothing. Just
14 seen her hand like that.

15 Q. You then went with that family and worked on their farm.

16 A. I went to near , --

17 Q. And --

18 A. -- and I remember when I went into the farmhouse, I said
19 to NL83 -- I said, "Who is that old man?" He was only
20 63, but at that time 63 was like 103 today, and because
21 I called him an old man, he jumped on me really and he
22 frightened me. I was only a young boy, and when NL 82 --
23 one day he called his wife NL 83 and I thought,
24 "Well, I can call her NL 83 and I called her NL 83
25 and he jumped on me, didn't me. He beat me, because --

1 **"My wife's name is not NL 83 . It is NL 83 to me.**
2 **It is 'madam' to you", and that was it, and I worked**
3 **seven days a week, week after week, after week, after**
4 **week, and on a Sunday I spent all afternoon cleaning the**
5 **eggs. In today's time now they put chickens eggs --**
6 **chicken's mess on the eggs to prove they are fresh.**

7 **Q. Yes.**

8 **A. I spent all day cleaning, and working day and night**
9 **seven days a week. Never had one moment off work, no**
10 **rest.**

11 **Q. And your belief, HIA408, is you were around about 13**
12 **when you were selected and went to live with this**
13 **particular family.**

14 **A. Oh, , yes, yes.**

15 **Q. Your recollection is you actually moved to two other**
16 **farms; that it didn't work with the first family --**

17 **A. Yes.**

18 **Q. -- and you then worked on another farm in Fermanagh and**
19 **you had a better relationship with those people --**

20 **A. Yes.**

21 **Q. -- and then a third one around .**

22 **A. . I worked in farms, several farms, and**
23 **I didn't know what part of Ireland I was in, because**
24 **nobody told me what it was, you know.**

25 **Q. And --**

1 security, and I could realise now that these people --
2 we were out on trust, you know. There was a group of us
3 and there was the boys in charge of us and the nun in
4 front and the nun at the back, and if you done anything
5 wrong, you were taken -- when you went back, you know,
6 you had to account for it. So, you know, you knew not
7 to do nothing.

8 Q. You make the point that you were dressed well for going
9 out in your Sunday best, if I can put it like that.

10 A. That's true.

11 Q. You were recounting to me the nuns would have maybe
12 spoken to men who were sitting in the park, who then
13 made donations to them.

14 A. That's true.

15 Q. You explain then in paragraph 21, HIA87, that eventually
16 you became a charge boy of sorts in that you were -- by
17 the time you got to about 12 or 13 you were asked to go
18 and work in the children's section. Now we are talking
19 about the infants section between 0 and 5, and you had
20 about 20 boys to look after.

21 A. Well, we had -- when I was in that part of the Nazareth
22 Lodge, it was the infants, and we would have had to help
23 them with their food and stuff like that, and they
24 didn't have nappies in those days, you know. You had to
25 clean up at the back of them and that. I was in there

1 **for a wee while.**

2 **Then I was put out into the children's laundry,**
3 **which was next door to it, and I had to do the washing**
4 **in there, and then I was taken out of that and I was put**
5 **into the garden, and I was working in the garden when**
6 **I left Nazareth Lodge.**

7 Q. That's because your schooling had come to an end by that
8 stage and then you were moved to these various tasks
9 after your schooling had finished.

10 **A. That's true.**

11 Q. But you didn't sleep there then. You went back to your
12 own dorm at night-time and then during the day went to
13 these places to work, including the infants' section.

14 **A. The only -- I went to my own dormitory at night, and**
15 **when I was working in the garden, I went into the main**
16 **refectory to get my dinner at dinner time, then went**
17 **back out to do the gardening work.**

18 Q. You describe in paragraph 28 on 261 that you since
19 learned you were twice on lists to go potentially to
20 Australia, and you were recounting to me -- can you just
21 explain to the Panel the memory you have of the
22 selection process that you now identify with being
23 picked for Australia?

24 **A. Well, for a start SR118 and SR184 brought all the boys**
25 **out into the front -- into the playground, and we stood**

PRIVATE

wind. The next morning I was taken to the bathroom for the usual punishment as **SR 118** said that I had disrespected her.

23. I went to confession one day and confessed to the Priest all that had happened to me in the home. A week or two later Mr and **NL 141** a farming couple from [REDACTED] came to the home to meet me. Sister **SR 118** told me that they were going to adopt me, and that I would live with them until they died and that the farm would be passed on to me. I did not know anything about farming but I thought that if it meant getting out of Nazareth Lodge I would gladly go. I am not sure if this was organised by the Priest who had heard my confession, but it does seem like a coincidence that it should happen so quickly after I told him what was happening to me. I was given no preparation for leaving Nazareth Lodge, and it just happened out of the blue.

Life After Care

24. Initially I found farm life to be very exciting, but I soon discovered that I was living under another regime. At night **NL 141** gave me a harness that I had to polish with black polish and Brasso. Every morning I had to wash a big basket of potatoes in the nearby river before I went to school. I was sent out to other people's farms as well, such as the [REDACTED] farm, where I had to pull flax. If I was not working to **NL 141** satisfaction, he would have scolded me until I was crying. I often visited with neighbours called the [REDACTED]. The families who lived in the neighbouring farms looked after me, and I think that they may have looked on me as orphans. Eventually I stopped working for **NL 141** and I think that he recognised that I had more in common with the neighbouring farmers.

25. **NL 141** could be a cruel man. I was very interested in playing sports like hurley and cricket. If I was late back from a match he would get very angry, and would break my hurley. The sticks cost half a crown each, so if **NL 141** broke my stick I would have to work for the [REDACTED] to save for a new one