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HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY  
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being heard before:

SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)

MR DAVID LANE

MS GERALDINE DOHERTY

held at

Banbridge Court House

Banbridge

on Monday, 6th October 2014

commencing at 10.00 am

(Day 55)

MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as  
Counsel to the Inquiry.

1 Monday, 6th October 2014

2 (10.00 am)

3 MS SMITH: Good morning, Chairman, Panel Members. Just  
4 before we proceed with the first witness who is to give  
5 evidence today I understand Mr Rooney would like to say  
6 something to the Inquiry.

7 CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr Rooney?

8 Opening statement on behalf of the De La Salle Order

9 MR ROONEY: Mr Chairman, Members of the Panel, thank you  
10 very much for allowing me to give what will be a brief  
11 opening statement.

12 You will recall in January of this year at the  
13 outset of the tribunal and even before the Rubane module  
14 the De La Salle Order made an unreserved and sincere  
15 apology in respect of those ex-residents who had been  
16 abused in their care. That apology was made again last  
17 week and it will be made every single time a witness  
18 gives evidence in respect of those ex-Brothers or those  
19 Brothers who the De La Salle Brothers accept were guilty  
20 of abuse.

21 Now the apology is based upon knowledge. It has  
22 been knowledge that it has gained from interviews that  
23 it has had with ex-residents. It is based upon  
24 information and voluminous documentation that is  
25 received from the police. De La Salle Order have

1 evaluated those statements and they have extrapolated  
2 from those statements a consistency in respect of those  
3 Brothers who they now accept were guilty of abuse, and  
4 the knowledge or the apology is also based upon civil  
5 claims that have been brought against the Order. They  
6 have paid compensation, and deserved compensation, to  
7 those applicants who they agree and they accept have  
8 been abused, but I should say that compensation has only  
9 been paid in respect of the allegations that it accepts,  
10 and it has not paid compensation in respect of any  
11 allegations which they feel are untruthful, or mistaken,  
12 or inaccurate.

13 Now you will hear evidence over the next few weeks  
14 in respect of some applicants, all applicants, and many  
15 of those applicants the Order accept the allegations  
16 made are truthful, and in submissions that we have made,  
17 the De La Salle Order have made to the Inquiry we have  
18 outlined those allegations that we accept are truthful,  
19 but there are allegations that you will hear which the  
20 Order say are inaccurate, unreliable, possibly  
21 untruthful.

22 The Order wish to say this, that it seeks to protect  
23 the reputation and the integrity and character of those  
24 Brothers whom they say did not abuse. You will hear  
25 evidence made against some Brothers who, as I have said,

1 the Order will say did not abuse. You will hear  
2 allegations in respect of events that the Order will say  
3 did not take place.

4 Now I realise that I don't get an opportunity to  
5 cross-examine these witnesses, and I totally respect  
6 that, but we have made submissions to the Panel and  
7 these submissions have -- are detailed. They are  
8 detailed in two respects. One, they are detailed in  
9 that we have told the Inquiry, identified those  
10 particular Brothers who we say are guilty of the abuse,  
11 but in respect of those who we feel were not guilty of  
12 abuse we have also highlighted this in our submissions.

13 We are confident that when the witnesses are asked  
14 questions in respect of statements that they have made,  
15 that your very competent, very excellent counsel will  
16 put to those witnesses those allegations that we say are  
17 mistaken. Now it is not for us to say why they are  
18 mistaken. There is lots of reasons. Memories fade over  
19 periods of time. They become distorted. It is not for  
20 me to make any submissions in respect of that except to  
21 say that we are confident that your counsel will put  
22 fairly and succinctly to the witnesses those particular  
23 allegations we say are not truthful.

24 We do seek to protect the reputation and integrity  
25 of those particular deceased members of the Brothers and

1 indeed their families who we say were not guilty of  
2 abuse.

3 CHAIRMAN: Well, Mr Rooney, I am sure those who are affected  
4 by the matters that you have described will pay careful  
5 attention to what you have said on behalf of the Order.

6 I think it is appropriate that I should take the  
7 opportunity to say yet again what the Inquiry has said  
8 so often. These are not a series of trials that we are  
9 conducting. We are concerned to identify matters that  
10 relate to any allegations that could give rise to  
11 findings of systemic failings on the part of whichever  
12 body or organisation we are concerned with at any given  
13 time in the Inquiry.

14 Your clients and everybody else should understand we  
15 have -- in addition to the witness statements we have in  
16 your client's case been provided with very detailed  
17 responses to each witness and we have those and we are  
18 therefore able to read them and pay careful attention to  
19 them, but because these are not trials, we do not expect  
20 each and every detail to necessarily be explored during  
21 the public hearing.

22 We, of course, will have regard to these, the  
23 implications of them and so on when we assess each  
24 individual witness, but the mere fact that every detail  
25 is not put should not be taken as indicating that in

1           some way we are either not paying attention to them at  
2           all or are not concerned with detail. Public hearings  
3           are not to be used in some way as if this were a trial  
4           or preparation for other forms of legal proceedings that  
5           might happen in the future. That's a matter for another  
6           day elsewhere, but certainly we take into account what  
7           you say.

8   MR ROONEY: I am grateful. Thank you very much.

9   MS SMITH: Thank you, Chairman. Perhaps if the witness can  
10           just be brought in. He is just outside the door.

11   CHAIRMAN: While the witness is being brought in can I just  
12           remind everyone again that when the Inquiry is sitting  
13           please ensure that your mobile phones are turned off or  
14           placed at least on silent/vibrate, and I also have to  
15           remind you that no photography is permitted within the  
16           Inquiry chamber or anywhere within the Inquiry premises,  
17           whether it is a camera or mobile phone or anything else.

18           Does the witness wish to take an oath?

19                           WITNESS HIA45 (called)

20   MS SMITH: Yes, he does, Chairman. The witness is to be  
21           known as HIA45. HIA45 does wish to take a religious  
22           oath, Chairman. He has also asked that his anonymity be  
23           maintained. Despite the fact that he has on previous  
24           occasions spoken to the media, he would like now to  
25           maintain his anonymity as afforded by the Inquiry.

1 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

2 HIA45 (sworn)

3 CHAIRMAN: Thank you, please sit down.

4 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

5 MS SMITH: Now, HIA45, can I just ask that your witness  
6 statement be pulled up on the screen, first of all?  
7 That is RUB513. HIA45, you have a copy of your witness  
8 statement in front of you, but you will see here, as  
9 I explain to you as it comes up on the screen, we have  
10 blanked out certain details to protect your privacy and  
11 anonymity. You will see here it says "The Witness  
12 Statement of HIA45", which is the designation we have  
13 given to you rather than your full name. Can I just ask  
14 you, if we could scroll down through this, please, and  
15 go to the last page, which is 520, and if you just look  
16 at the document that you've got in front of you there,  
17 HIA45, can you confirm that this is the witness  
18 statement that you provided to the Inquiry, and it is  
19 dated 26th February 2014, and that you signed that  
20 witness statement and you want the Inquiry to take that  
21 into account as your evidence along with what you tell  
22 us here today?

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. Just for the benefit of the Inquiry Panel Members, the  
25 Order's response statement is found at RUB2130 to 2134

1 and the exhibits attached to it are from 2135 to 2154.

2 There is also a statement from the Health & Social  
3 Care Board, including exhibits, which can be found at  
4 RUB8000 to 8036 and the social work papers can be found  
5 at RUB30000 to 30133.

6 If we might go back to the first page of the  
7 statement, please, now, HIA45. We're just scrolling  
8 down through the statement. The first five  
9 paragraphs of it essentially set out the background and  
10 stuff, how you came to be taken into care.

11 If I may summarise that, your mother had died. Your  
12 grandmother was looking after you, but she had her own  
13 difficulties. She had problems with her eyesight, for  
14 example. There were eight of you and she wasn't able to  
15 cope. As you described it to me, you were effectively  
16 running wild. Isn't that the position?

17 **A. Correct, yes.**

18 Q. You do remember that there was one episode when you were  
19 out running wild, as you put it, where you and your  
20 brother [REDACTED] I think it was --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- ended up sleeping overnight in a hay shed?

23 **A. That's right.**

24 Q. And something happened in that hay shed. Isn't that  
25 correct?

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. I am just going to summarise what you told me, but if I  
3 have got anything wrong, please correct me, because  
4 technically what happened there is not really to do with  
5 the work of the Inquiry.

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. But let me just summarise. You and [REDACTED] were out and  
8 you slept in this hay shed. There was a guy who worked  
9 there who came into the hay shed and you witnessed him  
10 as you described to me --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- perform a sexual act. Isn't that correct?

13 **A. That's right.**

14 Q. And you then were found and taken by police or you spoke  
15 to the police and you told the police what you had seen.  
16 Isn't that right?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. And that matter then resulted in a court case?

19 **A. I didn't know that it went to the court, but apparently  
20 it did.**

21 Q. You know that from what I told you last week was --

22 **A. Yes, I know what you told me, yes.**

23 Q. But you certainly didn't give any evidence about that?

24 **A. No, no.**

25 Q. Nor did your Brother [REDACTED] as far as you are aware?

1 **A. No, no.**

2 Q. In any event as a result of that episode -- it seemed to  
3 culminate in what had been going on before -- you and  
4 your family were taken into care by Tyrone County  
5 Welfare?

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. You talk in paragraph 3 about the first place you were  
8 taken to was Armagh Workhouse.

9 **A. Correct, yes.**

10 Q. You remember being there with your brother. I have  
11 given his name, but obviously that won't be repeated  
12 outside this chamber. He was a year younger than you.

13 **A. He was, yes.**

14 Q. And you certainly thought that [REDACTED] then went from the  
15 workhouse with you to Milltown --

16 **A. I did.**

17 Q. -- which was St. Pat's Reformatory School at that time?

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. That was run by the De La Salle Order, but you know from  
20 what I have shown you that, in fact, the papers show  
21 that [REDACTED] didn't go into Milltown with you, that he,  
22 in fact, was taken by his father to England.

23 If we could just look at a couple of documents about  
24 that, please. If we look at RUB30020, and maybe if we  
25 could just enlarge that, this is, as you will see -- I

1 will explain it to you, HIA45. This is a case report  
2 prepared on 21st February 1950 by the Tyrone County  
3 Welfare Committee.

4 May I just point out that this document has not yet  
5 been redacted, but will be redacted before it goes on to  
6 the website, so that any of the details that there are  
7 identifying anybody in this should not be broadcast  
8 outside this chamber.

9 It says:

10 "The Welfare called with [your grandmother] that  
11 afternoon and explained the arrangements that the  
12 Country Welfare Officer is making for the transfer of  
13 Philip to the care of his father in London and she was  
14 very pleased to learn we would allow Philip to spend  
15 a night at her home prior to transfer."

16 Then goes on to talk about the other members of the  
17 family, and if we just scroll down, none of this then  
18 relates to you, but if we go to RUB30023 --

19 CHAIRMAN: Can I just intervene to ask --

20 MS SMITH: Sorry.

21 CHAIRMAN: -- we seem to have a difference between the  
22 number that's coming up in the top left hand of the  
23 screen, which is just a series, a whole series of  
24 numbers. So if we can just be careful to show the exact  
25 Bates numbered page --

1 MS SMITH: The number --

2 CHAIRMAN: -- for the purpose of taking a note.

3 MS SMITH: The number at the top, if you take the bold  
4 number that's actually on the page being shown, Chairman  
5 --

6 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

7 MS SMITH: -- as the number in the bundle, that is the  
8 section of the bundle in which this is to be found.

9 CHAIRMAN: No, I understand that, but in the past we have  
10 actually had the Bates number also up in the top left  
11 hand of the screen. It is just so we know which page it  
12 is.

13 MS SMITH: Well, it's -- I am referring to the number that's  
14 actually on the actual page itself, Chairman.

15 CHAIRMAN: Exactly.

16 MS SMITH: You will see here that this is a telegram to --  
17 perhaps this is not the document that I thought it was.  
18 I think this is a different one. If we can maybe  
19 just -- there was a letter -- apologies. I think this  
20 actually related to you rather than to anyone else at  
21 that stage, but no matter.

22 In February 1950 there is a telegram sent:

23 "Expect arrival Wednesday afternoon.

24 Signed [REDACTED] Colonel Jones."

25 It would have been [REDACTED] Colonel Jones, who would have been the

1 Tyrone County Welfare Officer. However, I don't think  
2 that's actually showing what I thought it should. So we  
3 can forget that. It clearly shows -- in fact, this is  
4 actually part of what -- shows you went to stay with  
5 foster parents -- isn't that correct --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- initially before you actually went to Milltown --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- HIA45, although you didn't --

10 **A. I didn't realise that I done that. I thought I went**  
11 **from the workhouse into St. Patrick's or --**

12 Q. Milltown.

13 **A. -- Milltown, yes. I didn't -- I didn't real... -- I had**  
14 **forgotten entirely about that part of it.**

15 Q. And, in fact, just to be clear, the foster parents' name  
16 was [REDACTED] -- isn't that correct --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- that you went to? Whenever we talked about this when  
19 we spoke last week, you do remember being with foster  
20 parents called [REDACTED] Isn't that so?

21 **A. Yes, I did. Aye. Yes.**

22 Q. If we can just look at RUB30027, and if that could be  
23 turned around, and it quite clearly says here:

24 "Please note that [you]", your date of birth, "were  
25 boarded out with the [REDACTED] family in Castlederg on

1 22nd February 1950."

2 That would have been before you actually went to  
3 Milltown.

4 Now you talked at paragraph 26 of your statement  
5 about going out from Kircubbin to live with a family on  
6 a farm and then being returned to Kircubbin, but after  
7 me pointing these documents out to you and discussing it  
8 with you, it is correct you now accept you were confused  
9 in that paragraph. Isn't that correct, HIA45?

10 **A. I was, absolutely. I thought that that was the same**  
11 **people like that I had been -- that I had been out with.**

12 Q. But you now realise that you, in fact, went to them  
13 before you ever went to Rubane?

14 **A. Yes, yes.**

15 Q. And you do complain about the fact that in that  
16 particular foster parent you were expected to do a lot  
17 of farm work there?

18 **A. Absolutely.**

19 Q. And there's a lot of Social Service work was done --  
20 sorry -- papers which show about your time with that  
21 foster -- those foster parents. Initially it would  
22 appear that when you went there, you were initially  
23 unhappy, and this can be seen -- and I am not going to  
24 call these documents up, but for the benefit of the  
25 Panel, who may wish to look at them, if they look at

1 RUB30035 and 36 there were reports, various report cards  
2 compiled by the social worker, Mr Robinson, during your time  
3 in the foster parents.

4 Initially you were unhappy, but subsequent reports  
5 say that you had settled, and then in July 1950 Mrs [REDACTED]  
6 complained about you being there, and that can be seen  
7 at 30042 -- again I am not calling this up -- and  
8 eventually in September 1950 you were removed from the  
9 foster parents and then taken to Milltown, again if we  
10 look at 3... -- I am not going to pull it up again --  
11 30049 to 30051, but if we could look on the screen at  
12 RUB30052, this effectively is a summary of your time in  
13 care and how you came to be there.

14 As I indicated, you were left in the care of your  
15 grandmother, who was registered blind. You were great  
16 friends. You and your brother got up to all the boyish  
17 mischief possible. Lacked discipline and supervision.

18 "Ultimately their scrapes brought them before the  
19 court."

20 There was a newspaper clipping attached to this  
21 document, which we no longer have.

22 "School attendance not regular."

23 If you could just scroll on down:

24 [REDACTED] was returned to his father. Doing well.

25 HIA45 we placed in foster care with respectable farmers

1 in the Castlederg district. However, the discipline  
2 demands plus the normal chores associated with farm life  
3 required of HIA45 were distasteful to him and  
4 periodically he drifted back to his grandmother. Lately  
5 there's been evidence of petty pilfering but nothing  
6 serious."

7 This is the report that went with you to Milltown to  
8 the De La Salle Brothers at that stage and it seems to  
9 be signed by E.M. McC, who is the County Welfare  
10 Officer. I am not quite clear who those initials refer  
11 to.

12 But I know from talking to you last week that  
13 whenever you -- when we talked about the fact you stayed  
14 with this family, you say there was something untoward  
15 happened there. Isn't that correct?

16 **A. Correct, yes.**

17 Q. Without going into the details of what happened, it  
18 involved you and your foster father?

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. And you believe that Mrs -- the foster mother realised  
21 that there was something untoward between you and her  
22 husband and you believe that that's why she complained  
23 and had you removed?

24 **A. That's what I think, yes.**

25 Q. And the incident that you related to me about what

1           happened to you in the foster care, you had never spoken  
2           to anybody about that until you told me last week.  
3           Isn't that the position?

4   **A. Correct, yes.**

5   Q. Now you'll appreciate, HIA45, that we can't deal with  
6           what happened to you in foster care and that that is  
7           outside the scope --

8   **A. Yes.**

9   Q. -- of the Inquiry. That's why I am not going into it in  
10          any more detail, but it is true to say that what  
11          happened to you was of a sexual nature?

12   **A. Yes, correct.**

13   Q. And just for completeness after you are taken away from  
14          the foster parents and brought to Milltown Mrs [REDACTED]  
15          whose name again should not be published outside, she  
16          actually wrote to the Welfare Committee asking to have  
17          you back. I am not going to call that up. It can be  
18          seen at RUB30053, and the Welfare people told her no,  
19          you weren't going back at 30057.

20                If we could look at RUB30054, this is a letter from  
21          [REDACTED] Brother Stephen, who was Manager of Milltown, on 11th  
22          September 1950. He says:

23                "I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter  
24          of the 7th instant with reference to the boy HIA45 who  
25          was admitted to this school on 8th inst. It is my

1 intention to keep him under observation for the next few  
2 weeks in order to decide if he would be a suitable case  
3 for our new voluntary home at Kircubbin, County Down."

4 He then talks about the maintenance charge for the  
5 boys in -- I presume that's in Milltown rather than in  
6 Rubane:

7 "A new rate will be fixed at the beginning of the  
8 next financial year and it may vary one way or the  
9 other, but it will be subject to the approval of the  
10 Ministry of Home Affairs. This fee includes food,  
11 clothing, education and industrial training."

12 That's sent to Colonel Jones who is the County Welfare  
13 Officer of Tyrone County Welfare Committee.

14 It is clear then you were received in Milltown on  
15 8th September 1950 according to this letter.

16 At paragraph 4 you talk about your time in Milltown,  
17 if we go back to RUB514, and you have accepted that you  
18 thought that [REDACTED] was with you --

19 **A. I did.**

20 Q. -- in Milltown.

21 **A. I did, yes.**

22 Q. But the documents clearly showed that he wasn't there.

23 He had actually gone to England to his father.

24 **A. That's right.**

25 Q. You say there that your brother and you were put in

1           there and you weren't very streetwise. What exactly did  
2           you mean by that, HIA45?

3     **A. I meant that we had come from a little village and then**  
4           **we ended up in this big city environment and we weren't**  
5           **very clever. The other boys were much cleverer than us.**

6     Q. You made mention of an episode to me about --

7     **A. Well --**

8     Q. -- the socks.

9     **A. Oh, aye. That's right. Took your socks and that sort**  
10           **of thing, and if you hid anything, you know, that you**  
11           **money or anything like that, they always seemed to find**  
12           **it and it was no longer there the next morning.**

13    Q. So basically what you were explaining to me was you felt  
14           you were more naive than the boys you were put into  
15           Milltown with?

16    **A. That's so, yes.**

17    Q. But you weren't by that line trying to indicate that you  
18           didn't -- you weren't aware of the facts of life or  
19           about sexuality or anything like that?

20    **A. Oh, no. Oh, it was nothing to do with that, no.**

21    Q. Now you talk also in that paragraph or in the next one  
22           about you would have been 12. ██████ was about 11.  
23           A few weeks before you left to go to Kircubbin one of  
24           the Brothers told you that ██████ had gone.

25            "No-one told me he had gone to London. It was years

1 before I heard about him again. He had, if fact, gone  
2 to live with his father."

3 You said you were told to mind your own business  
4 when you asked where he had gone?

5 **A. That's right.**

6 Q. You accept, though, from what I have outlined that  
7 [REDACTED] was never with you in Milltown?

8 **A. I do, yes. It's been such a long time ago. I had  
9 forgotten that. I thought he was with me there, but he  
10 had been in the -- he had been in the other place along  
11 with me.**

12 Q. In Armagh?

13 **A. In Armagh, but he hadn't been -- he hadn't come along  
14 with me. Obviously I thought he had come with me, but  
15 ...**

16 Q. So this memory you have about asking where he was and  
17 being told to mind your own business, is it possible  
18 then that might have related to Armagh?

19 **A. No, no. I think that the Brother knew what happened,  
20 [REDACTED] would have known that he had gone and where he had  
21 gone. I would have thought so, and I asked him and  
22 I was told that, "Well, he's away and just mind your own  
23 business", like, you know. I thought it was my  
24 business.**

25 Q. So you had a memory of asking [REDACTED] about him?

1 **A. That's right, yes.**

2 Q. Well, in any event you yourself were in Milltown for  
3 a short period before you were removed as one of the  
4 first boys who went into Rubane in 1951?

5 **A. That's correct, yes.**

6 Q. You talk in paragraphs 20 to 24 of your statement  
7 generally about conditions in the home and it is true to  
8 say that you certainly had no complaints to make about  
9 the food or the clothing that was provided to you.

10 Isn't that correct?

11 **A. That's correct, yes.**

12 Q. In fact, you said to me that really it was better than  
13 what you had outside?

14 **A. Absolutely, yes.**

15 Q. Can I just ask you if you have some general memories?

16 Do you ever remember like a Christmas party being given  
17 by Mackies Foundry or people visiting and bringing  
18 presents at Christmas?

19 **A. No recollection whatsoever of ever having a decent  
20 Christmas.**

21 Q. Or do you ever remember going to Glenariff in the summer  
22 holidays?

23 **A. No. I remember going to Kircubbin -- no, no. What was  
24 the name of it? It was in -- I can't think now the name  
25 of the place.**

1 Q. Cushendall?

2 **A. That's right. Cushendall.**

3 Q. You do talk in paragraph 16 about an incident involving  
4 a doctor, but do you ever remember having regular  
5 medical examinations when you were there?

6 **A. Very -- no, not -- only that one.**

7 Q. That's the only time you remember a doctor coming to  
8 treat you?

9 **A. That's right, yes.**

10 Q. What about inspections? You say that you remember    
11 coming up from Belfast.

12 **A. Yes. He would come round occasionally and have a chat  
13 with you. He was one of the only Brothers that would  
14 actually listen to what you had to say, speak to you.**

15 Q. And you describe him as a good man.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. Now you don't -- do you ever remember anybody coming  
18 from Tyrone County Welfare?

19 **A. DL372 was to come to see us --**

20 Q. And do you ever --

21 **A. -- and I do recollect on one occasion I did see her  
22 there, but on the particular day that she was there she  
23 never called to see me.**

24 Q. So you remember seeing her in -- do you remember where  
25 you saw her in the --

1 **A. I seen her going up into the -- what would be the dining**  
2 **hall for the Brothers.**

3 Q. But she didn't speak to you?

4 **A. No.**

5 Q. Now one of the things that the Order has said is they  
6 have no record of anybody coming from Tyrone County  
7 Welfare and they sort of feel if DL372 did come, then  
8 they would have expected her to have spoken to you.

9 **A. Yes. Well, I actually seen her. I definitely seen her**  
10 **and, like I said, she never come to see me.**

11 Q. One of the things again I talked to you about was what  
12 the social work papers show us. They show that the  
13 Order was sending reports back to Tyrone County Welfare  
14 about your well-being.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. If we look at RUB30075, this is just one example. You  
17 will see that it is dated 12th December 1951 --

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. -- received on 12th December. It is dated 10th. I beg  
20 your pardon. It is a progress report on you:

21 "Health. HIA45 is in excellent health. Sleeping  
22 and eating well. His teeth need to be strapped but we  
23 are awaiting word from the dental hospital."

24 Your school work was weak, although you had  
25 an aptitude and inclination for drawing or art.

1           Your conduct was -- you were well mannered, well  
2           behaved, a good worker and popular with your companions.

3           A general assessment of you was very good.

4           Now I am calling that up as an example and the Panel  
5           will find other examples at 30091, 30099, 30100, 301001  
6           -- sorry -- that should be 30101 -- which seem to be --  
7           suggest that, in fact, the Order were making these  
8           reports every month back to Tyrone County Welfare about  
9           how you were getting on.

10   **A. Yes.**

11   Q. But you weren't aware of that. Isn't that right?

12   **A. No, I wasn't aware of that.**

13   Q. And --

14   CHAIRMAN: Well, we know from the Australian module, HIA354,  
15           that the Welfare Committee itself received reports on  
16           each of its children --

17   MS SMITH: That's correct.

18   CHAIRMAN: -- every month. Isn't that right?

19   MS SMITH: That is correct, yes, Chairman.

20   CHAIRMAN: So I imagine if we looked, we would find or  
21           should find --

22   MS SMITH: Find a correlation.

23   CHAIRMAN: Yes.

24   MS SMITH: The Chairman is talking, HIA45, about other  
25           documents the Inquiry has seen in a different module

1 about the Tyrone County Welfare minutes --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. -- of their meetings where they would tell the Board  
4 about what was happening with all the boys in their care  
5 and your name would be -- ought to be recorded there --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- as having received these reports back from Kircubbin  
8 about you, but in any case you remember seeing DL372  
9 there, but you don't remember anybody else coming from  
10 Tyrone County Welfare to speak to you at any stage?

11 **A. No. At no stage did anybody come and see me, no.**

12 Q. If fact, you say that at paragraph 11 of your statement  
13 that no-one ever came to visit you.

14 **A. No.**

15 Q. And as far as we can tell from the documentation that we  
16 have obtained and from what the Order say that would be  
17 correct.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. There was never any visits by family members --

20 **A. No.**

21 Q. -- or anything like that to you. Just in respect of --  
22 you have talked about Brother Stephen being a good man, and there  
23 were two other Brothers who you remember. You recall  
24 a BR32. Is that correct?

25 **A. BR32, he was the old Brother. He was -- well, he didn't**

1           **have much to do with us anyway.**

2       Q.   BR13, you also mentioned him at some point.

3       **A.   I'm not absolutely sure about him.  I know one was a**  
4           **very old Brother and he hadn't much to do with us at**  
5           **all.**

6       Q.   Well, one of the things -- if we just go back to your  
7           statement at paragraph 11, and if we could just discuss  
8           this about no family or visitors coming to you in the  
9           home, in paragraph 11 -- sorry.  It is 515.  Again this  
10          is something -- your memory as you related it in your  
11          statement.  If we could just go down to paragraph 11 and  
12          highlight it, please.  Yes.  Just says here:

13                "No family or visitors came to see me at the home.  
14                I did not have anyone outside the home to take any  
15                interest in my welfare.  There were boys in the home who  
16                were there for brief stays who had regular visitors and  
17                they were always treated better than the boys who never  
18                had any visitors."

19                As far as you are aware you didn't have any  
20                visitors, but from what we have seen you did have people  
21                outside who were taking an interest in you, HIA45, and  
22                I talked about this with you before from the social work  
23                papers that we have seen.

24       **A.   Yes.**

25       Q.   You have yourself no memory of going out of Rubane.

1           Isn't that right?

2       **A. No, I haven't.**

3       Q. But you accept, having spoken to me about it and I put  
4           certain things to you, that, in fact, you did go out for  
5           a week to your grandmother in August 1951. Again I'm  
6           not going to call this document up, but it can be seen  
7           at RUB30067 through to 30072. That shows that you went  
8           out for a week in August 1951. RUB30076 to 30078 shows  
9           the fact that you also went back to your grandmother at  
10          Christmas 1951 for a week. Do you have any memory of  
11         doing that, HIA45?

12       **A. No recollection whatsoever, no.**

13       Q. Can I just pull up one document? RUB30079. If we can  
14         scroll down, please, you see here this again is a case  
15         report dated 1st January 1952. So that would have been  
16         just New Year's Day after the Christmas you had been  
17         home and it says here your grandmother was delighted  
18         when authority was granted to allow you -- you were now  
19         over 14 -- to spend the Christmas holidays at her home.  
20         Arrangements were then made to call back for you, to put  
21         you on the train at Omagh, where you would be met on  
22         arrival in Belfast by a certain Brother. It says:

23                 "HIA45 remains thin. He did not look particularly  
24                 happy, was sitting on his navy Burberry -- with his navy  
25                 Burberry on, hands in the pockets, although he assured

1 me he enjoyed the holiday. Perhaps it is that he is not  
2 anxious to return to Kircubbin."

3 Then there is discussion about one of your sisters  
4 in the rest of that document that we don't need to go  
5 into.

6 It seems certainly in 1952, HIA45, you weren't  
7 anxious to go back to Kircubbin, but you don't even  
8 remember being out. Isn't that right?

9 **A. That's right.**

10 Q. Another document I won't call up shows you went back  
11 home again in August 1952. That's RUB30092. Again in  
12 RUB30102 you went back home again at Christmas 1952. So  
13 it seems that you did go home on at least four occasions  
14 back to Tyrone.

15 **A. Well, I think that this may well be my lapse of mind,**  
16 **because I don't remember the what I would call the good**  
17 **times. I had so many bad times that when I had the good**  
18 **times, I can't recall them.**

19 Q. And just for completeness if we look at RUB30104, this  
20 is another one of these Tyrone County Welfare case  
21 reports, HIA45, and it is stamped on 8th January 1953,  
22 and this is about you going back then after Christmas in  
23 1952 and it talks about you and another boy. If we just  
24 scroll down to the last paragraph there, you will see  
25 that it is written by it looks like it is either Vera or

1 Una Richardson. Do you ever remember a social worker of  
2 that name?

3 **A. I do, yes.**

4 Q. You have a memory of that pers...

5 **A. I have a memory of that particular lady, yes.**

6 Q. So can you say what your memory is?

7 **A. I just remember her, because I remember -- I just**  
8 **remember her face. I remember -- you know, that's all**  
9 **about it. I can't just remember about what -- where it**  
10 **was or anything like that, but I do remember her.**

11 Q. It just says here in the last paragraph -- it says:

12 "The boys at Kircubbin School seem to be well  
13 treated and I feel that the Brothers at this school are  
14 doing a very good job with their charges. I have never  
15 heard a complaint about the teachers at the school from  
16 either of these boys ..."

17 That's you and the other boy you were travelling  
18 with.

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. "... and their surroundings appear happy and healthy."

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. That's dated 30th December 1952. Now do you remember  
23 this other boy? His name is given there.

24 **A. No, I don't.**

25 Q. You don't?

1    **A. No.**

2    Q. Now just -- again I am just -- we discussed this,  
3       **HIA 45**. I am pointing out things to you --

4    **A. Yes.**

5    Q. -- that are different from what you say in your  
6       statement and what we have discovered in the papers that  
7       have been presented to us. You also talk in  
8       paragraphs 26 and 27 about leaving Rubane. We know from  
9       the papers we have discovered that your memory about  
10      that isn't correct either.

11         So just looking at that for the moment, what we do  
12      know is when we look at the social work papers -- and  
13      again I am not putting all of these up, but RUB30105  
14      through 30133 -- we can see what happened after you left  
15      Rubane.

16         If I may summarise that, essentially Tyrone County  
17      Welfare arranged a job for you as an apprentice to  
18      a painter, a Mr [REDACTED]. They also arranged lodgings  
19      with a Mr **DL 374** and DL378, a completely unrelated  
20      couple, who just happened to have the same name. Again  
21      these names aren't to be used outside the room, but if  
22      we look at RUB30109, this is another one of these case  
23      reports in January 1953. It just says:

24         "Arrangements have been made for this boy, who had  
25      been in Kircubbin Voluntary Home for some time, to

1 commence employment as an apprentice with ...", and the  
2 name is given.

3 "The boy travelled to Omagh today and was met at the  
4 station by me."

5 So that suggests you travelled by train.

6 "I conveyed him to Mr [REDACTED], who had an interview  
7 with him and seemed to think that he was quite  
8 a suitable type to serve an apprenticeship. I then  
9 conveyed the boy to DL378's at [an address], who had  
10 agreed to accommodate the boy, his board and lodgings  
11 being paid by the Welfare Authorities.

12 DL378 and the boy appeared to get on well together  
13 and I feel that he will be quite happy there. I had  
14 previously talked about [you] joining a boys' club on a  
15 Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights and I thought it  
16 would be a good start to offer him, as he would make  
17 many friends there."

18 That document is signed, if we can just scroll on  
19 down, please, by a Mr Vance. Do you have a memory -- I  
20 know -- we will come back to what's in your statement  
21 about your memory about Mr Vance, but the point I am  
22 making about this, HIA45, is in your statement you tell  
23 us that DL372 came to Kircubbin to take from you there,  
24 but this suggests that that wasn't actually correct --

25 **A. No.**

1 Q. -- that, in fact, you got the train and were met off the  
2 train by Mr Vance and taken to **DL374 & DL 378**.

3 **A. Again I can't just recollect that.**

4 Q. Going through those -- that bundle of documents, it  
5 shows you were initially happy both in your employment  
6 with Mr **██████████** and with **DL 374 & DL 378** that you  
7 were lodging with. There is reference, for example, in  
8 the papers the Panel can look at to you going to the  
9 hospital with DL378 whenever her husband was ill.

10 **A. That's right.**

11 Q. You remember doing that. Isn't that right?

12 **A. I do. I can remember that, yes.**

13 Q. If we can just look at RUB30126, again another one of  
14 these reports. Now the last one we looked at there was  
15 back in January. This is in September. You see here  
16 your employer informed the social worker that at the  
17 week-end you were working on a housing site at Belleek  
18 and that you were staying there from Monday to Friday  
19 each week; in other words, you weren't coming back to  
20 your lodgings, and you didn't seem happy with your --  
21 your landlady and mentioned to him that you would prefer  
22 travelling home. That evening it is clear that the  
23 **DL 374 & DL 378** weren't happy that you were staying away from  
24 them and they were wanting to get paid for you not being  
25 there, because they were keeping the room for you.

1           Then if you look at the third paragraph, it says:

2           "I called with HIA45's grandmother and asked her if  
3 she would be prepared to have the boy stay with her.  
4 She told me that she had two bedrooms and that there was  
5 only herself and granddaughter."

6           DL378 -- the social workers are trying to sort  
7 things out. In the final paragraph there it says that:

8           "When HIA45 called at my office, he told me that he  
9 did not like stopping with DL378, as she had far too  
10 many rules and regulations within the home. He told me  
11 that the job in Belleek would last at least three months  
12 and he would prefer", if we can scroll down to the next  
13 page, "travelling home to his grandmother than staying  
14 with DL378. I told him that in future he could do this,  
15 and that when the job in Belleek is finished, we would  
16 make arrangements for him to return to his grandmother  
17 permanently."

18           That seems to be what happened. So I know you  
19 talked in your statement to the Inquiry about how you  
20 felt that you left from DL378's house to go to work in  
21 Birmingham.

22 **A. That's what -- no, I hadn't actually left. I told her**  
23 **that I wouldn't be coming back, DL378. I told her that**  
24 **I was making other arrangements, because of a certain**  
25 **thing that had happened to me.**

1 Q. Right, but what I am saying is these documents seem to  
2 suggest that at the time you left to go to Birmingham --  
3 and we will just look at another document there --  
4 that's 30133 -- at the time you left, you actually  
5 weren't living with the **DL 374 & DL 378** any more. You were  
6 living with your grandmother. You were back living at  
7 home. This is, you know, the sort of last case report  
8 about you. It says:

9 "This boarded out child will be 18 years old in  
10 February and will be therefore be discharged from our  
11 care. DL372 asked me to visit with a view to making  
12 a final report. The last we heard of him was that he  
13 was employed by a Mr Brown, who was a Tyrone County  
14 Welfare Officer -- a County Welfare Officer in County  
15 Fermanagh, doing odd painting jobs."

16 Do you remember doing that?

17 **A. I do, yes.**

18 Q. "I called with his grandmother on 11th and was informed  
19 that HIA45 had been employed in a factory in Birmingham  
20 since Christmas. He writes regularly, but has only sent  
21 home 2 pounds since he left home. He appears to like  
22 his employment well and has comfortable digs at 50  
23 shillings a week. I told Mrs -- [your grandmother] that  
24 we should have been informed of HIA45's intentions as he  
25 was still under the care of Tyrone Welfare Authorities

1           until he was 18 years old."

2           Just scroll on down. That's dated -- well, it is  
3           received by the County Welfare Officer on 16th  
4           February 1955. Then it says:

5           "Removed from register. Now 18 years, 26th  
6           February 1955."

7           What I am saying there is you have accepted --  
8           I know I have put a lot of material to you this morning,  
9           HIA45, and we have looked at it before today also, but  
10          you have accepted that while you have certain memories  
11          of things that happened to you --

12       **A. Yes.**

13       Q. -- you now accept that those memories are maybe not  
14          quite correct. Isn't that position?

15       **A. That is the position, yes.**

16       Q. Although you still -- you are now aged 77. Isn't that  
17          right?

18       **A. That's right, yes.**

19       Q. And we are talking back many, many years?

20       **A. 66 years ago.**

21       Q. So to when you were a child?

22       **A. It's very hard to remember.**

23       Q. So that's all that I wanted to put to you about what the  
24          documents were showing us --

25       **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- so that the Panel could have an idea of how your life  
2 in care progressed, as it were.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. But if I can now turn back to what you say happened to  
5 you in Rubane and we will deal with those matters now.

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. So if we could go back to your statement, please, at  
8 page 514, we will see here you were in Rubane from  
9 January 1951 until January 1953. You were one of the  
10 first boys to go in. You were then aged 13. You  
11 remember four Brothers standing at the door for you.

12 Now you go on to talk about the sexual abuse that  
13 you suffered in Rubane.

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. You talk about this in paragraph 7, first of all. You  
16 say that:

17 "It wasn't long until some of the Brothers,  
18 particularly ...",

19 a Brother who you name there, and while you may  
20 need to use the name in this chamber, you will see on  
21 the document before you he has been given a designation  
22 to protect his identity. He is BR23.

23 You said he was interfering with you even when you  
24 were having a shower. You describe the showers there.

25 You say:

1            "He was amongst us when we showered and he  
2            interfered with me in the showers."

3            You describe how he did that, grabbing you by your  
4            private parts, trying to make it look like horse play,  
5            but you say:

6            "He was crafty when he did it. He made you feel  
7            extremely uncomfortable as you were naked and he was  
8            touching you."

9            You say that behaviour started the day of you  
10           arrived. You also name another Brother, who has been  
11           given the designation BR56. Now I know, Pat, I am going  
12           to use the names to make it easier for you --

13   **A. Yes.**

14   Q. -- but can you remember who you are talking about there  
15       in that paragraph?

16   **A. BR17 was the one Brother and the other was -- what was  
17       his name? Big... What was his name? Big ... I can't  
18       remember.**

19   Q. It's one that also had difficulty pronouncing --

20   **A. That's right.**

21   Q. -- HIA45, when we were talking about this. Do you want  
22       to look at your own statement? The names will be there  
23       without the blackouts to make it easier for you.

24   **A. Yes. BR56 is his name, [name spelt], BR56. He had  
25       a funny name anyway.**

1 Q. Can I ask just first about -- all about the first  
2 Brother? That's just BR17.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. If we look at paragraph 9 -- you talk generally about  
5 abuse in paragraph 8, about somebody not treating you  
6 well, but I will come back to that in a moment. You say  
7 in paragraph 9 you were in bed -- you are describing in  
8 paragraph 8 the layout of the dormitory. If we can  
9 maybe just read paragraph 8 out. You talk about who you  
10 say was the Brother in charge of the home. You say he  
11 was 6'4" and did not treat you well.

12 "When we went to bed at night, one boy was in charge  
13 of the dormitory, and every so often they would change  
14 and there was one that always sat on his own by the  
15 door."

16 Now this is an older boy you are talking about or  
17 one of the boys --

18 **A. That's right, yes.**

19 Q. -- who was sitting by the door.

20 "They were asked to keep a look-out over the  
21 dormitory in case any boy tried to run away and to watch  
22 who was coming in and out of the dormitory. If anybody  
23 went out to the toilet or anything during the night, he  
24 was supposed to watch what was going on or to report  
25 anything unusual."

1           Just to pause there, the Order would say it was  
2           a Brother who would have had supervision of the  
3           dormitories at night. Is that right?

4   **A. Well, they never came in to do what they were supposed**  
5   **to do. They did come into the dormitories, yes, but it**  
6   **didn't appear that they come in to check if somebody**  
7   **wanted to go to the toilet or anything like that. It**  
8   **was always something of a sexual nature.**

9   Q. You describe that if you were in the bed, and that's the  
10   bed at the end of the dormitory --

11   **A. That's right.**

12   Q. -- that was as a boy --

13   **A. That was the most likely time that you would get --**

14   Q. -- you say you were sure to be interfered with by one of  
15   a number of Brothers. You name the Brother who you say  
16   abused you as BR23.

17   **A. Yes.**

18   Q. "He would put his hand on my private parts under the  
19   blankets of my bed. He would masturbate me but he would  
20   also want to put my hand on his penis and masturbate  
21   him. He never went further than masturbation with me.  
22   There was only one other Brother in there that had no  
23   connection with the abuse and that was ...",

24           and you name that Brother as BR57.

25           "The others, including BR12, were involved."

1           Now I just want to clarify. BR12 -- and I am going  
2           to use these names, and again they will not be used  
3           outside this room -- but in your statement you talk  
4           about a BR12.

5   **A. Yes.**

6   Q. Now who exactly did you mean by that?

7   **A. BR12 or something. He's a funny -- it wasn't BR12, what**  
8       **I said. It was BR12, BR12. BR12. That's right.**

9   Q. In fairness to you it may be that whenever you were  
10       speaking to the Inquiry team that we actually got the  
11       name wrong --

12   **A. Yes.**

13   Q. -- because of the way you were pronouncing it to us --

14   **A. Yes.**

15   Q. -- but you certainly had difficulty pronouncing the  
16       name. Isn't that correct --

17   **A. That's right.**

18   Q. -- HIA45, but you are sure it is one and the same  
19       person?

20   **A. Oh, yes. He was the main man at the top, the number one**  
21       **man, so to speak.**

22   Q. And -- because, just to be clear, the Order would say  
23       there was never a BR12 at any time in Kircubbin.

24   **A. No, no, but that was splitting hairs, because I didn't**  
25       **say his name properly.**

1 Q. Now in your statement you name the Brother BR23. You  
2 give his full name, his surname as well as the name, his  
3 Brother's name, as it were. Now did you know any of the  
4 Brother's surnames when you were in Kircubbin?

5 **A. No, I didn't.**

6 Q. So how did you -- when you come to speak to us did you  
7 give us the surname?

8 **A. Because I had some stuff sent to me from the -- from the**  
9 **Brothers and with the result I got photographs and all**  
10 **sent to me from there and then I knew then what his**  
11 **second name was.**

12 Q. And that name was actually given to you by the De La  
13 Salle Order. Is that correct?

14 **A. That's right, yes.**

15 Q. Can I just tell you that the Order do not accept that  
16 that particular man was an abuser --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- I have put this to you before -- because they say  
19 they had never received any other complaint about him,  
20 either personally a complaint to the Order, as it were  
21 --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- and they know that in 1980, when police spoke to  
24 a number of boys, no-one complained about him, and there  
25 was only one other person out of those who have spoken

1 to the Inquiry about -- who was there when he was there  
2 who has made a complaint about him apart from yourself.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. That's the reason why they say that they don't accept  
5 that he was an abuser, and I just wondered what you  
6 wanted to say about that, HIA45?

7 **A. Well, I just want to say that it's completely untrue**  
8 **that he wasn't -- he did abuse and it was always done**  
9 **very craftily by him, and naturally enough when they**  
10 **were putting a report through how good this man was, I'm**  
11 **sure they weren't going to tell things like carrying**  
12 **a child down the stairs at 2 o'clock in the morning and**  
13 **that sort of thing and being in the dormitories at**  
14 **2 o'clock in the morning and abusing the boys. I'm sure**  
15 **that wasn't going to be in his report.**

16 Q. But you are quite satisfied that the person you  
17 identified, although you didn't know his surname until  
18 you were told that by the Order --

19 **A. 100%.**

20 Q. -- is the person you say abused you?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. Now just might be an appropriate time to try to look at  
23 some photographs so that we know who you are talking  
24 about --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- and see who you can identify.

2 **A. That's right.**

3 Q. Now we -- you brought copies. You have been given these  
4 copies by the Order. Isn't that correct?

5 **A. That's correct yes, yes.**

6 Q. You have brought copies along to us this morning. We  
7 have tried to show them on the screen. So if we could  
8 just maybe look at RUB2147, first of all. Sorry. Just  
9 bear with me a moment. Sorry. I have just been -- my  
10 junior counsel has handed me the original book of the  
11 house, History of the House. The photographs are there,  
12 and I can hand those up for the Panel to see, but if we  
13 can just try and call up RUB2147, first of all. This is  
14 a copy of a photograph, HIA45. We can maybe even give  
15 you the copy that you gave us to look at.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. But you recognise this photograph, don't you?

18 **A. Yes, I do.**

19 Q. Can I ask you, first of all. can you point yourself out  
20 on that photograph, HIA45?

21 **A. That's me with the little boy on my shoulders.**

22 Q. Have you any idea who that little boy is?

23 **A. No, I can't -- no idea what his name was. As a matter**  
24 **of fact I have very little idea of the other boys as**  
25 **well.**

1 Q. But you know that's you?

2 **A. Yes, I do. Oh, absolutely. I know myself.**

3 Q. And apart -- there's a Brother clearly shown there.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. Now who is that Brother?

6 **A. That's BR17.**

7 Q. And did you know his surname?

8 **A. No, I didn't at the time, but I know it now.**

9 Q. And we see from this and it's clear from --

10 **A. He was always just referred to -- you didn't refer to**  
11 **them as their second name. It was just always BR17,**  
12 **BR12 or whoever.**

13 Q. It is clear that this is described as happening in  
14 spring 1951, which wouldn't have been that long after  
15 you went into Rubane?

16 **A. Correct, yes.**

17 Q. So it would have been very early days in the home. This  
18 child on your shoulders, you don't know who he is?

19 **A. No, I haven't got an idea.**

20 Q. But he certainly seems to be younger than most of the  
21 other boys?

22 **A. Absolutely. He is only young, about 5 or 6 I suppose.**  
23 **If he had been any older and bigger, he wouldn't have**  
24 **been on my shoulders.**

25 Q. Now just there are some other photographs which we may

1 as well look at now, which can be seen at RUB2138. Go  
2 backwards again. This is taken from the Order. I know  
3 you have seen these photographs and were actually given  
4 copies of them.

5 **A. That's right.**

6 Q. We will just go through them now again. That -- at the  
7 top of that page we can see the photograph we have just  
8 been looking at --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. -- although the top bit seems to be cut off.

11 **A. That's right.**

12 Q. Then there is a photograph of three Brothers.

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. Can you identify any of those, HIA45?

15 **A. Yes. BR56 is on the left as I'm looking at it and BR12,  
16 BR12 is in the middle and BR17 is on the right.**

17 Q. Now you have had the opportunity of looking at these  
18 photographs and you were given the names. Isn't that  
19 correct? So it is not the first time you are seeing  
20 these.

21 **A. That's correct, yes.**

22 Q. And if we can just scroll on down, please, through the  
23 photographs, we will see "Summer 1951". Are you in that  
24 photograph anywhere?

25 **A. Yes, I am.**

1 Q. Where are you, HIA45?

2 **A. I'm right in front of BR17 on the left.**

3 Q. You see there's a little cursor moving about. Is that  
4 you there?

5 **A. No, no, no. Over. No, this way. There. Yes.**

6 Q. That's you?

7 **A. That's me, yes.**

8 Q. What about these Brothers? Can you identify them?

9 **A. I can -- there's -- that's BR17. I don't know who that  
10 one is.**

11 Q. The next one?

12 **A. That's BR12, BR56 and that is the old man. I can't  
13 remember his name, but that man had very little to do  
14 with us. He seemed to be secretary or something.  
15 I don't know, but he never seemed to have much to do  
16 with us.**

17 Q. Okay. If we can just scroll down again then, we will  
18 see some photographs. Three boys. Do you recognise any  
19 of them?

20 **A. No, I don't.**

21 Q. Or the next one?

22 **A. I just recognise myself there.**

23 Q. And which one is you?

24 **A. The one on the second from the right --**

25 Q. That's the tallest --

1 **A. -- as I'm --**

2 Q. -- the tallest one?

3 **A. Yes, yes, that's me, yes.**

4 Q. And that seems to have been taken in April 1952.

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. If we can scroll on down, this seems to be a school  
7 hurling team in 1952. Are you in that one?

8 **A. Yes. That's me on the extreme left, yes.**

9 Q. The one standing up tall?

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. And then just for completeness if we just scroll on  
12 down, that's the end of that page. Oh, there's -- now  
13 this is described as:

14 "Day's picnic at Cloughey. First swim of the year,  
15 Easter 1952."

16 Do you remember ever going out to Cloughey for  
17 a swim or anything like that?

18 **A. I do -- I do remember going to some place. I can't --**  
19 **it was some sea -- sea place, seaside. They used to**  
20 **throw you in even if you couldn't swim, like, but**  
21 **I can't recall just that place there.**

22 Q. Are you in that photograph? I mean, I know it is not  
23 very clear --

24 **A. No, I'm not.**

25 Q. -- but -- you're not?

1 **A. No, I'm not in that photograph.**

2 Q. If we just scroll down to the bottom of that page,  
3 there's another photograph. Are you in that one?

4 **A. No. I can't see myself in it anyway.**

5 Q. If we just go back to your statement, HIA45, at  
6 page 515, you were talking there and you have identified  
7 the two Brothers who you say sexually abused you in  
8 that.

9 Now at paragraphs 14, 15 and 17 you also talk about  
10 -- and I am going to use the name to make it easier for  
11 you -- BR56 physically abusing you.

12 **A. Absolutely, yes, yes.**

13 Q. You say that on another occasion in the classroom the  
14 boy behind you had passed wind and he blamed you.

15 "I told him not to do it, but he gave me three slaps  
16 with the cane on each hand. I walked away determined  
17 not to cry and he said, 'We have a hard man here'. Then  
18 he made me turn my hands over and he slapped me again  
19 with the cane taking the nail on my middle finger off on  
20 my right hand off. I could see in his face that he  
21 enjoyed what he had just done to me."

22 You talk about an occasion where you had a scab on  
23 your ear. He got hold of you by the ear, lifted you up,  
24 tore the bottom of your ear and had bleeding on your  
25 shirt, and he threatened you saying that if you put your

1 hand up once more to your ear, he would break your arm.  
2 He could see the shadow of another brother approach  
3 through the glass. So he grabbed you by the scruff of  
4 the neck, put you in a chalk cupboard to hide you.

5 "He didn't want the other Brother to see the state  
6 I was in. He then said to me, 'Put your coat on. Make  
7 sure that you come -- cover that blood and get up and  
8 get yourself another shirt from the house and come  
9 straight back down'."

10 Those are -- can I just ask these incidents that you  
11 are talking about involving this Brother, was this in  
12 the school rather than in the house that these happened?

13 **A. This was -- that was in the school, the big farmhouse**  
14 **place that had been turned into a school.**

15 Q. It was still in the grounds, though, of Rubane?

16 **A. Oh, yes, it was.**

17 Q. Isn't that right? Still within Kircubbin?

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. You lived in the big house and you went to school in the  
20 farmyard effectively?

21 **A. Yes, that's right, yes.**

22 Q. Now one of the things that I want to say to you about  
23 what the Order say about these complaints that you make  
24 specifically --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- about BR56 or BR56, however the name is pronounced --  
2 I am sure we will be told by the Order in due course  
3 whether we have got it right or not -- they say you  
4 never made any allegation about this particular Brother  
5 when you first of all spoke to them in relation to the  
6 civil claim that you took against the Order.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. Secondly, they say that that's either complaints of  
9 a sexual nature or of a physical nature, either, you  
10 know, that he was interfering with you or was violent  
11 towards you, HIA45. They say you didn't complain about  
12 him at all until you made this statement, and they say  
13 that even when you spoke to the police in 2012, you  
14 didn't complain about him and, in fact, what they say  
15 about what you told the police -- and we can go and have  
16 a look at your statement to the police, which if I can  
17 just find that now -- it's 50020. No, it is not that  
18 page. Can we look at 66448, please? Yes. This is the  
19 statement. Do you remember speaking to the police in  
20 2012, HIA45, in July 2012?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. And can I just deal with how that came about? How did  
23 you come to be speaking to the police?

24 **A. Well, we had been talking about where children -- while**  
25 **I was in there, if any child was going out from the**

1 school, we all seemed to know and we would all be happy  
2 about going out, but on several different occasions  
3 there was a child maybe going to bed the same time as  
4 you and you got up the next morning and he wouldn't be  
5 there and they had gone out. Now it led to us believe  
6 or me to believe that there was something going on that  
7 wasn't right and you draw conclusions that you think,  
8 "What's happened?" and that's why we mentioned that.

9 Q. I will come back to that in a wee moment, HIA45, but  
10 just did you then -- did the police contact you or did  
11 you contact the police? How did you come to be making  
12 this statement to them?

13 A. Well, it was mentioned that we should -- that we should  
14 mention it just in case anything did happen like that.

15 Q. Now you talk about "we" there, HIA45. Who are the "we"  
16 you are talking about?

17 A. Me and my brother, because both -- it happened to both  
18 of us. He was in at a different time than me when there  
19 was a lot more boys there, and when I was in there,  
20 there was just seventeen, and most of the time if  
21 anybody was going out, you would have known about it,  
22 but yet there was ones going out during the night or  
23 seemed to be going out during the night anyway, because  
24 they wouldn't be there the next morning.

25 Q. And did you ever say to anybody about their absence?

1    **A.** Not really. There was a lot of things that you didn't  
2       say to anybody in there, because when you spoke to one  
3       person, it seemed to get to the other very quickly and  
4       no matter what you said, and if you said anything out of  
5       place, you were severely dealt with. So, therefore, you  
6       didn't -- you didn't say anything. You didn't even tell  
7       another Brother what happened you. You didn't tell  
8       them, because there would be consequences if you did.

9    **Q.** Well, if I can just explore this a wee bit more with  
10     you, HIA45, you and your Brother were both in Rubane,  
11     although at different times?

12   **A.** Yes.

13   **Q.** And at some point you discovered that he had been in  
14     Rubane. Isn't that correct?

15   **A.** Yes.

16   **Q.** How did that happen?

17   **A.** Well, I was in England for quite a few weeks and I come  
18     home and just I was in his house one evening and we were  
19     having a chat just about things and he said to me,  
20     "I was in that place in Kircubbin away down", and I was  
21     absolutely amazed, because he had -- him and our younger  
22     brother had been put out into a foster home and they  
23     seemed to be very happy there when I left, but then  
24     apparently when the man of that particular family, he  
25     died, so then they had to take the eldest one away and

1           **they put him into Kircubbin.**

2       Q.   So you and your brother had this conversation.   You  
3           found out that he had been in Kircubbin.   Did he tell  
4           you what had happened to him there?

5       **A.   He certainly did and he also mentioned BR17.   Now then**  
6           **somebody brought it up that BR17 wasn't there at that**  
7           **particular time, but it was -- there were two Brother**  
8           **[redacted name] according to -- according to what we**  
9           **found out later, but we thought it was the same one,**  
10          **because when he mentioned it to me, I said, "That's**  
11          **the -- that's the very one", you know.**

12       Q.   So at that stage whenever you were being told that  
13           a Brother [name redacted] had been involved with your  
14           brother, you thought it was the **BR 23** that you knew  
15           during your time there?

16       **A.   Absolutely.**

17       Q.   But you learned -- can you remember when you learned --  
18           was that in the course of the civil claim that you  
19           learned there were, in fact, two of them?

20       **A.   Yes, yes, during that time.   We found out there was two**  
21           **different Brothers that were different.   You know, they**  
22           **were the same Order, but different Brothers.**

23       Q.   And -- but there was only one **BR 23** there during your  
24           time.   Isn't that right?

25       **A.   Abs... -- oh, yes, yes.**

1 Q. Can I just also ask you then, just talking about you and  
2 **HIA 59** then had other conversations about your time in  
3 Rubane then?

4 **A. Yes, we did.**

5 Q. As a result of one of those conversations you go and  
6 talk to the police, both of you, in 2012?

7 **A. That's right. We thought well, you know, maybe that**  
8 **really did happen, because what he was saying was**  
9 **confirming things that I had noticed as well, because if**  
10 **anybody was going out of the home, they were all **TL 4s****  
11 **happy when they knew they were going out with the result**  
12 **you would have known they were going out, but these**  
13 **children seemed to go to bed on the night and they**  
14 **weren't there the next morning.**

15 Q. Well, can we just scroll down through this statement  
16 that you gave to the police here? You talk about being  
17 sent to Belfast and then your brother went to London.  
18 A short time later you went to Kircubbin.

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. It was newly open, seventeen boys there. You say you  
21 were mentally, physically and sexually abused. You say:

22 "Two of the Brothers", and you name them there,  
23 **BR 23** and head Brother, BR12, were the worst of the  
24 four. The other two Brothers, whose names escape me,  
25 didn't sexually abuse me, but they physically

1 and mentally abused me."

2 Now if I can just pause there --

3 **A. Uh-huh.**

4 Q. -- you have told us you were sexually abused by **BR 23**,  
5 but you were telling the police the only two who abused  
6 you were **BR 23** and BR12 and, in fact, the other two  
7 didn't.

8 **A. Well, I wasn't into naming Brothers and as well as that,**  
9 **as I said, unless I look at this thing now and find out**  
10 **the Brother Big... -- whatever his name is -- BR56 or**  
11 **whatever his name, that particular Brother, his name was**  
12 **so hard you didn't include him, because you couldn't --**  
13 **you had to give a name. All I knew he was another**  
14 **Brother. I couldn't remember his name. Still can't**  
15 **remember his name. It's always a hard name for me to**  
16 **say even.**

17 Q. Well, I suppose the point I am making to you, HIA45, is  
18 that even in 2012 you weren't naming this man or even  
19 more so you were saying that there were two Brothers who  
20 didn't sexually abuse you. Was he included in those two  
21 Brothers then?

22 **A. Two that didn't?**

23 Q. Yes.

24 **A. He would, yes.**

25 Q. So you were telling the police that he didn't sexually

1 abuse you then. Is that what you are saying? Maybe  
2 I am confusing you. Let me put this more clearly. It  
3 says -- you say here there were four Brothers in charge  
4 of you. Right?

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. And you say that two of the Brothers were the worst out  
7 of the four?

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. And you say the other two Brothers -- and you name those  
10 two Brothers who were the worst as **BR 23** and BR12.

11 **A. But I think that that -- that that part of it is wrong.**  
12 **I didn't say BR12. The only other thing that I said**  
13 **about BR12 was when I was so frightened of what I had**  
14 **seen.**

15 Q. Yes. We are going to come back to that in a wee moment.

16 **A. And his brutality towards -- towards any child, let**  
17 **alone myself.**

18 Q. We're going to -- I'm going to come to talk about that  
19 in a moment and talk about him with you in a wee moment.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. I suppose the point is even though you didn't know the  
22 name BR56 and you couldn't pronounce it and couldn't get  
23 it right and, in fact, you say the names escape you to  
24 the police --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- what you are saying about those two Brothers in  
2 whom -- BR56 must have been one of those two?

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. You are saying he didn't sexually abuse you, but he was  
5 physically and mentally abusive to you?

6 **A. Well, I do remember he would be occasionally there as  
7 well; not as much as BR 23**

8 Q. Okay. So -- and I just want to say, you know, the Order  
9 don't accept BR56 abused you because of these  
10 discrepancies, if I can put it that way --

11 **A. No, no.**

12 Q. -- about what you have said about him and when. All  
13 right?

14 **A. Well, it was always very hard to talk about -- with  
15 regards to his name. He was just another Brother to me  
16 when I was talking about him.**

17 Q. Just while we are on the police statement, this was the  
18 first time that you ever said anything about boys  
19 disappearing. Isn't that right?

20 **A. That's right, yes.**

21 Q. You never complained about that at any stage before?

22 **A. No, no.**

23 Q. And the only reason you did this was because of the  
24 conversation you had with your brother?

25 **A. Correct, yes.**

1 Q. And you thought there might have been something untoward

2 --

3 **A. Yes --**

4 Q. -- about this --

5 **A. -- and --**

6 Q. -- and that's why you told the police?

7 **A. Yes, that's correct.**

8 Q. Now just to be absolutely clear, the Order say that that

9 never happened, that there were never boys who just

10 disappeared overnight, that they have the registers of

11 every boy who came in --

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. -- with their date of admission and their date of

14 discharge --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- and so they can account for all the children they had

17 to look after. Okay?

18 The further point they want me to make to you,

19 HIA45, is that, you know, boys just wouldn't have gone

20 out in the middle of the night. There would have been

21 arrangements for somebody to come and collect them and

22 take them like you went on the train --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- back home.

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. You know, that's what happened. That's how boys came to  
2 leave the home. They just didn't disappear in the  
3 middle of the night. So what do you want to say about  
4 that?

5 **A. Well, I want to say what I seen and what I know**  
6 **happened. There was certain boy -- young -- young boys**  
7 **was being taken out and where they went I don't know.**  
8 **They weren't there, because otherwise we wouldn't have**  
9 **been asking about them saying, "Where's such and such**  
10 **gone today?" "Oh, he's not here. He was taken out".**  
11 **Now he was there when it was bedtime and he wasn't there**  
12 **the next morning. So he'd been taken out.**

13 Q. Well, I'm going to go back to your statement that you  
14 have there, HIA45.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. Now if we could go to paragraph 17, which is on  
17 page 517, at paragraph 17 you talk about an occasion  
18 when you were sent to get a film for the home --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- and you lost the money you were given for the film.  
21 You were too afraid to return so you just stayed on your  
22 bike until you were picked up by the police.

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. Can I just explore that with you for a moment? Whose  
25 bike was this that you were on?

1    **A.**    It was a bike that was belonging to the home as far as  
2           I was concerned.  They told me --

3    Q.    To go down?

4    **A.**    -- to take it out.  It was too far to walk.

5    Q.    Was anybody with you at that time?

6    **A.**    No.

7    Q.    Just you.  When you got there, just explain exactly what  
8           happened.

9    **A.**    Well, when I -- I got on the bike and they gave me 10  
10           shillings for to get the film.  It was one of them that  
11           went on each week, you know.  When I went to the bus  
12           stop, I realised I hadn't got the money and I thought,  
13           "Well, I'll ask the driver if he'll give me the film and  
14           everything will be okay", and I said to him, "Listen,  
15           I haven't got the money for the film, but would you give  
16           me the film?" and he says, "No money, no film".  Well,  
17           that set me just -- I thought, "What can I do?" and  
18           I just started cycling, not back, away.

19   Q.    So you headed off and you were picked up by the police  
20           and they looked after you at the station until the  
21           Brothers came to get you?

22   **A.**    Yes.

23   Q.    You say the Brothers were friendly towards you in front  
24           of police --

25   **A.**    Yes.

1 Q. -- but then when they got you into the car, you say they  
2 beat you all the way back to Rubane?

3 **A. Well, they gave me quite a few slaps anyway, and we were**  
4 **barely out the police station when they were grabbing me**  
5 **and slapping me because I'd run off and stole the bike.**

6 Q. You say you then had your hair clipped off and you were  
7 beaten --

8 **A. When I was taken back, yes.**

9 Q. And you were made to take a cold shower and beaten on  
10 the backside with a belt strap and sent to bed?

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. And you say that at that stage having your hair cut off  
13 was an outward sign that you'd been bold and had been  
14 punished or it could mean that you had lice.

15 Now the Order would say the only reason for shaving  
16 off boys' heads was because of lice.

17 **A. That's right.**

18 Q. It wasn't done as a punishment.

19 **A. And the only thing that I felt good about was my hair.**  
20 **I haven't much now. At that time I really did like my**  
21 **hair, and it was the most humiliating thing that ever**  
22 **happened to me when they cut my hair.**

23 Q. And you name the two Brothers who you say did that to  
24 you, HIA45 --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- and they are BR56 and again **BR 23** who did that. Now  
2 the Order would say about that incident that they don't  
3 have any record of it, although they did keep records of  
4 other boys running away, and they have records to show  
5 that other boys ran away and were taken back from the  
6 police --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- or wherever they got to.

9 **A. Well, they wouldn't have a record of what they did to**  
10 **me.**

11 Q. So then we can come to look at what you say BR12 did and  
12 why you were frightened. If we could look at  
13 paragraph 13, now there is an incident where you are  
14 being asked to go out to the school house. I am just  
15 going to ask you when you went out to the school room  
16 what exactly you saw.

17 **A. Yes. I saw BR12 on his knees in the sty part of the**  
18 **piggery or whatever you would call it there and he**  
19 **looked as though he was committing some sort of a sexual**  
20 **act with -- I can't say because I couldn't see over the**  
21 **wall, but I could see his head and I could see the way**  
22 **he was and it seemed as though he was committing**  
23 **a sexual act, and I was so frightened that he would --**  
24 **that -- I wasn't bothered what -- I was more frightened**  
25 **in case he had seen me than what I had actually seen.**

1 I was absolutely frightened for maybe three, four days  
2 after that. I was always so scared in case -- I knew  
3 what the outcome would be if he ever -- if ever he had  
4 seen me. I know what I would be in for. I felt as  
5 though that he might even kill me. That's how I felt.

6 Q. And you said that you went across to the school. Did  
7 you come back the same way?

8 A. No, I didn't, no. I went down -- I went down into the  
9 field in through the wood and came up the back way so as  
10 I didn't have to pass there in case he seen me.

11 Q. And you say you were frightened as you had seen his bad  
12 temper?

13 A. Oh, I have seen his bad temper on several different  
14 occasions. He was a absolute -- well, it wouldn't be  
15 fair to call him an animal. He was -- he would -- when  
16 he lost his temper, he would just beat you so you  
17 were -- he was a real -- I don't know what you would  
18 refer to him as. He was very, very severe on anybody  
19 that got in his way or anything at a particular time.

20 Q. And you talk about one occasion in paragraph 13 where  
21 you saw him kick you say a small 5-year-old child across  
22 the floor in the parlour.

23 A. Well, I wouldn't be absolutely 100% at the age of the  
24 child, but he was very small, and it was in a part of  
25 the home where the floors always had been bumpered, what

1           they called bumpered then. The floors was very shiny  
2           like, and this particular child was cursing. He was  
3           only young, but he was cursing and swearing, and BR12  
4           absolutely just gave him one kick and he slid along the  
5           floor and hit the skirting board.

6    Q. Now this incident you relate there again in that  
7           paragraph and you talk about it being the children of  
8           Irish travellers that were there at the time.

9    A. Well, I thought that they might be, because I remember  
10           seeing that they had -- that they had a different accent  
11           to us, like Southern Irish accent.

12   Q. And you told me something else about them, why you  
13           thought they were travellers, about the cursing. Isn't  
14           that right?

15   A. Oh, aye. That's what I just said, that that's why he  
16           kicked the young boy, because he was cursing and  
17           swearing, and you certainly weren't allowed to curse and  
18           swear.

19   Q. The Order I should say to you say they never had  
20           any Irish travellers in the home and that's --

21   A. No.

22   Q. They don't believe there were any there at that time.

23   A. No, but he was small. I don't know whether he was a  
24           traveller or not. All I do know is that we thought they  
25           were, because of his accent.

1 Q. If I can just scroll down to paragraph 18 and move on to  
2 another point that's in your statement here, HIA45.

3 There's a comment here. You say:

4 "There was one boy in the home with me ...",  
5 and he is named there. Now I am not going to give  
6 his name, because he is coming to speak to the Inquiry.  
7 It says "HIA97", but you can see his name in your own  
8 statement at paragraph 18.

9 **A. 18. Aye. Yes, yes.**

10 Q. You say -- we talked about this before as well. You  
11 name him and you say he had a brother who was so badly  
12 abused at the home both physically and sexually that he  
13 couldn't get over it and he eventually committed  
14 suicide.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. What I wanted to ask you about that is was that boy in  
17 the home with you, HIA45?

18 **A. No.**

19 Q. So what you have said in your statement isn't correct  
20 then?

21 **A. I -- did I -- well, I had spoke to him. He had spoke to**  
22 **me. On the phone he had spoke to me. He actually lives**  
23 **in I think it is London or Manchester or somewhere like**  
24 **that, but he was talking to me and he was telling me**  
25 **what happened to him and his brother.**

1 Q. And had he made contact with you or how did you --

2 **A. Well, I think it had come up somewhere on the internet.**

3 **I think that's where it come from.**

4 Q. You don't really remember how he came to be in contact  
5 with you?

6 **A. Oh, I do know how he got in touch. He phoned me**  
7 **actually.**

8 Q. But you don't know how he came to be contacting you  
9 or --

10 **A. Oh, I think he may well have read something or something**  
11 **that had been in the papers or something like that.**

12 Q. And what you have recorded there in paragraph 18 of your  
13 statement is what he told you and what you remember  
14 about what he told you. Is that right?

15 **A. That's right. That's right.**

16 Q. But you would accept he was never in the home at the  
17 same time as you?

18 **A. No, no.**

19 Q. Isn't that right?

20 **A. No, he wasn't in the same time as me, no. I eventually**  
21 **met him at another place in Omagh.**

22 Q. But not --

23 **A. Oh, no.**

24 Q. -- in Rubane?

25 **A. Oh, no, no, no.**

1 Q. You spoke to a newspaper -- isn't that right -- in 2009?

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. And just if that can be called up, RUB2149. Again  
4 although you did this in 2009, you still want to  
5 maintain your anonymity. This is an account of what you  
6 told the paper --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- back in November 2009. You and your brother spoke to  
9 the press at that time.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. Do you remember how that came about? How did you come  
12 to be talking to the newspapers?

13 **A. A man called -- oh, I can't remember his name now. He**  
14 **came to us and asked us would we like to make any**  
15 **comments on what was going on about the thing and we**  
16 **just spoke about it, me and my brother [HIA 59]. [REDACTED].**  
17 **That was his name. He was from the BBC or ITV. One of**  
18 **the [REDACTED] brothers. Apparently there is two**  
19 **Brothers.**

20 Q. And you remember talking to him then about what you said  
21 happened to you?

22 **A. That's right.**

23 Q. And we are not going to go into all the details of  
24 what's there. Obviously that can be read by the Panel  
25 about what you told the press at the time, but again the

1 Order would make the point that you weren't naming  
2 certain Brothers to the press.

3 **A. No.**

4 Q. Yet you have named them to the Inquiry.

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. And is there anything you want to say about that?

7 **A. Because -- we didn't put in names because we didn't**  
8 **think it -- it was just something that happened at the**  
9 **home with the Brothers. It wasn't something with -- you**  
10 **know, we never picked out any particular Brothers. It**  
11 **was just what happened in the home.**

12 Q. There's a couple of details in it, though. You see just  
13 there -- you are HIA45 -- you say:

14 "Holidays and birthdays were ignored at the home."

15 The first and last time you heard Christmas  
16 mentioned was by American tourists who called to give  
17 the boys half crowns.

18 **A. Correct.**

19 Q. And the boys never saw them.

20 **A. That's correct.**

21 Q. You remember that about Christmas?

22 **A. Yes, I do.**

23 Q. And --

24 **A. I remember -- I remember them up the -- because they**  
25 **were Americans. It was like -- I think it was a man**

1 and his wife. Again I can't tell you their name, but  
2 the man and the wife, and he got up on the stage and he  
3 told us -- he said, "I've left some money for you and  
4 you can have some treats when we go", and he said,  
5 "You'll all be having half a crown each" and he said,  
6 "That's funny money". I can remember him saying that,  
7 because they were obviously in dollars like, but they  
8 had left us half a crown each. We never seen the half  
9 a crown. At least I never seen the half a crown anyway.

10 Q. HIA45, there's one other matter. I'm going to call this  
11 up now. It is 10084 that I want to ask you about, and  
12 this is an entry -- and you will see it is handwritten  
13 -- and this is an entry from the History of the Home,  
14 the large book that was there with the photographs we  
15 were looking at.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. If you just see if we look there July 13th. You can  
18 take it from me this is an entry for July 13th, 1954.  
19 It talks about somebody:

20 "... going into the Mater Hospital to have  
21 an operation on his eye (squint)."

22 Then:

23 "HIA45, an old boy from", and it gives the name of  
24 the town, "Tyrone arrived to spend a few days with us."

25 Now what do you want to say about that? Did you go

1 back to Rubane in 1954?

2 **A. Absolutely no. I never returned and I wouldn't have**  
3 **returned even if they were going to give me my half**  
4 **a crown. I wouldn't return back to that place if you**  
5 **had give me -- I definitely turned -- went back, never.**

6 Q. You'll appreciate this is something that the Order has  
7 written into the book --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- about you coming back?

10 **A. Yes, yes.**

11 Q. But you are saying that's not true?

12 **A. It's not true. I definitely was not. At no stage did**  
13 **I ever go back to the home while it was the Brothers**  
14 **there, because I did go back when I come on holiday**  
15 **years after and it was no longer a home, you know, just**  
16 **to have a look at it.**

17 Q. Well, can we just go back to your statement, please, at  
18 page 519? You will see there that at the bottom of that  
19 page you describe from paragraphs 29 to 33 what your  
20 life was after you left care, and you talk about your  
21 son getting information from the De La Salle Brothers.  
22 We think that's where the photographs came from. Isn't  
23 that correct?

24 **A. Yes, yes.**

25 Q. If we just look at paragraph 32, you say that you were

1 the first -- with the first 16 boys who entered

2 Kircubbin:

3 "They just never left you alone. It was hell on  
4 earth. I am sure there are parts in there that I have  
5 shut out myself. I wasn't going to tell anybody about  
6 this. I had full intentions of not ever mentioning this  
7 but then things changed and I was asked and then it came  
8 all flooding back just as if it was yesterday and  
9 I think that mentally I have come out of it all not too  
10 bad considering what happened."

11 Then you talk about receiving compensation from the  
12 Order and you received the sum of £10,000. Isn't that  
13 correct?

14 **A. That's correct, yes.**

15 Q. Now, HIA45, that's all I am going to ask you, but I know  
16 I have covered a lot of material with you this morning  
17 --

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. -- and I haven't gone through every paragraph of your  
20 statement, but you know that the Panel Members have it  
21 and have the opportunity to read it, and they have the  
22 opportunity of reading what the Order have said in  
23 response to your statement, but is there anything that  
24 you feel that we haven't covered this morning that you  
25 would like to say now? This is your opportunity to do

1           that.

2   **A.** Well, there's not much else I can say, because it's all  
3       about the good times and the bad times and it appears to  
4       me that I can't remember very much of the good times,  
5       but I can certainly remember the bad times.

6   **Q.** One final question from me, HIA45, is that this Inquiry  
7       has to make recommendations about what should happen  
8       next and I just wonder what your views are with regard  
9       to redress or compensation or a memorial or monument.  
10      What do you think the Inquiry should be recommending to  
11      the government?

12   **A.** Well, I don't think anything will ever come out of it,  
13      to be honest. That's what I think myself, and I think  
14      it's all -- according to some of the stuff that's wrote  
15      there, it's just not true, some of it, just not -- and  
16      it is supposed to be official, but there's some of it  
17      that's just not true, and I made a particular point of  
18      putting my hand on the bible to make sure what I said  
19      was true, what happened to me. All right. There's  
20      parts that I forgot about. After all it is 66 years,  
21      and that's all I can say, but I don't think that any --  
22      but one of the other reasons I came here to do this so  
23      that this sort of thing couldn't happen to any other  
24      young fellas or young children. I felt as though it  
25      might help if I come. There was no need for me to come,

1 but I did come for to prove a point, and when -- some of  
2 the stuff that was wrote there, it made me more  
3 determined to come.

4 Q. Well, HIA45, thank you very much. I have no further  
5 questions for you. The Panel Members might want to ask  
6 you something.

7 A. That's okay.

8 Q. So if you just stay there.

9 Questions from THE PANEL

10 MR LANE: Thank you for the evidence. Just one question.

11 You mentioned about these boys disappearing.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Were there other places they could have gone to, such as  
14 a sick room, being taken overnight, or one of the  
15 brothers' rooms, or something like that?

16 A. That was possible, but it wasn't the boys that appeared  
17 two days later. These were the boys that were taken out  
18 and we -- they weren't seen again. That's the ones. It  
19 wasn't the boy that they might have been -- had to go to  
20 hospital or something like that for a couple of days  
21 maybe and were sent back, but it was boys that mainly  
22 that would be taken out during the night. That was the  
23 boys that we were -- that I was concerned about and  
24 I thought that you never know what was happening to  
25 these young children.

1 Q. Could they have absconded and been placed somewhere  
2 else?

3 **A. Possibly. There's a whole lot of possibilities, a lot**  
4 **of possibilities, but the one that I come up with was**  
5 **because of the severity of some of the way -- the way**  
6 **that some of the Brothers carried on in there,**  
7 **I wouldn't be at all surprised what had happened. You**  
8 **can draw your own conclusions on that one.**

9 Q. Thank you.

10 **A. Thank you.**

11 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA45, thank you very much for coming to  
12 speak to us today. That's all we need to ask you about.  
13 So you're free to go now. Thank you again for coming.

14 **A. Thank you very much. Thank you.**

15 (Witness withdrew)

16 MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, Mr Aiken is taking the  
17 next witness. I am not quite sure if they are ready,  
18 but it might be appropriate to take a short break.

19 CHAIRMAN: Well, I think we will give our stenographer  
20 a short break anyway at this point. So we will rise for  
21 five minutes and hopefully be in a position to start  
22 with the next witness.

23 (11.45 am)

24 (Short break)

25 (11.50 am)

1 WITNESS HIA59 (called)

2 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, good morning.

3 The next witness today is HIA59, who is "HIA59", and he  
4 is present and he's aware, Chairman, or is aware now  
5 that the Chairman will ask about taking the oath or  
6 affirming.

7 CHAIRMAN: Does **HIA 59** wish to maintain or waive his  
8 anonymity?

9 MR AIKEN: He is going to keep his anonymity. I'll ask him  
10 about that in just a moment when I bring up his  
11 statement.

12 CHAIRMAN: Now, **HIA 59** would you please -- you wish to  
13 take a religious oath -- is that right -- or do you wish  
14 to make an affirmation, which is a solemn promise?

15 **A. No. I will swear on the bible just.**

16 **HIA59 (sworn)**

17 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down.

18 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

19 MR AIKEN: Can you bring up, please, RUB535? **HIA 59**, you  
20 will recall me speaking to you beforehand about how the  
21 version on the screen will be different from the hard  
22 copy that you've got. You can see what's underneath the  
23 black markings.

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. Can you just check for me and confirm that the front

1 page of the hard copy you have without the black  
2 markings is the same as the version that's coming up on  
3 the screen?

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. And if we could move through, please, to page 542, if we  
6 just look at the last page of your hard copy statement,

7 **HIA 59** --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- you will see there wouldn't be much point in me  
10 asking if you have signed the one that's on the screen,  
11 but can you confirm you have signed the hard copy of  
12 your statement?

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. And it is the same as the version that's on the screen  
15 apart from the black mark?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. And you want to adopt the statement as your evidence  
18 before the Inquiry?

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. You will recall I mentioned to you the reason for the  
21 black markings is the Inquiry's anonymity policy.

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. And you want to keep your anonymity so your identity as  
24 your account is being described perhaps in the media is  
25 not disclosed?

1 **A. Right.**

2 Q. As I discussed with you, **HIA 59**, the Panel has material  
3 relating to you and there's a -- obviously a large  
4 quantity of it, and I'm going to try to summarise that  
5 as much as I can and help you through the task of giving  
6 your evidence.

7 So if you can just confirm for me, if we go back,  
8 please, to 535, that you are now 70 years old --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. -- having been born on **[REDACTED]**

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. And you mention in your statement at paragraph 34 on the  
13 penultimate page that you had a stroke about a year and  
14 a half ago.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. So if at any stage you have any difficulty, you just  
17 need to say and the Panel are alive to that, and there's  
18 water in front of you. If you need to take a drink at  
19 any stage, just do that. If you have any difficulty at  
20 all, you just say.

21 **A. Right.**

22 Q. Now, as I discussed with you this morning, in addition  
23 to your Inquiry statement the Panel are aware of five  
24 other core documents that record you describing what  
25 happened to you and I am just going to give those

1 references publicly.

2 That's a psychiatric report from a consultant you  
3 saw as part of the civil claim process in September of  
4 2010, and for the record that's at 50033 to 50041.

5 Then you spoke to the Police Service in July 2012  
6 and the police statement is at 66450 to 66452.

7 You are aware that the Order has given a replying  
8 statement to try to assist the Inquiry in understanding  
9 what it can say about your time in the home, and that's  
10 of 20th June 2014, and that can be found at 2163 through  
11 to 2167.

12 Then the Inquiry also has a statement from the  
13 Health & Social Care Board, which are the successor body  
14 of Tyrone County Welfare that we'll talk about very  
15 shortly, and they have recently provided a witness  
16 statement which is at 8037 and 8038. I will shortly  
17 talk to you about what it contains.

18 Then you have given some media interviews in the  
19 past, including 2009, and that's at 2187, and you gave  
20 a later interview in January of this year along with  
21 your brother.

22 In passing, you talking on the radio isn't a new  
23 thing --

24 **A. No.**

25 Q. Because you are into -- I am not sure whether a

1                   is the right word.

2   **A.**

3   Q.   And you

4   **A.   Yes.**

5   Q.   And at the end I'll come back to that as to how you  
6       reunited with a lady that you met in Belfast after you  
7       left Rubane and began working.

8               Now you entered Rubane on 8th August 1958 when you  
9       were 14 and you stayed there until 13th April 1960, just  
10      a few months short of your 16th birthday.  You were  
11      surprised at that.  You thought you were there at  
12      an earlier age.

13   **A.   I thought I was, yes.**

14   Q.   But it seems from the records that we'll see it was when  
15      you were 14 that you came to Rubane for that period of  
16      time.

17              You had originally lived with your mum and your  
18      uncles and your granny.  Is that right?

19   **A.   Grandmother mostly.**

20   Q.   Then when your mum died, you were taken into care?

21   **A.   Yes.**

22   Q.   Initially that was by the Tyrone County Welfare  
23      Committee?

24   **A.   Yes.**

25   Q.   And you initially had a time in foster care?

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. And then you had a short period in Coneywarren --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- Children's Home, which was run by Tyrone Welfare, and  
5 that was a very positive experience you had there?

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. And then after that you moved into Rubane?

8 **A. Correct.**

9 Q. And we can see the -- because you make mention of this  
10 in your statement. You don't understand why you weren't  
11 boarded out more or why you had to be in Rubane.

12 If we can bring up, please, 2173, this is a letter  
13 from Tyrone County Welfare of 23rd July 1958 that  
14 explains -- if we just scroll down, please. So it's  
15 referring to you. You can see your reference, and it's  
16 being written to BR17, BR17, who was the head of the  
17 home in 1958 in Rubane. It seems that the Children's  
18 Officer, who is writing this letter, had come to the  
19 view that it was in your best interests arising from  
20 a conversation that this record seems to suggest was had  
21 with you that you moved -- moved to Rubane. You can't  
22 yourself remember --

23 **A. No.**

24 Q. -- what reason there might have been, and unfortunately  
25 the statement from the Health & Social Care Board tells

1 us that they have been unable to find a file relating to  
2 you that might have existed to record what the Welfare  
3 Authority was doing in terms of decision-making about  
4 where you were being placed. So we're doing the best we  
5 can with the regards that we've got, and what we are in  
6 a position to say, if we can go, please, to 20049, from  
7 the Inquiry's own research in the Public Records Office  
8 we have on the screen the Tyrone County Welfare  
9 Committee Children's Committee, and I showed this  
10 document to you this morning, **HIA 59**

11 If we just scroll down, please, to 3(f), we can see:

12 "That the committee approve the placement of HIA59,  
13 HIA59 ..."

14 That's you. Isn't that right?

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. "... formerly boarded out with DL380 ...",

17 and we will come back to that shortly:

18 "... with effect from 8th August 1958."

19 So this is the Formal approval of Tyrone County  
20 Welfare of the Children's Officer's request for you to  
21 be placed in Rubane.

22 You mention in your statement that you recollect two  
23 periods of time in Rubane.

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. The Order weren't able to assist with why that might

1 have been. They speculated it might have been a trial  
2 foster placement. In fact, we can see -- can we go,  
3 please, to 20052 and 3(d)? Just scroll down, please.

4 We can see here the reference relating to you, **HIA 59**

5 "Approval is sought to board **HIA 59** out for  
6 a holiday with his former foster parent, DL380, with  
7 effect from 31st July."

8 This is a record from 1959. So what appears to be  
9 the case, and why you remember it in the way that you  
10 do, is you go into Rubane in August 1958 and you are  
11 there until July 1959. You go on holiday effectively  
12 back to your foster placement, DL380, and then you come  
13 back to Rubane presumably at the start of September 1958  
14 and you are there through until April 1960 when you move  
15 out to begin work in Belfast. So that explains why you  
16 remember it as two periods of stay.

17 What I want to ask you if we can go then to your  
18 statement, please, at 536, where you describe the first  
19 thing that happens when you move into Rubane. If we  
20 just scroll down, please, to paragraph 7:

21 "The first day of my second stay in the home ..."

22 So this as you are remembering seems to be at some  
23 stage perhaps early September 1959 --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- if it's the second stay or it could be the summer of

1 1958 if it's the first stay. You were told that you  
2 were dirty as you had come from the country. You were  
3 put into a shower along with BR61.

4 Members of the Panel, you will find on page 7 of the  
5 designation list BR61 is BR61. His name shouldn't be  
6 used beyond the chamber. By way of reference, RUB927,  
7 he would have been about 20 at the time this incident is  
8 being described, date of birth in April 1938. What  
9 you're describing here is he gets into the shower with  
10 you and you had to scrub him?

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. It never went any further than that?

13 **A. No.**

14 Q. But you remember -- did you regard that as strange or  
15 wrong or how did you perceive it at the time?

16 **A. Just strange I think it was, just -- I couldn't believe  
17 that I had to do -- he was supposed to be looking after  
18 me instead of me with him, you know.**

19 Q. And you describe how when the bell rang, he then got out  
20 and told you, "Don't you mention that I was in the  
21 shower with you, because I'm not supposed to be".

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. You thought he was in his 40s at the time. That's the  
24 only occasion you ever had any interaction with him of  
25 this type?

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. You mention that in both of your psychiatric report that  
3 the Panel have -- I am not going to bring that up, but  
4 for the reference that's at the bottom of 50034 and at  
5 the top of 50035 -- and the Order certainly were  
6 suggesting that it was not clear from that report -- you  
7 describe BR61 and him giving you some verbal abuse and  
8 then you make reference to the incident with the shower,  
9 but you are clear that BR3 was in the shower with you.  
10 Is that right?

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. You do talk about it in your police statement in 2012 at  
13 66450. Now the Order have said to the Inquiry, **HIA 59**  
14 at paragraph 4 of their statement at 2163 that there is  
15 no other that they are aware of complaint about BR61  
16 other than this single complaint that you are recording.

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. Let me just ask you: the perception of it being strange  
19 or wrong, did you have that at the time or is that  
20 something as you have thought back now, looking back  
21 over the period of time in the home, you have  
22 a difficulty with or can you remember having  
23 a difficulty at the time?

24 **A. It was difficult, because I never ever was in that**  
25 **position before. You know what I mean? I was never**

1           **ever in the shower with anybody before.**

2       Q.   And you did describe that incident as well when you gave  
3           an interview in 2009. That's at 2187, two-thirds of the  
4           way down the page.

5           Now I want to move on to BR17. You are aware of  
6           speaking about the BR17 issue this morning. Your  
7           brother has just given evidence. Can I ask you how many  
8           Brother [name redacted] do you remember being in the  
9           home with you during '58 and '59?

10       **A. One.**

11       Q.   And can you tell the Panel what position you recall him  
12           holding in the home?

13       **A. He was the head -- as far as I knew he was the head  
14           Brother in there.**

15       Q.   And did he also teach in the school?

16       **A. Yes.**

17       Q.   Members of the Panel, you will be aware that BR17 from  
18           September '56 was the Brother Director in charge of the  
19           community and also the principal in the school.

20           Do you ever remember any other Brother [name  
21           redacted] other than this one you're describing?

22       **A. No.**

23       Q.   Now if we can go to paragraph 8 of your statement. Just  
24           scroll down a little, please. You say here:

25           "When you went to bed at night, the Brothers started

1 to come into the beds. You would wake up with them  
2 standing beside you. There was a ...."

3 I think that's probably incorrect. It should read  
4 "BR17", because -- yes. Those should all be. Those are  
5 incorrect references. They should all be "BR17". You  
6 are saying BR17. In fact, I think there were two  
7 Brothers with that name, BR23 and BR17. It is the  
8 headmaster, the head of the home you are talking about  
9 -- is that right --

10 **A. Yes, that's ...**

11 Q. -- was one of the Brothers that sneaked around at night  
12 when you were in your bed and you got woken up by him  
13 fumbling and fondling you?

14 **A. Yes, sir.**

15 Q. "This happened twice or three times a week throughout my  
16 year stay."

17 Then you describe him having slicked back hair,  
18 slicked back.

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 Q. Do you remember describing him in that way?

21 **A. As far as I remember, yes.**

22 Q. And you are aware -- I showed you a photograph --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- this morning. What I'm going to do is show you that  
25 photograph again and then the Panel have an opportunity

1 to come into the beds. You would wake up with them  
2 standing beside you. There was a ...."

3 I think that's probably incorrect. It should read  
4 "BR17", because -- yes. Those should all be. Those are  
5 incorrect references. They should all be "BR17". You  
6 are saying BR17. In fact, I think there were two  
7 Brothers with that name, BR23 and BR17. It is the  
8 headmaster, the head of the home you are talking about  
9 -- is that right --

10 **A. Yes, that's ...**

11 Q. -- was one of the Brothers that sneaked around at night  
12 when you were in your bed and you got woken up by him  
13 fumbling and fondling you?

14 **A. Yes, sir.**

15 Q. "This happened twice or three times a week throughout my  
16 year stay."

17 Then you describe him having slicked back hair,  
18 slicked back.

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 Q. Do you remember describing him in that way?

21 **A. As far as I remember, yes.**

22 Q. And you are aware -- I showed you a photograph --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- this morning. What I'm going to do is show you that  
25 photograph again and then the Panel have an opportunity

1 to look at it. In fact, we might able to bring it up as  
2 well at RUB2138. 2138, please. Yes. If we just scroll  
3 down a little bit, please. You can see it is the same  
4 photograph on the screen that we are looking at,

5 **HIA 59** This photograph came into your possession and  
6 your brother's possession at the time of the civil  
7 claims that you and he took against the Order. You  
8 picked out this BR17 as the one you were referring to.  
9 Is that right?

10 **A. He looks very like him there, the one that I was -- that**  
11 **was the one when I was there.**

12 Q. Can I just check with you the gentleman in the middle --  
13 we will come on to this subject rather than having to go  
14 through it again. If we can look at -- there are three  
15 Brothers in the photograph. You are talking about the  
16 right-hand one being the BR17. Is that right?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. And then who is the one in the middle? Do you recognise  
19 him?

20 **A. Well, I called him BR12. It was BR12 they called him**  
21 **I think, BR12. He had the farm. He was the man that**  
22 **was in charge of the farm.**

23 Q. Right, and we will come back to that. If you could  
24 just -- Mr O'Connor will hand the original up to the  
25 Panel.

1 CHAIRMAN: Well, I think we have seen this.

2 MR LANE: Yes. Thanks. Do you want it?

3 MR AIKEN: The Order points to the fact that that BR23  
4 that's in the photograph was never in Rubane at the time  
5 you were there. That gentleman left for South Africa in  
6 1953. The one who was in the home with you is not in  
7 the photograph. So --

8 **A. Well --**

9 Q. -- they are saying you have misidentified.

10 **A. Well, after fifty years like it was hard. He definitely**  
11 **looks like him. To me he looked like him.**

12 Q. But you recognise or felt you recognised him. You  
13 recognised the tall man in the middle?

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. And do you recognise the one on the left?

16 **A. No.**

17 Q. And if we can go back, please, to 537. So you're  
18 describing that the BR17 that you're describing wore  
19 a robe and he had nothing underneath.

20 Then you mention another Brother whose name you  
21 can't remember.

22 "They would come into your room, pull you around in  
23 the bed and you had to fondle and masturbate them or  
24 they would have stood on your toes if you didn't do it."

25 Now can I just check with you: you were in

1 a dormitory in the main house?

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. By this stage there was also a steward's house or  
4 a farmhouse, as you might describe it, where boys also  
5 had beds. Is that right?

6 **A. Yes, yes.**

7 Q. And you had the school in a building next to the main  
8 building?

9 **A. Front of the building, yes.**

10 Q. Did this that you are describing, the fondling and  
11 fumbling and making you touch them, did that happen in  
12 your dormitory?

13 **A. In the main building.**

14 Q. Yes. You weren't taken out into a bedroom for this to  
15 happen? It happened in the --

16 **A. No, it happened in the ...**

17 Q. And --

18 **A. Depending where you slept. If you were first in the --**  
19 **if you were in the first bed, you were the first**  
20 **touched.**

21 Q. Did it not wake other boys who were there?

22 **A. Other boys would have hid, which I done many times**  
23 **myself, would have gone in under the clothes.**

24 Q. Did you pretend to be asleep or --

25 **A. Yes, that's what you do. That's what happened. If you**

1       **heard somebody in, you hid yourself, tried to hide**  
2       **yourself.**

3       Q.   And when you say he would have stood on your toes, can  
4       you just explain to the Panel how was that done?

5       A.   **Well, he'd pull you, made you sit on the bed like that,**  
6       **and he stood in front of you with his cloak, and then he**  
7       **put his feet on top of you, and if you didn't do what he**  
8       **wanted, he would have pressed his foot down on top of**  
9       **your toes. He wore these sort of like sandals, these**  
10      **Romany sandals. I don't know what they're called.**

11      Q.   And the -- you remember BR17 doing that to you --

12      A.   **Yes.**

13      Q.   -- and -- but it never went beyond that?

14      A.   **No.**

15      Q.   It was this fondling --

16      A.   **Yes.**

17      Q.   -- making you touch him, and it always happened at night  
18      in the dorm?

19      A.   **It was always night-time.**

20      Q.   Now you then also say in addition to this type of  
21      activity he was also physically abusive to you.

22      A.   **Yes.**

23      Q.   If we can look, please, at paragraph 16 at 538, you say:

24                "We were beaten at Rubane House. They would put you  
25      over the desk in school, drop your trousers and beat you

1 with a cane. I was often beaten with a cane. BR17  
2 would beat you for simple things. It happened to a lot  
3 of the boys and it happened most weeks."

4 What did -- was it only with a cane that he hit you?

5 **A. Usually, yes. One of them -- it had a hook on it.**

6 Q. How many times were you hit? With six slaps of the cane  
7 or --

8 **A. Yes. It was always six or twelve or three. They had  
9 a -- it depends on what they were hitting you for.**

10 Q. There was a mathematical equation --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- to it?

13 **A. They had a ...**

14 Q. And you --

15 **A. Three strokes of the cane or six strokes of the cane.  
16 That's what -- the way it worked.**

17 Q. Now then you describe in your statement, if we can go  
18 back, please, to paragraph 11 -- and this is to do with  
19 the man BR12, BR12 or BR12 --

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. -- the man you say was in charge of the farm.

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. Now before this incident -- we are going to talk about  
24 the farm -- what involvement had BR12 with you? Did he  
25 work in the dorms at night? Did he serve food for you?

1 Did he have any involvement in your lessons?

2 **A. No. He seemed to be in the farm all the time.**

3 Q. And --

4 **A. I actually never met him until I went to the farm.**

5 **I didn't know who he was.**

6 Q. Right, and how did you come to be sent to the farm?

7 **A. Because I was fit. I was able to -- you know, I was**  
8 **able and fit at the time.**

9 Q. Where had you been going before somebody said to you,  
10 "Will you go down to the farm?"

11 **A. They just --**

12 Q. Were you in school?

13 **A. I was in the school at the time. They took me out of**  
14 **the school, put me down to the farm, but I had -- was**  
15 **took out of the farm again, put back to the school.**  
16 **That's the way they worked it. They took another boy**  
17 **out, put him back again. You done your work.**

18 Q. Did other boys help out in the farm in the same way you  
19 are describing?

20 **A. Not at the same time.**

21 Q. So you would have had maybe not in a formal sense but  
22 a rota type idea? You went one day --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- and someone else went another day --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- and someone else went another day, and you describe  
2 here in this paragraph -- you say he would never leave  
3 you alone. You say he abused you two or three times  
4 a week. Then you say he put you into a cattle crusher.

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. Now can you describe what you mean by that? What was  
7 the structure of that like so that the Panel can have  
8 some idea what you are talking about?

9 **A. Well, it was a thing like you put a cow into, the head**  
10 **of the cow, and then you pulled it down so that you**  
11 **couldn't get out of it.**

12 Q. And what was it made of?

13 **A. It was probably for -- it was a sort of a homemade**  
14 **thing. It wasn't a real cow crusher they are now.**  
15 **I don't know what they are now, but it fitted over**  
16 **cattle's head like that and then the two bars here which**  
17 **bolted and you couldn't get your head out of it.**

18 Q. And was it made of wood or metal or what?

19 **A. Wood and metal. I remember there was two bars that --**  
20 **once it closed down there was a bar that kept it down on**  
21 **each side and that was the purpose of it, to hold in the**  
22 **cattle for maybe injections or putting a ring in**  
23 **a bull's nose or something.**

24 Q. And you describe and the Panel are able to see in your  
25 statement what you say he did. Was that the only

1 occasion that this very serious matter that you describe  
2 occurred with this man?

3 **A. Yes, just the once.**

4 Q. So you described it in the first couple of sentences of  
5 that paragraph, if you just look at it on the screen  
6 with me, HIA59, that you say he was one of these  
7 brothers who just had you when he wanted you. He abused  
8 you two or three times a week.

9 If this very serious incident just happened once,  
10 what was it he was doing at other times you are  
11 describing?

12 **A. He was just putting his hand down your trousers and**  
13 **things like that, making you touch him.**

14 Q. But it is only on one occasion --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- that it went as far as this?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. And can you remember how long you had been in Rubane  
19 whenever this happened? If you use, for instance, you  
20 went out for the summer with DL380 splitting up your  
21 stay, if you like. If you like, that's two school  
22 years. You were there in 1958 from September to the  
23 summer and then out for the summer and then back for the  
24 next school year through to April '60. Can you remember  
25 which side of the going out to DL380 it was?

1 **A. No, I can't.**

2 Q. You can't. Now you describe in paragraph 13 of your  
3 statement, please -- you felt in paragraph 12 that this  
4 lasted for about an hour and a half. Is that just  
5 your -- you don't know how long it lasted?

6 **A. I don't know, but it was a long time.**

7 Q. Your perception of it at the time, and you then describe  
8 the anger that you displayed after you were released?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. What exactly did you do?

11 **A. There was cattle had been brought into the -- there was**  
12 **a few cattle in the big shed, and there was doors at**  
13 **that end and doors at that end. They came in that end**  
14 **and went out that end. So I went to that side there and**  
15 **I made a noise and hushed at them and the Brother was**  
16 **standing at the door. I actually wanted them --**  
17 **I~actually wanted them to run over him.**

18 Q. Was there any, you know, repercussion from BR12?

19 **A. Yes. I got hammered after that, because one of the**  
20 **cattle stamped on his feet.**

21 Q. So he gave you a hammering?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. Now whenever -- you describe then in paragraph 13  
24 telling the priest --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- about this. Why this particular incident rather than  
2 all the other stuff that went on?

3 **A. Well, it was just -- it was just different, wasn't it?**  
4 **I didn't want to stick the pain any more.**

5 Q. And this was the -- you were talking to the chaplain,  
6 the priest who lived on the site?

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. I was asking you did you remember his name and you  
9 couldn't remember his name --

10 **A. No.**

11 Q. -- but when I mentioned DL366 --

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. -- who seems to straddle '56 through to perhaps beyond  
14 you leaving ...

15 **A. I heard that name, but I can't say whether it was DL366.**

16 Q. You don't know whether it was him or not?

17 **A. No.**

18 Q. But that's a name that rings a bell?

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. You told him about what happened. You say that he then  
21 told the Brother concerned --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- and then you were punished further?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. Now who was involved in punishing you?

1    **A. BR12.**

2    Q. BR12?

3    **A. Yes.**

4    Q. Was there anyone else involved?

5    **A. Well, I got a hiding from BR17 later on, but it worked**  
6       **in a couple of things I think, but the main one was from**  
7       **BR12.**

8    Q. What did he do to you? How did he punish you? What  
9       steps did he take?

10   **A. Well, for a start I got my hair cut. I was put in short**  
11       **trousers. I was given a battering with a -- he had like**  
12       **a walking stick thing that he had. He had a big walking**  
13       **stick and he battered me with that, and he put me down**  
14       **into that house that was on the farm we were talking**  
15       **about.**

16   Q. The steward's house where there was other dormitories?

17   **A. Yes, yes, and he locked me in a cupboard down there and**  
18       **I was in there for I think it was all night, all day.**

19   Q. So your -- you've said in your statement at paragraph 13  
20       three days. Is that your -- just a guess at what it  
21       felt like? It was a long time?

22   **A. Yes, it was a long time.**

23   Q. You describe for the Panel how you had to deal with  
24       being in the cupboard. Did anything else ever come of  
25       this after this punishment? Was that -- was that --

1    **A. I was taken away from the farm after that.**

2    Q. So you never had any more involvement --

3    **A. No, not with him.**

4    Q. -- with --

5    **A. BR12.**

6    Q. -- BR12? Can I ask you do you -- can you remember his  
7       rough age even or how did he look to you?

8    **A. Well, he looked in his 60s. He looked like a fair age  
9       of a man.**

10   Q. Was he a big man?

11   **A. Yes, he was, tall.**

12   Q. Members of the Panel, his CV is at 939, and he was born  
13       in 1890. So he would have been in his late 60s in 1958,  
14       and he was the first Director of the home between '50  
15       and '56 and then a Subdirector in charge of the farm  
16       until his death in 1972.

17        You describe this same incident to the police at --  
18        can we just look at that police statement, please? It  
19        is 66451, about halfway down the page, and you describe  
20        in a bier in a stock cage and your head poking out.  
21        That's how you recollect the structure that you are  
22        talking about.

23   **A. Yes.**

24   Q. The Order has said -- if we just look at 2164,  
25       paragraph 7, the Provincial of the Order, who was

1 preparing this statement, appears to have spoken to  
2 other Brothers who knew BR12, and they say they don't  
3 believe he would have been capable of such a heinous  
4 crime. They acknowledge there is another range of  
5 allegations against him, but then point to other boys  
6 who have positive things to say. They are finding it  
7 difficult to accept that what you're describing could  
8 have happened. Is there anything you want to say about  
9 that?

10 **A. Well, I don't know how they can describe it. It was me**  
11 **that happened till. I was in there. I know what**  
12 **happened to me. There was lots of things happened in**  
13 **there.**

14 Q. One of the -- they make the point in paragraph 8 that  
15 the head shaving, rather than that potentially being for  
16 punishment, it might have been how having head lice was  
17 dealt with in the home.

18 **A. No, I never had head lice in my life.**

19 Q. And they make mention of -- and I am not going to bring  
20 it up -- but that -- I give the reference at 2166 --  
21 that -- if we just move through to paragraph 23, 2166,  
22 please, you had a meeting with the Order and the Order's  
23 solicitor in November of 2010. Do you remember that  
24 meeting when you went to talk to the Order --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- about what happened? The point that's being made is  
2 a file note was kept, and I will just give the Panel the  
3 reference for that at 20070. Where you had been talking  
4 about BR12 the note the solicitor made was:

5 "Sexual fondling. No rape",  
6 but you are describing effectively rape by BR12.  
7 Is that --

8 **A. Well, that's what it was then. I didn't know at the**  
9 **time what it was, but I knew later on.**

10 Q. And in fairness to you in September of 2010 -- so this  
11 meeting is taking place in November of 2010 -- three  
12 months beforehand if we can bring up, please, 50035,  
13 when you are speaking to the doctor that you went to  
14 see, who diagnosed the condition that you suffered from  
15 as a result of the abuse, he says:

16 "He recalled incidents where male members of staff  
17 had anal sex with him. He recalled that he was  
18 powerless to act. There was no-one to tell."

19 He then records you saying you had gone to  
20 confession on a number of occasions and told the priest  
21 about the incident.

22 "'I told him what the Brother had done to me.'"

23 Then this resulted in you getting a beating. So you  
24 were describing to the doctor that you saw of this type  
25 of level, if I can put it that way, of abuse taking

1 place, but am I right in saying this only happened on  
2 one occasion, not on -- there wasn't a number of male  
3 members of staff who did this?

4 **A. No.**

5 Q. You do make the allegation in greater detail to police,  
6 as we have looked at, and then also in the media  
7 interview that you gave in 2009 you explained the matter  
8 in some detail. That's at 2187.

9 You go on to describe, **HIA 59** the occasion when  
10 films were watched in the house --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- and you talk about this in paragraph 20 of your  
13 statement at 539. Can I just check with you: the hour  
14 of TV you are talking about, did that happen in the  
15 basement of the main house?

16 **A. The dining room in the basement.**

17 Q. That's where you ate --

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. -- but it is also where there was a screen --

20 **A. Yes, they put up a screen.**

21 Q. -- and programmes would be shown?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. And you recall seeing boys sitting on the knees of  
24 Brothers --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- and --

2 **A. Especially BR17.**

3 Q. And that didn't happen to you --

4 **A. No.**

5 Q. -- who were obviously older?

6 **A. No.**

7 Q. But you saw boys sitting on the knees of Brothers?

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. But you yourself did not see them being abused?

10 **A. No, they were just -- all I knew they were sitting on**  
11 **their knees, but there was plenty each of empty seats.**  
12 **So ...**

13 Q. If we just briefly -- I want to ask you about  
14 bedwetting, because one of the explanations given for  
15 why --

16 **A. Uh-huh.**

17 Q. -- Brothers might have been coming into the dormitory  
18 and feeling in round boys was to check if they had wet  
19 the bed. Did you have any involvement in dealing with  
20 bedwetting?

21 **A. I was one of the boys that got the boys up with the**  
22 **bedwetting. I was given an alarm clock. We all had our**  
23 **turn. A couple of boys had a turn at it, and they would**  
24 **give you an alarm clock. You would set it for 3 o'clock**  
25 **and maybe 5 o'clock and go round the two dormitories or**

1           **some of them waking them up and get them up.**

2    Q.   Was that to get them to go to the toilet?

3    **A.   Yes, so -- but it wasn't the Brothers.  It was the boys**  
4           **that done it, because I was one of them.**

5    Q.   Now you have obviously described two Brothers sexually  
6           interfering with you, one extremely serious incident  
7           that you're describing, but you do have a positive  
8           memory of BR13 --

9    **A.   Yes.**

10   Q.   -- for instance, who was an older Brother.  You say at  
11          paragraph 21 -- BR13 again shouldn't be used.

12                "He was an old man and he was very good to you.  He  
13                would look after money for you.  It was nice to have  
14                a friend that was good to you."

15                You didn't tell him about what happened?

16   **A.   No.**

17   Q.   Why did you not feel able to talk to him?

18   **A.   No.  Just -- it wasn't -- we wasn't that close.  It was**  
19           **just he was good to all the boys.**

20   Q.   What did he do that was good?

21   **A.   He had a wee -- he seemed to have a wee office of his**  
22           **own or a wee house, a wee small place, and if you had**  
23           **a few shillings, which was very little in them days, he**  
24           **would have had a book and he would have wrote your name**  
25           **down and somebody else's,           HIA 59   and all that,**

1           and he would have wrote down and he would have kept the  
2           money for you, and then if you were going to the shop,  
3           going to buy -- he would have brought you into Kircubbin  
4           to buy sweets and things. He would have given you the  
5           money and then he would have marked it off, and then if  
6           you got money before, you went back and he would have  
7           put your name down again.

8       Q. Did he take you swimming?

9       **A. Yes, he took us to the lough.**

10      Q. Strangford Lough?

11      **A. Strangford Lough.**

12      Q. So your memory of him is of a positive experience?

13      **A. Yes. That's when I learned to swim.**

14      Q. Just when we are talking about swimming, the Panel heard  
15      me describe last week how an outdoor swimming pool was  
16      constructed in 1959 --

17      **A. Yes.**

18      Q. -- which was spanning your period. Had you any  
19      involvement in the swimming pool?

20      **A. Yes. I dug it.**

21      Q. And who --

22      **A. Me and about six other fellas dug the swimming pool with  
23      spades and shovels.**

24      Q. Was there some -- was there a handyman or builder type  
25      guy?

1    **A.**    There would have been a boy there doing -- yes, a boy  
2           done the plasterwork and all.  It would have been I am  
3           sure the length of this hall here, about 12 foot wide  
4           and about this length.

5    Q.    Had it different depths?

6    **A.**    A depth from, say, 3 foot to 8 foot, something like  
7           that, or 6 foot.

8    Q.    Did you have fun swimming in it?

9    **A.**    Well, I was threw into it the first time it opened.

10   Q.    That maybe wasn't fun.

11   **A.**    No, but we got used till it.  Then we were stopped then.  
12           We didn't get down to the lough after that, because the  
13           pool was there.

14   Q.    So you had good times using the pool.  That was a good  
15           facility --

16   **A.**    Yes, yes.

17   Q.    -- that was there.  You mentioned in paragraph 16 of  
18           your statement, if we just scroll up a little bit, you  
19           don't recall ever seeing a doctor.  You record one  
20           occasion when you got what you describe as a hole in  
21           your leg and you were hit with a stick by one of the  
22           Brothers.

23   **A.**    Still have the hole in my leg yet.

24   Q.    You don't recall seeing doctors?

25   **A.**    No, no.

1 Q. But you accept that it may be the case doctors were  
2 coming. You just didn't get any?

3 **A. Yes. Well, I never needed a doctor. Probably if I had**  
4 **needed one, but in that case it wasn't -- they wouldn't**  
5 **have sent you for that anyway in case you would have**  
6 **been asked where did you get it.**

7 Q. If we just scroll down a little, you also mention in  
8 paragraph 16 that there were -- the welfare officers,  
9 the likes of from Tyrone County, you say they checked on  
10 you occasionally, but you weren't allowed to speak to  
11 them directly?

12 **A. No.**

13 Q. And, in fact, in the letter that we can see there seems  
14 to be some evidence not in relation to you but in that  
15 letter we looked at from July 1958 there's a record of  
16 -- indicating they were going to come and see some other  
17 children who were already there from the same Welfare  
18 Authority. So when they came, you didn't have any  
19 private discussions with them?

20 **A. No.**

21 Q. They just came and -- what did they do?

22 **A. I don't know what they done.**

23 Q. But you just recognised them having -- having come?

24 **A. That's all, but they never came to me. I was never in**  
25 **with them.**

1 Q. Now you say in paragraph 17 that if anyone was coming  
2 such as the Welfare, it was all hush-hush.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. You were told not to speak to anyone.

5 "Everything was cleaned up by the boys, and when  
6 they went away, it was all back to normal again. It was  
7 sort of a bluff thing that happened."

8 What do you mean by that?

9 **A. Well, you were made to clean up all the dormitories and**  
10 **clean up the yard, brush everything up and everything**  
11 **was spotless.**

12 Q. The Order do in their statement observe that the  
13 Ministry of Home Affairs would inspect it and they  
14 didn't necessarily do that on notice and in advance, but  
15 that's the impression you gleaned from it as a young  
16 boy?

17 **A. Well, it was probably what happened anyway, wouldn't it,**  
18 **that you would clean up a place if there was people**  
19 **coming?**

20 Q. Yes. I think the point we are making, **HIA 59** is they  
21 didn't necessarily always know when an Inspector would  
22 be coming, but you certainly recollect on occasions --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- this having to be done.

25 You describe in paragraph 22 of your statement, if

1 we can scroll a little further down, about being hired  
2 out --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- to farmers to gather potatoes or to do construction  
5 work. You talk about this in one of the media  
6 interviews you did that the Panel has the opportunity to  
7 consider. What happened -- how were you dealt with that  
8 you ended up working on some -- someone else's premises?

9 **A. Well, we were brought out on the back of a tractor on  
10 a trailer, an open trailer, maybe twelve boys, six  
11 sitting on that side, six sitting on that side, and we  
12 were brought to a field to gather spuds, and we were  
13 there all day maybe for a week or two.**

14 Then we were brought out to take loads of bricks off  
15 lorries for people that were building houses, and the  
16 boys would be all lined up, about ten of us, and the  
17 bricks would be threw and that. No gloves or nothing.  
18 The bricks were just thrown at you. You had to grab  
19 them, then the next boy, the next boy. That's the way  
20 they went in like that.

21 Q. So you recall two types of work that you went and did  
22 outside the home?

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. One was the potato gathering and then the other was this  
25 form of assisting with the construction --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- in a local -- was this just a building site nearby to  
3 the home?

4 **A. Yes, yes.**

5 Q. And did you get paid for this work?

6 **A. No, no. We got a shilling a day for gathering spuds.**

7 Q. And I think the Order said on various occasions the  
8 money that was gathered from this might have gone to  
9 providing treats for you that --

10 **A. I don't remember many treats.**

11 Q. You don't. Now you -- whenever you -- April 1960 you  
12 are approaching your 16th birthday. You then are -- you  
13 meet this gentleman from Belfast who had visited the  
14 home --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- DL381, who was a builder. How had you come to meet  
17 him?

18 **A. I run after him.**

19 Q. Why was he at Rubane?

20 **A. He had brought in something for the boys. He was -- he  
21 had a club in Belfast and a charity thing and they would  
22 have brought in toys and clothes and things like that  
23 maybe for the boys.**

24 Q. So he was making steps to help --

25 **A. Yes, he was a charitable --**

1 Q. -- provide things for the home?

2 A. -- **charitable man.**

3 Q. And you chased after him. What did you ask him?

4 A. **I asked him was there any work out in -- looking for --**  
5 **I wanted to get out of there and I said I was looking**  
6 **for a job, and about three weeks after that, maybe two**  
7 **weeks, I got word that I was going out to DL381 to work.**  
8 **He had a bicycle shop as well and a builder's yard.**

9 Q. You don't recollect, but there are records which you are  
10 aware -- I discussed with you -- from DL367, who was the  
11 Nazareth Lodge Voluntary Welfare Officer who helped get  
12 placements for boys when they left Rubane, and I showed  
13 you a particular entry. If we can bring up 2185,  
14 please. If we just maximise that. This is one of  
15 a series of reports on how you were getting on and the  
16 Panel will find more either side of this number, but  
17 apparently you are described:

18 "I can truthfully say", according to DL381, "I've  
19 never had a better lad than HIA59 and he has the hands  
20 to do the work and can do it well."

21 Then there are various other references where very  
22 positive comments are made about your work as well, but  
23 what I want to ask you, the members of the public  
24 looking at this page can only see your designation, but  
25 underneath this you are aware, in fact, the word "HIA59"

1 appears --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. -- rather than the word "HIA59".

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. Now can you explain to the Panel why the Welfare Officer  
6 might -- the record before says "HIA59".

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. This one written in March '61 says "HIA59".

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. Can you explain how that comes about?

11 **A. Well, I worked on the Falls Road and I worked on the  
12 Shankill Road.**

13 Q. For DL381?

14 **A. And he had a mixed -- he had a couple of other boys  
15 working with him, mixed religions, Catholic and  
16 Protestant. When I was working on the Shankill Road,  
17 I was called HIA59 -- no, I was called HIA59, and when I  
18 was working on the Falls Road, I was called HIA59, which  
19 was Irish for HIA59, because there was a bit of bigotry  
20 about in them days as well.**

21 Q. And who decided you should be called HIA59?

22 **A. DL381.**

23 Q. So DL381 thought it was best --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- if you weren't known on the Falls Road as HIA59 --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- but better as HIA59?

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. That's why this report might record HIA59 rather than  
5 HIA59?

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. You mentioned to me, and I will just ask you to explain  
8 to the Panel, you have set out your life history after  
9 care in your statement and I am not going to go into  
10 that. You explain how your wife died a number of years  
11 ago and shortly before she died you explained to her  
12 about what had happened to you. Then you were  
13 explaining to me this morning, as these things sometimes  
14 do, since your wife passed away, then you were

15

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. Do you want to tell the Panel how you -- who got in  
18 touch with you and how that reminded you of how you met  
19 this person a number of --

20 **A. Right. When I was working in Belfast, I got -- me and  
21 this girl were going together. She was maybe 18 and  
22 I was 19, 20.**

23 Q. This is when you were with DL381 essentially?

24 **A. Yes, and we lived next door to each other. Her family  
25 was across the road. So we started going out with each**

1 other, and then the troubles hit Belfast in '69 and  
2 I decided, "I'm getting out of here". So I moved back  
3 to DL380 at .

4 Q. That's the foster lady --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- that you had been with?

7 A. Yes. I moved back and she went to England to her  
8 sister. So 43 years later

9 and she and  
10 she rang me and she said, "Would your  
11 name ..." -- now HIA59 it was, because she knew me as  
12 HIA59.

13 Q. You lived on Road at the time.

14 A. Pardon?

15 Q. You lived on Road at the time, so you were  
16 known to her as HIA59.

17 A. Yes, yes, and she asked me was my name HIA59 and I says,  
18 "Yes". She says, "You were my first boyfriend in  
19 1966/'67".

20 Q. And --

21 A. And --

22 Q. -- since you and her have got in touch again?

23 A. Yes. She married -- she was married for 33 years.  
24 I was married for 42 years, and me and her are back  
25 together again.

1 Q. Her husband died --

2 **A. Yes, her husband died.**

3 Q. -- at the same time as your wife died?

4 **A. Yes, within a couple of months of each other the same**  
5 **year.**

6 Q. And, HIA59, you, as did your brother the Panel have  
7 heard from this morning, you pursued a civil claim  
8 against the Order for what happened to you in Rubane and  
9 that was settled in January of 2011 --

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. -- and you were paid compensation for the abuse in  
12 a similar fashion, Members of the Panel, to previous  
13 settlements without any admission of liability and so  
14 on. I just give you the reference for the settlement  
15 terms you can look at. It is at 50042.

16 HIA59, what I'd like to ask you is two final matters  
17 and then the Panel may want to ask you something. The  
18 first is that you may or may not be aware that the Panel  
19 at the end of its work has to make recommendations to  
20 the government of Northern Ireland, to the Executive  
21 about three matters really: about an apology  
22 potentially, about perhaps some form of memorial to  
23 those who suffered and perhaps some form of redress, and  
24 what I wanted to ask you is whether you as someone who  
25 has come along to the Inquiry have any view you want to

1 express to the Panel about that?

2 **A. Not really. There's nothing else I can say. All I can**  
3 **say is I hope it doesn't happen to anybody else.**

4 Q. And the last question that I want to ask you is  
5 I appreciate, as do the Panel, this is a difficult thing  
6 for someone to do, to come along and speak in public  
7 about what happened to them, but it is your opportunity  
8 to say to the Panel who want to hear from you what you  
9 want to say, and I want to ask you is there anything  
10 else perhaps I haven't covered or haven't covered in  
11 enough detail that you would like to say to the Panel  
12 about your experiences in care?

13 **A. Not really, no. You've heard it all.**

14 Q. I have no further questions that I want to ask you, but  
15 if you remain where you are just for a moment, the Panel  
16 may want to ask you some questions.

17 Questions from THE PANEL

18 CHAIRMAN: HIA59, can I just ask you to go back to something  
19 you describe about the manual work you did when you were  
20 at Rubane?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. Do you remember telling us about going out and being  
23 taken on the trailer to go and pick potatoes?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. You also described going to help unload bricks --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- you all being in a line and the bricks being passed  
3 along.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. Was that somewhere on the farm, because it was a big  
6 farm, 270 acres, or somewhere else?

7 **A. No, it was somewhere else, but it wasn't that far away.**  
8 **It was down on the main road where they were building**  
9 **a house or something. It wasn't that far away.**

10 Q. And I know you were, what, a teenager at the time --

11 **A. Uh-huh.**

12 Q. -- but looking back on it now, did you think that that  
13 was something the Brothers were building or was it  
14 another man building a house?

15 **A. I just don't know.**

16 Q. Do you think --

17 **A. I thought it was another -- I thought it was another**  
18 **man's, because it wasn't -- it wasn't belonging to the**  
19 **place.**

20 Q. Did this just happen to you once or was it something  
21 that either you knew of --

22 **A. Twice.**

23 Q. -- or saw happening?

24 **A. Twice. It only happened to me twice, sir, but the**  
25 **potato gathering was a couple of times.**

1 Q. And to go back to the potato gathering, was that about  
2 this time of year --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- late September/early October into November, that  
5 time?

6 **A. Well, we also cut kale and stuff for animals for  
7 feeding.**

8 Q. Yes.

9 **A. But it was the things that they done and you just  
10 accepted it.**

11 Q. Thanks very much.

12 **A. Thank you.**

13 MS DOHERTY: Thanks very much, HIA59. Can I just ask about  
14 older boys and whether you have any experience of  
15 bullying with older boys?

16 **A. No, I never had any.**

17 Q. You never had that?

18 **A. No.**

19 Q. And boxing matches, can you remember ....?

20 **A. Oh, aye. I have been in the ring with a couple of boys  
21 all right, but it was nothing really. It was to settle  
22 an argument.**

23 Q. So you would be put into the ring to settle an argument?

24 **A. Yes. If you had an argument or bit of a row with  
25 someone, you were put -- which probably was good -- you**



1 (12.50 pm)

2 (Lunch break)

3 (1.50 pm)

4 WITNESS HIA24 (called)

5 MS SMITH: Good afternoon, Chairman, Panel Members. The  
6 first witness this afternoon is HIA24, who is "HIA24".  
7 I have confirmed with HIA24 that he wishes to maintain  
8 his anonymity for the purposes of the Inquiry and he  
9 also wishes to affirm rather than take the oath and he  
10 is aware it has the same legal significance.

11 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

12 WITNESS HIA24 (affirmed)

13 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down.

14 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

15 MS SMITH: Thank you, HIA24. Now I am going to ask you --  
16 I know you have a copy of your statement, although the  
17 copy you have in front of you isn't the signed version  
18 of your statement, but if we could look at it, first of  
19 all, at RUB446 to 454.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. I am just waiting for it to come up on the screen.

22 **A. Oh!**

23 Q. You will see here, HIA24, that instead of your name on  
24 the screen it says "The Witness Statement of HIA24".

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. You are aware that is the designation we have given to  
2 you to protect your privacy and your anonymity. If we  
3 could just go to the last page of the statement, please,  
4 which is 454, where that big box that says "HIA24" on  
5 the screen --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- HIA24, you have actually signed that and you signed  
8 the statement on 27th February 2014?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. And at the time you were signing it you wrote these  
11 words on it. Isn't that correct?

12 **A. I did indeed.**

13 Q. "It's funny that a movie has just been released this  
14 year '12 Years A Slave'. This is what I think of my  
15 time in homes."

16 **A. That's right.**

17 Q. You added that to your statement when you signed it.  
18 Isn't that the position?

19 **A. I did.**

20 Q. So just for the benefit of the Panel Members there is  
21 a response from the De La Salle Order at RUB2068 and  
22 2069.

23 The Health & Social Care Board have provided a short  
24 statement at RUB8039 essentially stating they weren't  
25 involved in any way in the care of HIA24.

1 CHAIRMAN: What is the reference to the Health & Social Care  
2 Board?

3 MS SMITH: It is 8039, Chairman.

4 If we could just go back to your statement, the  
5 first paragraphs, HIA24, deal with a little bit of your  
6 background and your family background as you know it --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- about your mother and father and the fact it was  
9 a mixed marriage and about your siblings. Then you were  
10 taken in as a result you believe of a recommendation  
11 from the NSPCC. You were taken to Nazareth Lodge in  
12 Belfast.

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. Is that correct?

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. And you talk about that from paragraphs 8 onwards, but  
17 we have spoken about this earlier today and you are  
18 aware the Inquiry is not in a position today to deal  
19 with what happened to you in Nazareth Lodge.

20 **A. True. Yes.**

21 Q. We are simply going to move on to look at what happened  
22 to you when you were in Kircubbin in Rubane.

23 **A. Yes, I understand that.**

24 Q. We know -- can I just confirm with you, though, you are  
25 willing to return at a later date to talk about your

1 time in Nazareth Lodge?

2 **A. Yes, I will.**

3 Q. Thank you. So if we could just go then straight to  
4 paragraph 26. It is on page 451. Sorry. Can you just  
5 go to page 450, which is the preceding page? Just the  
6 last paragraph of the preceding page, please. Just that  
7 paragraph 25. If you scroll right down to the bottom of  
8 that page. It is page 5 of the statement that you have,  
9 HIA24.

10 **A. Pardon?**

11 Q. It should be page 5 there. There's a little number 5 at  
12 the bottom of the page.

13 **A. Yes, I've got that now.**

14 Q. You see there at paragraph 25 --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- it just says:

17 "When the time came for me to leave Nazareth Lodge,  
18 I was just told one day to get on the bus and we were  
19 driven to Rubane. All we had was the clothes on our  
20 backs."

21 **A. That's true.**

22 Q. Did you know where you were going?

23 **A. No. I didn't even know anything called Rubane. We  
24 called it Kircubbin.**

25 Q. And you were -- this was -- if you scroll down to the

1 next page, please, just -- this was in 1953, when you  
2 were aged 12?

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. And you said you were sent with a group of boys aged  
5 about 11 and upwards?

6 **A. Well, 11, 12, yes.**

7 Q. And do you remember -- I'm going to ask you do you  
8 remember one boy who may have been with you in that  
9 group and that's a guy whose name I am going to use just  
10 so you know who I am talking about, but his name is not  
11 to be repeated outside this room, and that's a boy  
12 called HIA89. Do you remember him?

13 **A. I remember a [name redacted], a [name redacted].**  
14 **Whether it is the same one or not I don't know.**

15 Q. I'm going to ask you a little bit about something he  
16 said later, but so the Inquiry are aware, he is HIA89,  
17 and his statement is to be found at RUB551 to 556, and  
18 there's a response statement in respect of him at  
19 RUB2102 to 2113 I believe. There might be other  
20 documentation in respect of him.

21 But you do remember a boy called [name redacted],  
22 but you don't know --

23 **A. I don't know which one.**

24 Q. Now just -- you talk at paragraph 27 about what the  
25 accommodation was like when you arrived at Rubane.

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. You were told, "That's your bed" and there it was. You  
3 slept in dormitories --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- although these were smaller than the dormitories you  
6 had been in in Nazareth Lodge.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. You say there was about six in the dorms, age range of  
9 about 12 to 14. When you were in Rubane in Kircubbin,  
10 there was only the main house that the boys stayed in.

11 **A. That's right.**

12 Q. You talk then at paragraph 33, if I could just go to  
13 that, please, which is on page -- there it is -- you  
14 talk about the facilities in Rubane.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. They included a sports hall, a woodwork shop, and there  
17 was an orchard and the Brothers used to gather us all at  
18 the front of the building and throw apples for us to  
19 fight over, but they were bitter and sour, but yet were  
20 still apples. You remember going swimming in Strangford  
21 Lough about three to four times a year.

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. In the evenings you say you watched television and went  
24 to bed about 9 o'clock. At night you were left in the  
25 dormitory.

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. Going back to paragraph 28, if I may --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- just scroll up, please -- you talk here about the  
5 routine at Rubane was that you got up, got dressed, went  
6 down for breakfast, which you say was mainly porridge.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. "The Brothers sat separately to us and they got a cooked  
9 breakfast every morning."

10 Now was that separately in the dining rooms?

11 **A. It was the same room. They sat at one side. There was  
12 four, four of them.**

13 Q. And the Order would say that the boys and the Brothers  
14 ate the same thing, that there was no difference in the  
15 food.

16 **A. I don't think so. I think they had a proper cooked  
17 breakfast.**

18 Q. Were you able to see what they were eating?

19 **A. Probably bacon. You'd smell it.**

20 Q. Now you remember that you went to school on site in  
21 Kircubbin?

22 **A. Yes, yes.**

23 Q. You say you learned very little in paragraph 29 there:

24 "The Brothers themselves did the teaching."

25 You remember particular Brothers, who you name

1           there, BR17 and BR56 and **BR 12**. Now I am just going --  
2           you obviously have the names in the statement in front  
3           of you and I am going to use those names so that you  
4           know who we are talking about, HIA24.

5       **A. Yes.**

6       Q. But BR17, who was BR17 --

7       **A. Yes.**

8       Q. -- now you describe him as a big tall man with  
9           completely bald head.

10      **A. He was -- he was taller than me at the time.**

11      Q. You would have been about 12 then?

12      **A. Yes.**

13      Q. Do you remember anything else about him, any other  
14          details that you can remember?

15      **A. Well, he was our teacher and he could be quite wicked  
16          with you.**

17      Q. But about how he looked or anything you don't -- just  
18          that he was big and tall and bald?

19      **A. That's it. That's about it.**

20      Q. Then BR56 is BR56.

21      **A. BR56. I can't say I can place him at the moment, BR56.**

22      Q. And the other one that you talk about, he was the  
23          Director and Farm Manager, **BR 12**. That was a BR18.

24      **A. BR18.**

25      Q. Do you remember what he looked like?

1 **A. Yes. He was old -- well, oldish and grey, big bushy**  
2 **eyebrows, yes.**

3 Q. And that's the Brothers that you remember?

4 **A. Yes. The other one -- there was a younger BR23 I think**  
5 **with dark hair.**

6 Q. So in your time there were two Brother [name redacted]  
7 in the home that you remember?

8 **A. As far as I can remember, yes.**

9 Q. And did you have any dealings with him or --

10 **A. Well, I think he used to take us for the hurley and the**  
11 **Gaelic like, you know, mainly sports and stuff.**

12 Q. Well, one of the things you say is that you talk about  
13 working on the farm at the home --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- picking potatoes and getting paid sixpence for it --

16 **A. Sixpence, aye --**

17 Q. -- which you were able to spend at --

18 **A. -- a week.**

19 Q. A week?

20 **A. Sixpence a week.**

21 Q. You were able to spend that in the tuck shop on site?

22 **A. In the tuck shop, yes.**

23 Q. Now you say you were taken out to the farm at about 7.00  
24 in the morning, stayed until it was done. You were  
25 there to 6.00 or 7.00 at night. You say you worked on

1 different farms also.

2 **A. There was all different farms, yes.**

3 Q. That would have involved bringing in cows, picking  
4 potatoes and bringing in corn and barley?

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. That was for outside farmers as well as the farm the  
7 Brothers were operating?

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. You say the farmers used to make you soup and big floury  
10 potatoes with butter and that was a real treat?

11 **A. It was a real treat, yes.**

12 Q. One of the things the Order have said about that is that  
13 the boys didn't do work during the summer, that summer  
14 was a holiday time and that, in fact, you went to  
15 Glenariff. Do you remember going to Glenariff?

16 **A. I don't even know where Glenariff is.**

17 Q. Do you remember going anywhere during the summer  
18 holidays?

19 **A. We went -- I think we went to somewhere between  
20 Cushendun and Cushendall one year, but I ended up in bed  
21 for two or three days because I had an accident with the  
22 swing.**

23 Q. And you remember that?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. And the other thing that they say is that there was --

1           there was farm work that the boys engaged in and that  
2           was only two or three weeks a year potato picking.

3   **A. It was a bit longer than that. We used to do -- we used**  
4           **to do another thing where we had to walk behind**  
5           **a tractor. It had a great big steel frame on it with**  
6           **spikes. It went along and there was two of us to each**  
7           **basket picking stones out of the ground, and that was --**  
8           **that was another thing we had to do.**

9   Q. I am just going look at some photographs now. I know  
10          you have seen these, and just for the benefit of the  
11          Panel Members they are RUB2077. They are not  
12          particularly good quality, but you looked at these with  
13          me earlier, HIA24, and it seems to be boys working on  
14          a farm. If we could just scroll down, you don't  
15          recognise yourself in any of those?

16   **A. I don't, no.**

17   Q. And that's described as "Potato harvest".

18   **A. Yes.**

19   Q. The boys there seem to be having some refreshments in  
20          the bottom photograph. If we could just scroll on down  
21          to the next page, please, and this is "Off to camp  
22          August 1953". You didn't arrive in Kircubbin until  
23          19... -- September 1953.

24   **A. September time, yes.**

25   Q. So you wouldn't appear in any of these photographs?

1 **A. No.**

2 Q. But we'll just scroll down through them. Do you see  
3 there there seems to be a swing there? Is that maybe  
4 the swing you got injured on do you think?

5 **A. I think there was two or three swings in the ones I got  
6 injured in. I don't think it was in Kircubbin itself  
7 like, you know. I think it was on -- when we went  
8 somewhere else.**

9 Q. You were saying somewhere between Cushendun and  
10 Cushendall is where that happened?

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Just scroll on. Then there is boys there. You see  
13 there is Lynns Ice-cream there and there is a Brother  
14 just behind that sign.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. Do you recognise him at all?

17 **A. I don't recognise him at all, no.**

18 Q. I know it is hard to make out, or the one at the bottom  
19 there? There's --

20 **A. It's the same bloke, isn't it? It looks like the same  
21 bloke. He looks like a priest rather than a Brother.  
22 He hasn't got the --**

23 Q. The tabs?

24 **A. -- the De La Salle tabs on.**

25 Q. It may be that's what it is, but certainly you don't

1 recognise him in any event?

2 **A. I don't, no.**

3 Q. Just, finally, if we scroll on down to the next page,  
4 please -- sorry. Leave it there. That's the end of the  
5 photographs.

6 Just about a couple of specific complaints that you  
7 make in your statement. If we could go back, please, to  
8 paragraph 31, which is at page 452.

9 **A. 31, yes.**

10 Q. It's -- yes, it's page 7 on the document in front of  
11 you.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. You will see here that you talk about:

14 "... a Brother being in charge of us" --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- "when we were playing in the field out the back."

17 His designation is there, but what is the name that  
18 you remember?

19 **A. Well, it is either Brother BR 55 or BR58. Brother --**  
20 **I said Brother BR 55, which is what I remember really,**  
21 **you know, and --**

22 Q. What you remember about him was that he was really old?

23 **A. He was old. He was older than the rest of them and wore**  
24 **glasses, thin face.**

25 Q. And you said that if you had to ask his permission for

1 something, he would pull you close and make you whisper  
2 in his ear?

3 **A. Yes. He used to sit on the bench at the top of the**  
4 **field where we went in, and if you had to go somewhere,**  
5 **you had to ask his permission, and he would bring you**  
6 **closer to him and the next thing you know his hand would**  
7 **be up -- we all wore shorts them days. His hand would**  
8 **be up your shorts fumbling you.**

9 Q. You say that if you tried to pull away --

10 **A. He would nip you.**

11 Q. When he was sitting there on his own, he was doing  
12 something else?

13 **A. Yes. He always had his hand up his smock or whatever it**  
14 **is they wore.**

15 Q. And that's the only dealings you had with that  
16 particular Brother. Is that correct?

17 **A. Yes. It's the only thing I remember him doing like, you**  
18 **know.**

19 Q. Well, one of the things you will be aware is that the  
20 Order are saying that that's the only complaint they  
21 have ever received about this particular Brother is what  
22 you have said about him. Nobody else has complained.

23 **A. I shouldn't think so.**

24 Q. When you say you shouldn't think so, you mean you  
25 shouldn't think that you are the only one to complain.

1 Is that what you mean?

2 **A. Yes. Well, I don't think I was the only one he was**  
3 **doing it to.**

4 Q. But then if we move on to paragraph 32, you say that:

5 "The Brothers could be really violent."

6 This BR17, BR17, was your teacher:

7 "... and if you did something wrong, he would bring  
8 you outside and hit you with thick straps or belts. If  
9 they were really annoyed, the Brothers would arrange  
10 a boxing match and put you in with someone much bigger  
11 as punishment."

12 You say this Brother **BR 55** never actually physically  
13 hit you or beat you. He just fondled the boys.

14 **A. He just --**

15 Q. "Fondled the boys" is what you've written.

16 **A. Oh, the Brother **BR 55****

17 Q. Yes.

18 **A. Yes. That's all he did.**

19 Q. He didn't physically abuse any of the boys?

20 **A. No. Well, I don't know. I don't know what he did to**  
21 **other boys.**

22 Q. But that's what he did to you?

23 **A. I just know -- I just know what he did -- was doing with**  
24 **me.**

25 Q. This business about the boxing match --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- is it possible that was just a sporting recreation in  
3 the home?

4 **A. It was a sport, but I think they used it like**  
5 **a punishment to you and all. You know what I mean?**

6 Q. And that's how you remember it?

7 **A. That's how I remember it.**

8 Q. I should say to you that the Order would say that  
9 corporal punishment was allowed in the home and that --  
10 would you accept that boys were punished for bad  
11 behaviour?

12 **A. Well, the corporal punishment was allowed in them days.**  
13 **I do know that, but we did get I think an excess of it**  
14 **in them days -- in the home. I mean, it wasn't just**  
15 **corporal punishment. We got clouts, this, that and the**  
16 **other like. You know what I mean? It depended what**  
17 **mood they were in.**

18 Q. I asked you earlier about HIA89.

19 **A. HIA89, yes.**

20 Q. You don't know if that's the person you're remembering,  
21 but one of the things that the Order have asked me to  
22 say to you, he was in the home at exactly the same time  
23 as you were there.

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. He went in and their admissions records show he went in

1 the same day --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. -- and left on the same day as you did.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. And they said that he found Rubane all right  
6 essentially.

7 **A. Well, he might have done. I mean, everyone to their own**  
8 **experiences, isn't it, but he didn't leave with me that**  
9 **day.**

10 Q. He may have left on the same day, but not with you.

11 **A. Not with me, no.**

12 Q. Is that possible?

13 **A. I left with a Mr Murphy in a car.**

14 Q. I will come on to that very shortly, HIA24, but he would  
15 say that his experience -- and I am just putting this to  
16 you -- his experience is that Rubane was better than  
17 Nazareth Lodge had been.

18 **A. Well, everybody to their own experience, isn't it?**

19 Q. He said that the food wasn't that bad. He remembers  
20 trips to the sea, and he would say that you would have  
21 got the odd belt or strap if you did something wrong as  
22 a punishment. I am just inviting you to make any  
23 comment you want to say about that, HIA24.

24 **A. Well, all I can say is probably a lot of other people's**  
25 **experiences are different. You know, there was -- there**

1        was people that hung around the Brothers and hung around  
2        the nuns. You know what I mean? There were skirt  
3        holders on and things like that like. You know what I  
4        mean? I usually kept well out of the road if I could.

5        Q. Certainly while you remember a boy called [name  
6        redacted], you don't remember his first name?

7        A. No.

8        Q. Paragraph 33, we have talked about the facilities there.  
9        Do you ever remember your birthday being celebrated in  
10       the home, for example?

11      A. I didn't even know when my birthday was. I didn't know  
12      it for years even after I went out of the home.

13      Q. What about Christmas? Do you remember Christmas there?

14      A. Christmas -- well, I remember Christmas up in the Lodge,  
15      but we're not talking about that. We were all put in  
16      big long tables and I remember my brother coming in. He  
17      was in the Royal Navy at the time, my elder brother, but  
18      I hadn't a clue who he was.

19      Q. But that was in Nazareth Lodge?

20      A. That would have been in the Lodge, yes.

21      Q. What about Rubane? Do you ever remember Christmases  
22      being celebrated there?

23      A. I can't really remember, no.

24      Q. Do you ever remember anybody coming with presents for  
25      you or going out to Mackies factory or anything like

1 that?

2 **A. No. That was the Lodge, Mackies factory. That was the**  
3 **Lodge, Mackies factory.**

4 Q. Paragraph 14. Sorry. I beg your pardon. Paragraph 34,  
5 you say that at night you were just left in the  
6 dormitory and there was nobody supervising you and you  
7 never knew where the Brothers slept.

8 **A. No, I didn't know where they slept, no.**

9 Q. The Order will say there was always a Brother on duty at  
10 night. Did you ever see them?

11 **A. I never seen a Brother staying up all night, no.**

12 Q. Just to be clear that -- again we will come to talk on  
13 another occasion about what happened to you in Nazareth  
14 Lodge, but you -- apart from this episode with Brother  
15 **BR 55** you make no other allegations of any sexual abuse  
16 perpetrated on you in Rubane.

17 **A. No.**

18 Q. Isn't that correct?

19 **A. I don't, no.**

20 Q. You don't talk about any boys abusing you in Rubane?

21 **A. No, no.**

22 Q. Now paragraph 35 you talk about coming to leave and you  
23 do talk about this man coming to collect you in the car.

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. He was a Welfare Officer, but you had never met him

1 before. Is that right?

2 **A. That's right.**

3 Q. Did you ever have anybody come to visit you when you  
4 were in Rubane?

5 **A. No.**

6 Q. And he then took you to stay with your mother?

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. And that was the end of your time in care?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. And in your statement between paragraphs 35 to the end  
11 you talk about -- sorry -- 37 onwards you talk about  
12 what life was like for you after you left Rubane, how  
13 you worked and where you worked --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- and the situation with regard to the fact that you  
16 and your siblings don't have a particularly close link  
17 because of the time that you spent in various places?

18 **A. Yes. Well, I didn't know any of them really. The  
19 only -- the only brother I knew was the one that was  
20 just slightly older than me. I didn't know any -- the  
21 olders or younger siblings.**

22 Q. At paragraph 41 you say that you never told anyone about  
23 the abuse that you suffered until the Inquiry was set  
24 up. Your wife only found out about it recently and she  
25 doesn't know the extent of what happened to you. Your

1 daughter found out about it when you came to the  
2 Inquiry.

3 **A. That's right.**

4 Q. You kept it to yourself because you didn't want other  
5 people to be bothered with it. You talk about the  
6 effect that your time has had and your relationships  
7 with your children and grandchildren.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. You say at paragraph 42 that your memories of the home  
10 -- and I know we are talking not just about Rubane here  
11 but also about the Lodge:

12 "They're still with me today. Sometimes I go to bed  
13 at night and it's still rushing through my head."

14 You have never been for counselling. You don't  
15 think you want to go. You feel you have lost your faith  
16 because of the experiences that you suffered.

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. You never reported the abuse to the police. You say:

19 "Growing up, you were scared of the police, you were  
20 scared of the priests and you were scared of anyone in  
21 authority and you learned to stay clear of them."

22 **A. That's right.**

23 Q. Now I know we have gone through things very quickly and  
24 I know you are going to come back to talk to us again,  
25 HIA24, but in terms of what we have covered about your

1 time in Rubane is there anything you feel that I have  
2 left out or that you want the Inquiry Panel to know  
3 about today?

4 **A. Well, just that it was never a picnic. It was a hard**  
5 **time in my life which I wanted to forget, but I can't.**  
6 **It's always going to be with me.**

7 Q. And you know that we are asking people about the fact  
8 that the Inquiry has to make recommendations to the  
9 Northern Ireland Executive about what should be done  
10 now, and you can either answer that question today,  
11 HIA24, but we can revisit it when you come back to talk  
12 to us again. So if you have any views about what you  
13 think should be done by the Executive on the  
14 recommendation of the Inquiry that you want to tell us  
15 now, you can, or if you would rather leave it and think,  
16 that's all right too.

17 **A. Well, I don't know how the world is going to change in**  
18 **the future, but it certainly wasn't a nice place then.**  
19 **These homes, I don't think they're suitable for**  
20 **children. What you can do with them I don't know.**

21 Q. Well, listen, thank you very much, HIA24. I have no  
22 further questions for you, but the Panel Members may  
23 have something they want to ask you.

24 **A. Right.**

25

1 Questions from THE PANEL

2 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA24, you may or may not be relieved to  
3 hear we don't have any questions to ask you today about  
4 your experiences in Rubane. As you understand I am sure  
5 from what Ms Smith has explained, and perhaps I can just  
6 emphasise it for the benefit of other people who are in  
7 the Inquiry chamber following the events, we know from  
8 your statement you have a lot to say about Nazareth  
9 Lodge.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. But it's difficult for us to jump between different  
12 institutions, which is why we are going to have to ask  
13 you to come back. Sometimes we can, because somebody  
14 has not much to say, but it is clear you have a lot to  
15 say about Nazareth Lodge. So that's all we want to ask  
16 you today, but no doubt we will be seeing you again in  
17 due course some time next year to ask you about Nazareth  
18 Lodge.

19 **A. Yes. That's fine with me.**

20 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much indeed.

21 MS SMITH: Thank you, HIA24.

22 (Witness withdrew)

23 MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, the next witness is to  
24 be taken by Mr Aiken. So if there could be a short  
25 break. I am not sure if he is ready.

1 CHAIRMAN: Yes. We will rise for a few minutes.

2 (2.25 pm)

3 (Short break)

4 (2.35 pm)

5 WITNESS HIA252 (called)

6 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, the next witness  
7 this afternoon is HIA252. I am going to call him  
8 HIA252. He is "HIA252", and he is aware, Chairman, you  
9 are going to ask him about taking the oath.

10 CHAIRMAN: HIA252, do you wish to make a religious oath or  
11 an affirmation?

12 **A. I'll take the oath, sir.**

13 WITNESS HIA252 (sworn)

14 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down.

15 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

16 MR AIKEN: If we can bring up, please, 659 on the screen.

17 HIA252, I'm going to ask you to look at this document  
18 for two reasons that you're aware of. The first is you  
19 have a hard copy of your statement with you without the  
20 black redactions --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- and I just want you to check and confirm that the  
23 first page of your unredacted copy is the same as the  
24 copy on the screen except for the black marks.

25 **A. That is correct, yes.**

1 CHAIRMAN: Yes. We will rise for a few minutes.

2 (2.25 pm)

3 (Short break)

4 (2.35 pm)

5 WITNESS HIA252 (called)

6 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, the next witness  
7 this afternoon is HIA252. I am going to call him  
8 HIA252. He is "HIA252", and he is aware, Chairman, you  
9 are going to ask him about taking the oath.

10 CHAIRMAN: HIA252, do you wish to make a religious oath or  
11 an affirmation?

12 **A. I'll take the oath, sir.**

13 WITNESS HIA252 (sworn)

14 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down.

15 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

16 MR AIKEN: If we can bring up, please, 659 on the screen.

17 HIA252, I'm going to ask you to look at this document  
18 for two reasons that you're aware of. The first is you  
19 have a hard copy of your statement with you without the  
20 black redactions --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- and I just want you to check and confirm that the  
23 first page of your unredacted copy is the same as the  
24 copy on the screen except for the black marks.

25 **A. That is correct, yes.**

1 Q. And then if you'd go, please, to 668 and, HIA252, if  
2 you'd look at the last page of the hard copy that you  
3 have, I would have been asking you to confirm that  
4 what's on the screen was signed by you and obviously  
5 you'd tell me there's no signature to be seen --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- but can I check with you you have a hard copy that  
8 you have signed?

9 **A. I have, yes.**

10 Q. And that you want to adopt the content of this witness  
11 statement as your evidence to the Inquiry?

12 **A. That's right, yes.**

13 Q. The other reason why we've black marks you're aware of  
14 from our discussion is because of the Inquiry's  
15 anonymity policy.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. I just want to ask you to confirm you wish to keep your  
18 anonymity giving your evidence today?

19 **A. I do, yes. I wish to remain anonymous, yes.**

20 Q. Now aside from having injured your arm, you have reached  
21 the ripe age of 69, having been born on

22 **A. That's right, yes.**

23 Q. I just want you to be aware that the Panel are aware  
24 that this process can be difficult for people. So if at  
25 any stage you need a break or -- there's water there --

1           you just need to indicate and we' deal with that.

2   **A. Okay. Yes.**

3   Q. As I said to you before you came in, there are a series  
4       of what I'm describing as core documents that the  
5       Inquiry and the Panel have access to in relation to the  
6       events that you're describing and I'm just going to list  
7       those out for the panel.

8           Obviously your witness statement we are looking at  
9       on the screen. Can we go back, please, to 659?

10          Then the Inquiry has received a statement from the  
11       De La Salle Order itself responding to what you have had  
12       to say and that's of 12th June 2014 and that can be  
13       found for the record at 2000 to 2004.

14          Then on 25th September the Health & Social Care  
15       Board -- I was explaining to you, HIA252, they are the  
16       successor body to the old Tyrone Welfare Authority --  
17       has provided a statement and that's at 8040 and 8041,  
18       and we will look at that shortly.

19          Then on 25th February of 2011 there is a report from  
20       a consultant psychiatrist, Dr Manley, who you saw  
21       whenever you were bringing your civil claim.

22   **A. Yes.**

23   Q. The Panel have access to that document and that's at  
24       50009 to 50017.

25          Then in March 2011 there is a report from the

1 organisation Nexus, who you spent a year going through  
2 weekly counselling with --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- and that is a three-page report at RUB50006 to 50008,  
5 and the Panel have the opportunity to consider that --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- report in some detail.

8 In April of 2013 then and then in July 2013 you made  
9 two statements to the Police Service --

10 **A. I did, yes.**

11 Q. -- and the Panel has access to those documents. They  
12 are at 65041, and that is a four-page police statement  
13 that goes through to 65044, and then the second  
14 statement of July 2013 is at 65045.

15 Those are the core documents that record the main  
16 points that you have brought out in your Inquiry  
17 statement. What I intend to do, as I explained to you,  
18 is go through the main themes with you --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- in hopefully a coherent way that allows you to  
21 express what you want to say to the Inquiry.

22 So I want to go back to how you began your time in  
23 care. You are originally from in County  
24 Fermanagh?

25 **A. That's correct, yes.**

1 Q. Again that's not something to be reported. As a result  
2 of the view that the Welfare Authority took in Fermanagh  
3 your mum and you were brought to court in ,  
4 as it was then --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- because of difficulty it is said from the records of  
7 you absconding from school, or not going to school, or  
8 not being sent to school?

9 **A. Yes, yes.**

10 Q. I think you made the point to me there is much more  
11 absconding to come after you go into care?

12 **A. Yes, yes.**

13 Q. But there was a problem at that stage in your life,  
14 which -- you were around about 9 --

15 **A. 9 years of age, yes.**

16 Q. -- in November 1954?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. And the Inquiry has both a media report from the time  
19 which you kindly gave and you have also kindly given  
20 some documents today, a Fit Person Order committing to  
21 you care, and a record which seems to have been from the  
22 log that was kept at the court house --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- and we will make those documents available to the  
25 core participants --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- in due course. So you on 26th November 1954,  
3 enter Rubane --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- and you essentially stay there until just before your  
6 birthday --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- on 1962.

9 **A. Yes. That's right, yes.**

10 Q. One of the points that you make in your witness  
11 statement to the Inquiry is, "Why did they send me to  
12 Rubane? Why didn't they foster me out, board me out  
13 somewhere around where I lived or have me in a home  
14 there" --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- "in Fermanagh?" I indicated to you -- just to  
17 summarise, the problem that has arisen, the Health &  
18 Social Care Board cannot find a file, if one ever  
19 existed, and it is presumed one would, because you were  
20 in the care of the Fermanagh Welfare Authority.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. It hasn't been possible to find that file.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. We have had some documents that you have helpfully  
25 brought or the Order had which they have produced which

1 allow some understanding to be gained as to what took  
2 place, and, in fact, a record which you produced, if  
3 I can show at 2007, is a report which explains you --  
4 the reason why you came before the court and you being  
5 taken into care in Rubane. If we just scroll down,  
6 please. So that was the decision to take you into the  
7 care of the Welfare Authority and then we can see from  
8 other documents you ultimately being placed in Rubane.

9 One of the documents that I showed you today has  
10 jogged your memory that -- you made the point, "Well,  
11 why didn't they try to sort something else out other  
12 than Rubane?"

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. And it seems, although we don't have the file, if we can  
15 look at 10102, in August 1958 an effort was -- scroll  
16 down, please. Just bear with me for a moment. 10102.  
17 That's the fourth -- yes, fourth entry up of 10th  
18 August. You can see:

19 "The remaining boys return from holidays. HIA252 is  
20 boarded out on trial by Fermanagh Welfare."

21 So although we don't have the file to see the  
22 decision-making --

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. -- this is a record that was in the History of the Home  
25 that was maintained by the De La Salle Order, and it

1 indicates some effort it seems was engaged in to board  
2 you out or foster you back in County Fermanagh. That  
3 jogged your memory that, in fact, the home that you were  
4 fostered to was in

5 **A. Yes, that's right, yes.**

6 Q. And you made the point to me that was a farmhouse where  
7 you were put to work, as it were?

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. And by that stage you would have been about 13?

10 **A. 13 at that -- yes, 1958.**

11 Q. And you recalled that you had stayed there for three or  
12 four days and then you took off --

13 **A. And went back home, yes --**

14 Q. -- and went back home?

15 **A. -- to . It was only a few miles from my  
16 own house, you know.**

17 Q. Yes, and ultimately you came back into the attention of  
18 Mr DL411 --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- from Fermanagh Welfare, and we'll talk -- his name  
21 shouldn't be identified beyond the chamber. We'll talk  
22 a little more about him in due course. He takes you  
23 back. You spend a few days in Coleshill --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- and then back to Rubane?

1 **A. That's right, yes.**

2 Q. You have something more to say about what might have  
3 happened between you and him on that journey when we get  
4 to talk about BR17 shortly.

5 **A. All right. Yes.**

6 Q. What I'm saying to you is we've found some material that  
7 suggests, although we don't have the file, some effort  
8 was being engaged in to try and -- you may make the  
9 point why did it take so long?

10 **A. Exactly. That's what I was going to say, yes.**

11 Q. One of the points you make, if we go back to your  
12 statement, please, at paragraph 3 and that's at 659,  
13 please, if we scroll down on to the next page, you make  
14 the point about the refusal of access to visitors, and  
15 you give the example of your uncle coming to visit and  
16 being turned away.

17 **A. Yes. He came on one occasion maybe a year or so after  
18 I was there with another man and BR17 at that stage  
19 wouldn't let him see me, you know.**

20 Q. Yes.

21 **A. Sent him away again --**

22 Q. Yes.

23 **A. -- and he told him -- he told him -- my uncle was  
24 telling me afterwards they told him boys wasn't allowed  
25 visitors, you know. So he had to go away again.**

1 Q. I wonder can you help me date it, because you were  
2 helping me with something earlier, pointing out that  
3 during your time -- you came in '54?

4 **A. '54, yes.**

5 Q. At that stage the two [name redacted] were overlapping?

6 **A. There were two Brother [name redacted] there in 1954,**  
7 **yes.**

8 Q. You made the point to me that I'd mistakenly indicated  
9 this morning that BR23 left in '53 when, in fact, he  
10 left in '55.

11 **A. '55.**

12 Q. Quite right.

13 **A. He was there in November 1954. This is not BR17 but the**  
14 **other BR23. He was there in 19... -- November 1954 when**  
15 **I went there and he was there till about March or April**  
16 **of 1955. I remember him being there, and then he was**  
17 **sent away I think. I might have heard some talk that he**  
18 **was sent to Africa or somewhere, you know.**

19 Q. Yes, but you had never any difficulty with him?

20 **A. No, I had no difficulty with that BR23, no.**

21 Q. It is the BR17 --

22 **A. BR17.**

23 Q. -- who became head of the home in '56 during your time  
24 there?

25 **A. Yes, yes. He was principal when I went there of the**

1 school but he took over in the whole place in about 1956

2 -- all right -- you know.

3 Q. And it is that BR17, the head of the home, that you are  
4 saying was not welcoming to your uncle?

5 A. That's correct, yes.

6 Q. Now what I want to do now, HIA252, is to look at -- you  
7 talk about BR17 in your witness statement and I want to  
8 try to break the matters into two categories. One is  
9 physical abuse --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- and then we will come on to talk about the sexual  
12 abuse.

13 A. Right.

14 Q. So if we can look at paragraph 14 of the statement,  
15 please, if we can scroll through, you say:

16 "I was often beaten in Rubane. The day after  
17 I first arrived I was crying to get home and BR17 came  
18 to me and hit me across the side of the head four or  
19 five times with his hand telling me to shut up. That  
20 only made me cry harder and he hit me another couple of  
21 times."

22 Then you say:

23 "Over the next week or fortnight I was beaten  
24 a number of times in an attempt to make me keep quiet."

25 Did he often strike you or was this just really at

1 the start this happened?

2 **A. Well, that was my first time of getting beat with him,**  
3 **you know --**

4 **Q. Yes.**

5 **A. -- when -- the second day I was there --**

6 **Q. Yes.**

7 **A. -- because I was crying and I wanted to go home again,**  
8 **you know. I couldn't adjust myself to the place.**

9 **I mean, I was 9 years of age and I'd left my mother and**  
10 **uncles and grandfather at home. I was beat round the**  
11 **ears and slapped round the ears and punched round the**  
12 **ears with him, you know, but I was beaten on a lot of**  
13 **occasions after that with him. I was punished several**  
14 **times for running away from the place, you know.**

15 **Q. If we just look at those. If we move through, please,**  
16 **to 665, paragraphs 23 through to 26, you relate one**  
17 **incident -- this begins slightly further up -- over**  
18 **cigarettes.**

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 **Q. You would be spotted by him smoking --**

21 **A. Yes.**

22 **Q. -- and you say then:**

23 **"He would bring me into a classroom and beat me with**  
24 **straps or a stick."**

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. Now in terms of the stick, was that like a cane?

2 A. Oh, yes. It was about 2 foot long, kind of a springy  
3 cane, you know, and I was beaten on a few times with it.  
4 He gave me a -- maybe four or five times when I was  
5 smoking, you know, and that or maybe on a couple of  
6 other occasions, and it was usually twelve or fifteen,  
7 maybe twenty, lashes of the cane across the -- he used  
8 make me take my trousers down and bend across a chair,  
9 you know, and sometimes the stick would miss the bottom  
10 and hit me round the back and I bled on a few occasions  
11 from it, and there was times I would -- other times when  
12 I ran away from it, I got beat -- got beaten as well by  
13 him.

14 Q. In addition to the cane you mention a strap.

15 A. Aye, a strap. He mostly used the cane, you know.

16 Q. We will come to the guys who used the strap.

17 A. Aye.

18 Q. The strap, was that something -- where did they keep the  
19 strap?

20 A. They used to roll it up into a kind of a -- roll it up  
21 just and put it into their pocket. It was about 2 feet  
22 or maybe a bit over 2 foot long and about an inch, inch  
23 and a quarter wide I would say and maybe about a quarter  
24 of an inch thick, you know. They all seemed -- every  
25 Brother -- well, most of them anyway that I would

1        have -- most of them would have been carrying straps.  
2        They used to roll them up, put them into their pocket,  
3        you know, the black robe they were wearing. Then if  
4        somebody done something wrong, they'd take them out and  
5        maybe slapped them with it. Sometimes you were hit  
6        round the face with it, you know.

7        Q. Let me then -- if we just scroll down a little to  
8        paragraph 24, you mention BR15. Now the Panel is aware  
9        that's BR15.

10      **A. Yes.**

11      Q. And you are saying he was a small Brother who wore  
12      glasses.

13      **A. That is correct, yes.**

14      Q. You say he was a wicked man.

15      **A. Very wicked at times, yes.**

16      Q. What did he do that has you describe him in that way?  
17      Do you want to just describe in your own words what he  
18      used to do?

19      **A. I believe I got beaten by him on occasions as well maybe  
20      for talking when we shouldn't have been talking, you  
21      know.**

22                There was one particular occasion when we were  
23      having a shower. We got showers once a week. There was  
24      two rows of the showers and a couple of boys used to get  
25      into each of them. Somebody was talking and he got

1           annoyed by this and he took the strap out and he beat  
2           everybody in the shower. He just lashed the strap out  
3           at them, you know. Some of them got hit round the face.  
4           I got hit round the -- just round the back -- to the  
5           back of the shoulder there with it, you know, and he  
6           just went sort of berserk altogether.

7    Q.   And was that your only occasion that you had difficulty  
8           with him?

9    A.   Oh, no. A couple of other times I got slapped by him as  
10           well for maybe -- maybe talking or something or, you  
11           know, doing something maybe that they thought  
12           I shouldn't have been doing, you know, but it wouldn't  
13           have been anything very serious, but you'd only to maybe  
14           look at him or something like that. Most of the  
15           Brothers was -- a couple of the Brothers was like that  
16           in there anyway. If you looked at them, you got  
17           maybe -- you might as well have just looked at them,  
18           because -- or said or spoke or anything. You might have  
19           got a couple of clouts of the strap, you know, off them.  
20           They were -- most of them were wicked anyway, you know.

21   Q.   In paragraph 25 you talk about BR14. Now the Panel is  
22           aware that's BR14.

23   A.   Yes, yes.

24   Q.   You describe him. You relate an incident as an example  
25           where you knocked a vase over in the changing room.

1 **A. That's right, yes.**

2 Q. You say he went berserk, hitting you with a strap.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. He told you to clean up the vase, and then you say as  
5 you went down, he kicked you hard in the side --

6 **A. He did, yes.**

7 Q. -- with the toe of his shoe?

8 **A. Yes. Three or four times, aye.**

9 Q. And you -- that's one incident that sticks in your mind?

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. But your recollection is he would have beaten you on  
12 a number of occasions?

13 **A. Oh, yes, he would have beaten me before as well.**

14 Q. Can I just -- if we look then at paragraph 26, you  
15 describe again BR17, an occasion whenever you did one of  
16 your attempts to escape --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- and you tried to flag down a car and it happened to  
19 be BR17 that you flagged down.

20 **A. Aye. Well, I tried to flag a car down first. but it**  
21 **didn't stop, you see, and it went on, and then there was**  
22 **another car coming and I flagged it down. It was dark**  
23 **at night. It was very near Kircubbin at the time.**  
24 **I thought I was getting a lift, you see, and it ended up**  
25 **it was BR17 in the car and he went mad at me. He gave**

1 me -- clouted me on the road with his hands and fist,  
2 you know, and shouting away at me, and then when he  
3 brought me back to the home, he brought me into the  
4 classroom again, and I was put across the chair again  
5 and I got a pile of lashes again and the stick, you  
6 know.

7 Q. If we scroll down, please, you -- I think you relate --  
8 maybe we looked at it already -- being accused of  
9 stealing some cigarettes from a Brother.

10 A. Yes. Well, you know --

11 Q. Can you just explain what happened whenever you were  
12 identified as the person who had done this?

13 A. Well, some of the Brothers -- I don't know which of them  
14 it was at the time -- lost or mislaid cigarettes or  
15 something, you know. Of course, I had been caught  
16 smoking on a couple of occasions and, of course, I was  
17 always punished for it, like, but I must have been  
18 a likely suspect to him, so I was.

19 I was accused of it and I was brought into the  
20 classroom, and all the boys was brought into the  
21 classroom and the Brothers was brought into the  
22 classroom, and I got a -- made take my trousers down  
23 again and bend across the chair -- I think it was  
24 a chair -- and he lashed me again maybe fifteen or  
25 twenty times and -- for stealing these cigarettes. It

1           **was just a public flogging.**

2    Q.   So that was done -- if we just scroll up, please, that's  
3           at the top of page 665, just the second part of  
4           paragraph 23. That was an occasion whenever in addition  
5           to beating you he did this --

6    **A.   Uh-huh.**

7    Q.   -- in front of other boys?

8    **A.   All the boys that was in the home was nearly in there**  
9           **that day, you know. He brought --**

10   Q.   Was that -- was that an example to them not to do what  
11           you were believed to have done?

12   **A.   I think it was something like that, because he was**  
13           **shouting away about something, but I couldn't -- can't**  
14           **really remember what he had said, but he just lashed**  
15           **away at me, and then, I mean, I was near enough crying**  
16           **from getting beat like that, and I got a few wallops**  
17           **around the face as well and sent me outside and sent the**  
18           **boys away again.**

19   Q.   That's the physical element you describe in your  
20           statement --

21   **A.   Yes.**

22   Q.   -- and -- but to be clear, there were other Brothers  
23           there, and we will come to look at those, but it really  
24           was these three that you recollect engaging in physical  
25           they might have said punishment, but I think the Order

1 in its statement says if what you are describing is  
2 true, it went way beyond punishment and was not  
3 acceptable, but it is these three, and of those three to  
4 be clear BR14 and BR15, they never interfered with you  
5 sexually?

6 **A. No, no, no.**

7 Q. It was only physical abuse?

8 **A. Just physically, yes.**

9 Q. What I want to do now is move on.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. You describe in your statement, if we can go to  
12 paragraph 15, please -- just scroll back -- you relate  
13 essentially -- if we just stop there -- four instances  
14 of sexual abuse and I want to just ask you about those.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. Now -- and those are at the hands of BR17.

17 **A. That is correct, yes.**

18 Q. He was, as you say, the principal in the school and then  
19 the head of the home --

20 **A. Uh-huh, yes.**

21 Q. -- and -- but you describe in paragraph 15 that the  
22 abuse that you are recounting, the four instances, began  
23 in 1955.

24 **A. Around '55, yes, coming maybe middle -- towards the end**  
25 **of it, about maybe around mid-August, September,**

1           **something like that, you know.**

2    Q.    So slightly less than a year you have been in the house.

3           You are about 10?

4    **A.    I'll be 10 that time, yes, just over 10.**

5    Q.    And this was before he becomes the head of the home.  He

6           is the principal in the school at the time this is

7           happening --

8    **A.    Yes.**

9    Q.    -- but not the head of the home?

10   **A.    Not the head of the home at that time.**

11   Q.    And you describe how on the first time he brought you

12          into an office --

13   **A.    That is right, yes.**

14   Q.    -- and asked you how you were settling down.  Can you

15          remember how long this was after -- if you can't, just

16          say so -- how long this was after your -- he was

17          slapping you in the face for crying, having just

18          arrived?  Was it many months after that?

19   **A.    It was.  That would be November, you know, when**

20          I arrived there first.  That's when I got slapped for

21          crying when I went there, you know, and then it would

22          have been August or September.

23   Q.    The following year?

24   **A.    The following year when the abuse started.**

25   Q.    And --

1 **A. Sexual abuse started.**

2 Q. -- the office that you are describing --

3 **A. Uh-huh.**

4 Q. -- was that in the school?

5 **A. It was in the school, yes. It was in the evening time.**

6 **He used to bring boys in at night, you know, and be**  
7 **asking them questions or whatever. I don't know what he**  
8 **would have been asking them, but then I was brought in**  
9 **--**

10 Q. Yes.

11 **A. -- and --**

12 Q. Can I just stop you there to ask you the school by 1955,  
13 it was a purpose built building next to the main  
14 building where you slept?

15 **A. Yes. It was built directly in front of the big house,**  
16 **you know.**

17 Q. Is this office in that school building?

18 **A. It is, yes.**

19 Q. And you indicate that in paragraph 15 what -- what he  
20 did. You say he got up from his chair and pushed his  
21 penis into your mouth.

22 **A. That was right, yes.**

23 Q. Was that the first time anything like this had ever  
24 happened to you?

25 **A. The very first time. Very first time.**

1           **whatever maybe as best I could as a 9 -- 10-year-old,**  
2           **then he got me to masturbate him, got my hand and put it**  
3           **on to his penis and made me masturbate him, you know --**

4    Q.    Yes.

5    A.    -- until he ejaculated.

6    Q.    That's an example that you give of the office.

7    A.    **Yes.**

8    Q.    You then describe in paragraph 16 the second occasion he  
9           took you out of bed in the dormitory --

10   A.    **Yes.**

11   Q.    -- and brought you to a bedroom. Now can I just ask you  
12           at this stage there was probably dormitories in the main  
13           building and dormitories in the steward's office, the  
14           farmhouse type building further away.

15   A.    **Yes, down the farmyard, yes.**

16   Q.    Were you in the main building at that stage?

17   A.    **I was in the main building, yes.**

18   Q.    And the room he took you to, can you -- do you know was  
19           that his own room or some other room?

20   A.    **It was a room that second time and the next, and there**  
21           **was a couple of times after that, you see --**

22   Q.    Yes.

23   A.    -- but they were in the other room, and he brought me  
24           into this bedroom anyway, which was round the corner  
25           from the dormitory I was in, you know --

1 Q. Yes.

2 **A. -- and he --**

3 Q. You describe then him -- what he tried to do --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- in terms of having anal sex --

6 **A. Anal sex, yes.**

7 Q. -- but he wasn't -- you fought him off and then it  
8 returned to the similar type of what he made you do the  
9 first time?

10 **A. No. He didn't make me masturbate him. He rubbed his  
11 penis up and down my back just close to my bottom and he  
12 ejaculated, you know.**

13 Q. And then a third occasion he took you to a different  
14 room?

15 **A. Different room, yes.**

16 Q. And can I ask you was this -- was he --

17 **A. This was a bigger room. I think it was on the other  
18 side of the top of the -- very top of the building, you  
19 know.**

20 Q. And was this waking you from your sleep or would it have  
21 been early evening, just after you have gone to bed or  
22 can you recollect?

23 **A. It would have been late on in the evening, you know.  
24 I think we went to bed around 9 o'clock, you see. It  
25 would have been around maybe near 12 o'clock anyway or**

1           **some time, maybe 11.30, 12 o'clock, something like that.**

2    Q.   So it was a -- I'm sure you didn't work out the precise  
3           time, but it was a considerable period it felt like you  
4           were already in bed before you were removed?

5    A.   **I don't think I was asleep on any of those occasions,  
6           any of those three occasions that that happened, you  
7           know, somebody brought me out.**

8    Q.   I just want to ask you -- perhaps it doesn't relate to  
9           BR17, because you know the Order has accepted he did  
10          sexually abuse boys --

11   A.   **Yes.**

12   Q.   -- but there is some suggestion the Brothers would have  
13          come into the dormitory at night-time to wake the boys  
14          up and -- because of a bedwetting problem and take them  
15          to the toilet and that was the reason for coming in and  
16          getting boys up.

17   A.   **No.**

18   Q.   How was -- how was bedwetting dealt with?

19   A.   **Well, you see, they had a special dormitory for the boys  
20          who did wet the bed, and somebody in there would have  
21          been given an alarm clock to set for a couple of times  
22          during the night. When the alarm would go off, this  
23          fella would -- whoever got the alarm would get the rest  
24          of them up to go to the toilet and back into bed again.  
25          The Brothers would never have been up at all. They**

1           might have got them up twice or three times in the  
2           night, you know, to keep them from wetting the bed to go  
3           to the toilet.

4    Q.   Did the Brothers ever participate in that process or was  
5           that --

6    A.   No, I never -- I don't think so, no. I never seen the  
7           Brothers getting any of them up, but I know the boys  
8           would have got -- somebody would have been in charge of  
9           the clock in that particular room to waken them, you  
10          know.

11   Q.   Did you -- you were there obviously until you were 16.  
12          Did you ever graduate to become the person with the  
13          alarm clock who had to wake boys up in a dormitory?

14   A.   I did on one occasion. When I went there first, I did  
15          wet the bed for a couple of times, you know, and they  
16          put me into this dormitory. That's how I know that, you  
17          see. I think maybe on one occasion I got the clock to  
18          get them up.

19   Q.   You would have been much older at that point.

20   A.   I was maybe -- I would have been maybe 11 or so at the  
21          time, you know, but most of the -- the boys that did wet  
22          the bed were sort of the younger ones, you know, that  
23          was there. It was none of the bigger boys. So it would  
24          have been somebody 10 or 11 or 12 would have got the  
25          clock anyway to waken them up to get the rest of them up

1 to go to the toilet, but on no occasion did the Brothers  
2 get anybody up to go to the toilet at night. This could  
3 have been 2 o'clock in the morning, maybe 4 o'clock or  
4 something like that.

5 Q. Yes. You then describe in paragraph 17, HIA252, the  
6 third and fourth occasion that you describe of BR17  
7 taking you out of your bed --

8 A. Uh-huh.

9 Q. -- but this time to a different room from the one that  
10 was the second piece of abuse, if I can describe it in  
11 that way?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Events three and four were in a different bedroom?

14 A. No. The second time was in a bedroom and then I think  
15 the third and fourth time was in the same bedroom, but  
16 the fourth -- the fourth time -- the third -- one, two  
17 -- the third time was similar to what he done in the  
18 office, you know --

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. -- and then on the last occasion, the fourth time that  
21 he brought me into the bedroom, it was the same as the  
22 first time.

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. The fourth time was the same as the first time he  
25 brought me into the bedroom, was trying to have anal

1           **sex, you know.**

2       Q.   Yes, and the Panel are able to read the detail that you  
3           are describing.  It wasn't -- you indicate in  
4           paragraph 17 it wasn't until 2010 effectively when you  
5           were able to -- we will look at you talking to Mr Dillon  
6           about it --

7       **A.  Uh-huh.**

8       Q.   -- but it wasn't until you were much older that you felt  
9           able to get some help for the difficulty you were having  
10          coming to terms with that happened.

11      **A.  Yes, yes.**

12      Q.   The Panel will have the Nexus report and can see that  
13          you spent a year basically every week with a counsellor  
14          working through the effects psychologically of what  
15          occurred for you.

16      **A.  Yes, that's right, yes.**

17      Q.   There is obviously the psychiatric report where you  
18          recount a lot of these matters --

19      **A.  Uh-huh.**

20      Q.   -- and the doctor sets out psychological impact that  
21          this had on your life.

22                 Now you also describe in paragraph 18 -- if we just  
23          scroll down -- where you say you are in this dormitory  
24          and BR17 was the only one who took you out of your bed?

25      **A.  That's correct, yes.**

1 Q. But you remember three other Brothers who took children  
2 out of their bed, and you name those as BR14 --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- and BR15 --

5 **A. That's right, yes.**

6 Q. -- and then you mention one other Brother, BR42, who is  
7 BR42 or BR42.

8 **A. Yes. BR42, yes.**

9 Q. Again his identity shouldn't be disclosed beyond the  
10 chamber. He was there for a shorter period of time  
11 between '56 to '57. I just give the Inquiry the  
12 reference. At 930 his CV will be found, but none of  
13 these three, whatever they were doing with whoever else  
14 they might have taken, they never did anything to you?

15 **A. No, no.**

16 Q. Can I ask you did any of the boys talk to each other,  
17 HIA252, about this happening?

18 **A. Not that I can remember, no. Not that I can remember,  
19 no.**

20 Q. Obviously there was a chaplain who lived on the site.  
21 Did you ever talk to him about what was occurring?

22 **A. No, I didn't, no.**

23 Q. The first time that you did talk about it was with  
24 DL411?

25 **A. Yes, that's right.**

1 Q. And that -- if we look at paragraph 22, please, on 664,  
2 now you relate -- so if I have understood it -- and you  
3 correct me if I have got this wrong, HIA252 -- this  
4 begins -- the abuse happens with BR17 towards the end of  
5 1955?

6 **A. Round about that time, yes.**

7 Q. It happens on four occasions --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- and stops?

10 **A. That's right, yes.**

11 Q. And that would have been at some time in 1956. It all  
12 happens within a number of months of each other.

13 **A. Yes, yes.**

14 Q. And you don't talk about it with anybody, but you know  
15 or recollect that in 1958 you ran away and you -- from  
16 our discussion this morning you hang that now on the  
17 out being fostered and not working, running away  
18 --

19 **A. That's right, yes.**

20 Q. -- and then -- and, as it turns out, that was 1958 --

21 **A. It was, yes.**

22 Q. -- that you told DL411, the Welfare Officer --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- about what occurred.

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. Just to put this in context, at various times you would  
2 have gone back to Derrygonnelly, but the Brothers would  
3 have put you on a bus or a train.

4 A. Aye. I would have been met in Enniskillen and brought  
5 to , you know, by DL411 usually with him --

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. -- when I was going on, say -- letting me -- if they  
8 were letting me home on a holiday or something like  
9 that, you know.

10 Q. And on five or six occasions DL411 would have actually  
11 taken you to Rubane?

12 A. Yes, he would have had to take me back, because they  
13 would be putting me on a bus back, you know, in  
14 Enniskillen to go back to Belfast. When he went away  
15 and the bus went out, I got off maybe at the next stop  
16 or a bit up the road and would have went back home  
17 again.

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. Then he would have had to come out to the house and  
20 bring me back in the car, but on this occasion that I  
21 left and went back home -- it was only a few  
22 miles apart -- he -- when he was bringing me back, he --  
23 he asked me why I kept running away all the time and  
24 I started to tell him what, you know, the Brother had  
25 done to me in there.

1 Q. And did you tell him -- let me just pause you. Did you  
2 tell him it was BR17?

3 **A. I did, yes. I did.**

4 Q. What did he say whenever you told him what was  
5 happening?

6 **A. Well, I wasn't able to explain it then as well as I  
7 would be now --**

8 Q. Yes.

9 **A. -- but I told him as best I could what had happened and  
10 he told me to shut up, that I was telling lies. He as  
11 good as called me a liar. He said those were religious  
12 men and they wouldn't do that, and he kept going on  
13 talking and shouting at me for maybe twenty minutes or  
14 more, you know. That scared me off altogether from ever  
15 telling anybody else about it, because he didn't believe  
16 me, and I thought -- I suppose even when I got a bit  
17 older, I thought who else was going to believe me, you  
18 know.**

19 Q. Well, I want to say to you, HIA252, obviously you  
20 yourself have said you believe DL411 is now dead --

21 **A. That's right, yes.**

22 Q. -- and we can't find the file. So all that we have been  
23 able to do is to say to the Health & Social Care Board  
24 if this occurred in the way that is described, and  
25 obviously they can't -- they have no record to go back

1 to, but what they are in a position to say obviously is  
2 if you did as you described, then it should have been  
3 dealt with much more seriously and not you being called  
4 a liar.

5 **A. Uh-huh, yes.**

6 Q. Of course that's maybe what you would expect them to say  
7 as they look back now at what occurred, but you are  
8 saying to the Panel that as a result of how that attempt  
9 by you -- and would it be fair to say you were more  
10 using it some two years later not to have to go back to  
11 Rubane, even though the abuse had not continued for that  
12 two-year period?

13 **A. Uh-huh.**

14 Q. But the way it was handled on that occasion meant you  
15 were put off then from trying to tell anyone else?

16 **A. I just kept it all to myself, you know, and I couldn't**  
17 **tell anybody else about it, because I suppose I was**  
18 **thinking all along no-one was going to believe me**  
19 **anyway, and it was all just kept inside myself bottled**  
20 **up for years after that, you know, until around 2010.**

21 Q. And what I want to ask you now -- and I'm going to have  
22 a post-it note brought over to you, and I am going to  
23 ask you to write down something for me.

24 **A. Right.**

25 Q. You don't remember the Brother Provincial, if I call him

1 that, or a BP1 ever coming to Rubane?

2 **A. No.**

3 Q. Now you are not saying he didn't come. You just don't

4 --

5 **A. I don't remember him coming. I can't remember that name**  
6 **or I can't remember that Brother coming there.**

7 Q. You are aware earlier today I asked you whether you were  
8 ever interviewed about BR17 and -- in Rubane. This  
9 interview would have taken place and you being asked  
10 maybe about what he may or may not have done to you.

11 **A. Uh-huh.**

12 Q. You have no recollection of that ever taking place  
13 involving you?

14 **A. No, I was never asked or never interviewed about abuse**  
15 **or anything about BR17. I can't -- I never mind**  
16 **anything like that happening. It didn't happen as far**  
17 **as I'm concerned, but it could have, you know.**

18 Q. You are aware, HIA252, that I asked you without  
19 necessarily referring to that '58 investigation --  
20 I rhymed off a long list of boys who would have been in  
21 Rubane at the same time as you --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- and one name stuck out for you. I'm just going to  
24 ask you to write that down for the Panel.

25 **A. Yes, yes.**

1 Q. Just while HIA252 is doing that if we could bring up  
2 paragraph 19, please, on page 664. Can I just check,  
3 HIA252, you haven't been here last week whenever we were  
4 doing the opening?

5 **A. No.**

6 Q. You didn't hear any of that?

7 **A. No.**

8 Q. That would be -- we will get the correct reference, but  
9 DL429 I believe or 419 would have featured in the 1958  
10 investigation. Now can I just ask you why -- without  
11 mentioning that person's name, and I have made certainly  
12 the Order aware of who you are likely to write down on  
13 the page, but why did that name -- when I was rhyming  
14 off a pile of surnames, why did that name stick out to  
15 you?

16 **A. This boy at the time was very close to BR17. At night  
17 when they would be sitting watching television, he would  
18 sit with his arm around this boy, and I saw the boy  
19 going into his bedroom on a couple of occasions, and  
20 I~have seen -- I would have seen them about quite a lot  
21 together, you know, and I think I've seen him taking him  
22 out of bed or calling him at night on occasions to go to  
23 the bedroom as well.**

24 Q. You describe in paragraph 19 the watching of the films.  
25 I just want to get the context of this. This is in the

1 basement layer of the house in the dining room --

2 **A. Dining room.**

3 Q. -- as you would have known it?

4 **A. Yes, yes.**

5 Q. You describe there you had been watching John Wayne  
6 films and so on, and how three Brothers we have already  
7 talked about, one of whom abused you --

8 **A. Uh-huh.**

9 Q. -- were interacting with boys.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. You describe sitting very close to them and arms round  
12 them. How would you -- if I asked to you characterise  
13 what you mean by that, is there something you would  
14 compare that to that might explain what you are  
15 describing?

16 **A. Well, I suppose, you know, at that time I wouldn't have**  
17 **thought too much about it, but they were sitting with**  
18 **their arms round the boys, but it would be like**  
19 **something you would have maybe seen with a fella and**  
20 **girl in the cinema or something like that, you know,**  
21 **sitting with their arm around the other, you know, being**  
22 **close together.**

23 Q. Is that name you have written a person you recollect?

24 **A. Yes, yes. Very often, nearly every night maybe, you**  
25 **know, for long enough that I can remember anyway.**

1 Q. Now at the same time as the -- BR17 and obviously the  
2 sexual and physical abuse and then you have described  
3 the physical abuse by the other two Brothers you also  
4 have positive memories of BR13.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And he was much older?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What was it about him? Why do you have a positive  
9 memory of him?

10 A. He was a very friendly Brother, you know. He was -- he  
11 was a nice man like, you know. He was gentle to the  
12 boys and that. He was a very civil person, down to  
13 earth man, you know. I never seen him beating anybody  
14 or hitting any of the boys, you know. He didn't take  
15 a big pile to do. Mostly he was --- had an office there  
16 outside, you know, a wee building out in front of the  
17 house as well along the side of the lawn, and he used to  
18 more or less look after stuff in there, you know, maybe  
19 like whatever documents or that there.

20 Q. He might have been the secretary?

21 A. Secretary type of person, yes.

22 Q. And --

23 A. But a very nice man he was, like, you know. All the  
24 boys that would have been there at the time I think was  
25 very fond of him, you know.

1 Q. And you describe also in paragraph 28 of your statement  
2 BR63.

3 A. Aye, BR63.

4 Q. BR63, who was a much younger Brother.

5 A. Yes, he was a very young man when he came. He was  
6 a teacher and he got on well with the boys. He used to  
7 play games with them, maybe football and stuff like  
8 that, you know, and I can't ever recall him hitting  
9 anybody, or being cross, or bad tempered or anything.  
10 He was always in a very good mood sort of thing, you  
11 know.

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. The boys would have got on well with him as well, you  
14 know. He was very good.

15 Q. Then I was asking you BR12 was obviously there in your  
16 time and he was working on the farm. Is that right?

17 A. Yes. He was in charge of the farm. He would have  
18 looked after the fields. They had men working for them  
19 there as well on the farm, but he was in charge of it,  
20 you know. He looked after the cattle and that, stock  
21 that they had.

22 Q. And you never had any difficulty with him?

23 A. No. I worked on the farm. On several occasions I was  
24 sent down to the farm and I never had any problems with  
25 BR12. He never done me any harm.

1 Q. Can I ask you about being sent down to work? Was  
2 that -- you would have been in school and somebody would  
3 have said, "You go down and help BR12 today" or did  
4 everybody go to help him or how did it work?

5 A. No. Well, I would have been -- worked on the farm on a  
6 couple of occasions, you know. I might have been there  
7 for a couple of months, you know. BR17 would have said  
8 to me, you know, "I want you to go down to give them  
9 a hand on the farm", you know. I could have been there  
10 for maybe three or four months at a time or something  
11 like that. I would have had to clean out the pigs and  
12 you had to feed the cattle and that, you know, with  
13 silage, and I would have done other jobs in it, you  
14 know, as well, but -- it was all right on it, you know.  
15 The men was quite nice. There was three or four men  
16 worked there. They were quite nice, you know, pleasant  
17 people.

18 Q. Do you remember going out to work on farms or any other  
19 form of work outside the home at any stage?

20 A. From the month -- nearly the whole month of October  
21 there was -- we used to go out to different farmers to  
22 gather -- gather the spuds, you know, maybe three or  
23 four weeks -- maybe -- I'd say the whole month of  
24 October, but usually we went out there it was -- we went  
25 out in all sorts of weather, whether it was raining or

1        snowing. Well, it wouldn't have been snowing, but hail  
2        or frost, you know. We gathered potatoes from early  
3        morning until it got dark and they used to pay us  
4        a shilling a day for it, you know.

5    Q. The -- during your time in Rubane you got an outdoor  
6        swimming pool.

7    A. Yes.

8    Q. How was that? Can you remember that, HIA252? Was that  
9        a welcome addition to the facilities?

10   A. Just I forgot about that. They got the boys to dig that  
11        out themselves, you know, BR17. They had been digging  
12        for I would say a couple of months till they got down to  
13        the right depth, you know.

14   Q. Yes. It seems to have been in 1959. So you would have  
15        been about 14.

16   A. I would have been -- I can't remember doing any digging.  
17        There would have been six or seven boys digging nearly  
18        all the time. Even during their school hours they would  
19        have been digging at it.

20   Q. Yes.

21   A. They were all dug by spades I think, you know, just dug  
22        it out by spades.

23   Q. Did you get to make use of it after it had been  
24        constructed?

25   A. Aye, well, we got to swim in it on occasions, you know,

1 but the Brothers themselves used to do more swimming in  
2 it than we got to swim in it, you know, because I would  
3 have been working on the farm off and on at that time --

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. -- but after it was dug then it was built up into  
6 a swimming pool.

7 Q. Whenever -- did you take part in any of the sports teams  
8 or --

9 A. I might have played football on occasions just with  
10 them, you know, but I would never -- I never was  
11 probably that good at football, you know. I used to  
12 play hurling as well there, but ...

13 Q. Whenever you felt able from 2010 onwards to talk about  
14 and deal with what happened to you, HIA252, you  
15 eventually through your solicitors dealt with the  
16 solicitors for the Order and you brought a civil claim  
17 or a settlement was reached --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- and you were paid £30,000 for the abuse that you had  
20 suffered.

21 A. Yes, that is right.

22 Q. And the -- I just give the Panel the reference -- at  
23 50018 is the terms.

24 Now I just wanted to ask you, HIA252, in  
25 paragraph 36 of your statement, if we look at 668, do

1           you want to tell the Panel what you did with the money  
2           you got?

3       **A. Well, I didn't keep all of it. I gave all the money,**  
4       **the £30,000, between two grandchildren of mine, you**  
5       **know.**

6       Q. You explain in your statement how your wife died now  
7       a number of years ago.

8       **A. Yes.**

9       Q. Your daughter has two children --

10      **A. Yes.**

11      Q. -- and you split the money with them.

12      **A. Yes. Well, I gave my daughter some as well, you know,**  
13      **and then the rest to the two grandchildren.**

14      Q. And you make the point at the end -- and this is  
15      an issue that I mentioned to you -- we ask of each  
16      witness -- obviously at the end of the Panel's work it  
17      has to make recommendations to the Northern Ireland  
18      Executive --

19      **A. Yes.**

20      Q. -- and -- whether about some form of apology or  
21      a memorial or some other redress of some kind.

22      **A. Uh-huh.**

23      Q. You have expressed some view there about compensation  
24      for failings of the State and wrongdoings of the  
25      authorities. What are you talking about there when you

1 are describing that?

2 A. Well, Rubane House to me was a boys orphan home, you  
3 know. I wasn't an orphan. I had my mother and I had  
4 uncles and grandfather lived with us, you know. To me  
5 it was a place where boys came there from Nazareth Lodge  
6 I think it was that wouldn't have had any -- the mother  
7 would have been -- maybe didn't want their children or  
8 something at that time, you know, and were orphans, you  
9 know, and were sent in there, but I was sent there and  
10 I shouldn't have been sent there. You know what I mean?  
11 They might as well have sent me to Australia or  
12 whatever, you know, because after I was sent there and  
13 after the court case that day, my mother went into  
14 nerves after that and she ended up in hospital for  
15 thirty years like. They took her life away from her and  
16 I suppose they took my childhood away as well, you know.  
17 I had a good life at home with them. If they had  
18 fostered me maybe at that stage, you know, to somebody,  
19 they would have looked after me and my mother would have  
20 been -- maybe nearer home, you know, that my mother and  
21 relations would have been able to see me, you know, and  
22 visiting me probably would have been better, but to me  
23 they done it wrong, you know. They done it wrong, and  
24 I think that the State was wrong and those in Welfare  
25 and that, that they should have arranged something

1           **better. I had only missed school for a short time, and**  
2           **that's why the whole thing came about, you know.**

3    Q.    Yes. What I want to ask you, if we look at  
4           paragraph 30 -- if we just scroll up, please -- you  
5           describe how you -- I was asking you whenever you left  
6           Rubane at 16 --

7    **A. Uh-huh.**

8    Q.    -- you --

9    **A. 17 I was.**

10   Q.    17?

11   **A. 17, yes.**

12   Q.    The names are slightly blocked out, but you know who is  
13           named there.

14   **A. Yes, yes.**

15   Q.    That is the                    that you went to live with?

16   **A. That's right, in Ballinderry, yes.**

17   Q.    What the statement doesn't say and I just want to  
18           highlight, you were involved with DL367 from the  
19           Nazareth Lodge Welfare, the Welfare Officer --

20   **A. Yes.**

21   Q.    -- who was getting you placed. Do you want to say what  
22           your experience was like with that?

23   **A. Well, I was left at Rubane House -- when I left Rubane**  
24           **House, they took me to DL367, and it was BR60 that was**  
25           **there at that time. He drove me there in a door to**

1           **Ballinderry to**

2       Q.   Yes.

3       **A.   They were very good people, very nice people.  I was**  
4           **looked after very well in it, you know.  I couldn't have**  
5           **been looked after any better.  They were good religious**  
6           **people, went to mass every Sunday and I went with them**  
7           **and m--**

8       Q.   Do you want to say something about in the end you didn't  
9           stay with them?

10      **A.   No.  See --**

11      Q.   This is a regret you have?

12      **A.   -- I would have still been under the care of the**  
13           **Fermanagh Welfare I suppose until I was 18, you see.**

14      Q.   Yes.

15      **A.   So when I was 18, then I left, but they didn't want me**  
16           **to leave.  They wanted me to stay on.  I think I had all**  
17           **that built up in my system of not wanting to stay in**  
18           **Rubane House, that I wanted to move on, you know, and**  
19           **this is what I did then.  I left anyway, you know.**

20      Q.   And you describe then where ultimately -- you move to  
21           Great Britain --

22      **A.   Yes.**

23      Q.   -- and work there --

24      **A.   Yes.**

25      Q.   -- and then ultimately come back to settle around where

1 was home for you.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. But you look back on that inability to stay with that  
4 family as an indication, a continuation of you always --  
5 you know, you were having difficulty staying at school  
6 or not being sent to school --

7 **A. Uh-huh.**

8 Q. -- then absconding from the home --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. -- and describe various occasions?

11 **A. Yes. Well, I probably would have been maybe not too bad**  
12 **in the home if I hadn't been sexually abused, you know.**  
13 **I think that was the main thing that got into my system**  
14 **that I couldn't -- I just wanted to get out of that**  
15 **place, you know. It was like hell upon earth, you know.**

16 Q. Yes. HIA252, is there anything else you want to say?  
17 We touched on recommendations and then I moved off to  
18 DL367 and Nazareth Lodge Welfare. Is there anything  
19 else you want to say in terms of the issue of  
20 recommendations now you have an opportunity to do that?

21 **A. Well, I would -- I suppose, you know, now it's a good**  
22 **thing that all this is coming out about what happened**  
23 **all those years ago, and I would hope that children of**  
24 **today wouldn't have to go through the experiences that**  
25 **I went through and the other children went through in**

1       that home, you know, and they shouldn't have --  
2       I suppose -- I don't know what you would do for -- you  
3       could -- you'd like to remember the whole thing  
4       I suppose, but hopefully somebody would kind of maybe  
5       set up some memorial for them or something, you know.  
6       I don't know, but hopefully it's -- the children of the  
7       future has a better lifestyle than I had and the other  
8       boys had in there, you know.

9    Q.   The last question that we ask of each witness, HIA252 --  
10       maybe you have covered it already -- this is -- this can  
11       be a difficult thing that you have done, come along and  
12       publicly say what happened to you, but it's your  
13       opportunity to say to the Inquiry anything that you want  
14       to say.  So if there's something I haven't covered in  
15       enough detail or haven't covered at all or just  
16       something you want to say, now is the opportunity to do  
17       that if I ask you if there is anything else that you  
18       want to bring to the attention of the Panel?

19   A.   Well, no.  I think I've said all, you know, that I can  
20       say, said all that I've seen, you know, in that place.  
21       I wouldn't -- I don't think there's anything else I have  
22       to add to that, you know, but ...

23   Q.   Yes.  Well, if you just remain where you are --

24   A.   Yes.

25   Q.   -- the Panel may want to ask you one or two matters or

1 not. Just bear with us for a moment.

2 Questions from THE PANEL

3 CHAIRMAN: HIA252, I'd just like to pursue with you in a bit  
4 more detail your experience with DL411 and the people  
5 from Fermanagh Welfare organisation. You have told us  
6 how you told DL411 what was happening to you and he  
7 wouldn't believe you.

8 **A. That's right, yes.**

9 Q. And I got the impression, rightly or wrongly, you had  
10 seen him a few times. It wasn't just that one occasion  
11 when you were in the car with him that you had been  
12 speaking to him. He was somebody you had met a few  
13 times?

14 **A. Oh, yes. I had met him a few times. He had driven me  
15 back a few times.**

16 Q. Yes.

17 **A. He wouldn't have been too pleased at having to drive me  
18 back, but on this occasion he asked --**

19 Q. Well, in those days it would have been a very long  
20 journey from Enniskillen to Rubane.

21 **A. Oh, quite a long -- a long run, but he -- I know on this  
22 particular occasion he asked me why I wasn't going back.  
23 He was in bad humour at him -- at himself having to  
24 drive me back, you see, and then that's when I told him  
25 on that occasion that had happened, you know.**

1 Q. And why did you choose him to tell it to as opposed to  
2 somebody else?

3 A. Well, I don't know. I suppose it was -- he asked me,  
4 you see, why wasn't I going back and what was the reason  
5 for not going back, and, well, I remember telling him  
6 what -- what took place in there, what the Brother had  
7 done to me, BR17.

8 Q. You have explained why you didn't speak to other  
9 Brothers, because you were frightened and so on. Does  
10 that mean that you thought that DL411 would be  
11 a sympathetic sort of person when you spoke to him?

12 A. Well, I couldn't say what I thought, you know. I mean,  
13 I was still young enough I suppose and maybe not old  
14 enough to understand, but when he asked me and --  
15 I thought I would tell him, you know. It must have just  
16 come to me that I would tell him, you know. Thinking of  
17 it now, I think that he should have done something about  
18 it, you know, which he didn't. He never bothered to  
19 investigate it. He just dropped me off at the home and  
20 handed me back to BR17 when I went back.

21 Q. Yes. The De La Salle Brothers have pointed out that  
22 there was another person from the Fermanagh Welfare who  
23 came to Rubane, a Miss Richardson. Do you remember her?

24 A. I remember Miss Richardson all right. She was there on  
25 that morning at the court along with DL411 --

1 Q. Yes.

2 A. -- and I met her a few times along with DL411 when he  
3 would be bringing me to home and he'd meet me at the bus  
4 in Enniskillen, but I never -- I never mind them coming  
5 to the home.

6 Q. You have no recollection of her coming to Rubane?

7 A. No, no.

8 Q. Were there other Fermanagh boys there when you were  
9 there that you knew of?

10 A. There was a couple of them all right, you know --

11 Q. And --

12 A. -- but I think they were away before -- they got out  
13 before I left.

14 Q. At some time when you were there might there have been  
15 other boys from Fermanagh there at the same time?

16 A. I think there was one or two from Enniskillen there at  
17 the time, you know.

18 Q. And did anybody come and see them from the Welfare that  
19 you remember?

20 A. Not -- not that I can remember.

21 Q. I see. Can I ask you something else completely  
22 different?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You describe once being beaten because you were accused,  
25 you say wrongly, of stealing cigarettes. Isn't that

1 right?

2 **A. That's right, yes.**

3 Q. The Brothers have said boys were allowed to smoke once  
4 they were over 14. Do you remember that?

5 **A. In Rubane House?**

6 Q. So they say.

7 **A. No, no, no.**

8 Q. Indeed they go further than that. They say cigarettes  
9 could be bought in the tuck shop.

10 **A. In Rubane House? Certainly not. That's new to me.**

11 Q. Well, I don't think I've ever heard of a school tuck  
12 shop that openly smoked -- sold cigarettes.

13 **A. No. I can't understand that, but ...**

14 Q. Thank you very much.

15 MS DOHERTY: HIA252, thanks very much for your witness. It  
16 was very good. Can I just ask did you have a sense  
17 whether BR13 and BR63, if they were -- I know that they  
18 were good to you and were generally good, but do you --  
19 did you have any sense that they were aware of some of  
20 the abuse that was happening, both physical and sexual?

21 **A. Well, they probably would have known about the --**  
22 **certainly about the physical abuse I would say, you**  
23 **know, but I couldn't say for sure about the sexual**  
24 **abuse.**

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. I couldn't say for sure, but they may have, you know,  
2 and --

3 Q. But do you think --

4 A. -- they might have been able to do nothing about it if  
5 they did, you know. I don't know honestly.

6 Q. But do you think they would have observed the physical  
7 abuse, boys getting caned and ...?

8 A. Oh, they would have, yes. They would have.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. Certainly BR63 would have anyway, because he was  
11 a teacher in the school, you see, a teaching Brother.  
12 BR13 wouldn't have been much in around -- he wouldn't  
13 have been in around the -- he was more doing the  
14 secretary work in the office, you know.

15 Q. Okay. Can I just ask about the other boys? Was there  
16 any issues about bullying between older boys and younger  
17 boys?

18 A. No. I never seen much bullying. I don't think I seen  
19 any bullying really in it, you know, that -- no. The  
20 boys might have got on all right together, you know.  
21 There might have been an odd argument or -- you know, or  
22 something like that, but it wouldn't have been bullying  
23 as such.

24 Q. Okay. Thank you.

25 A. There was older boys when I went there and they never --

1           **didn't bully me, you know. Certainly not, no.**

2    Q.    Okay. Thank you.

3    MR LANE: You mentioned to us about the special  
4           relationship, the close relationship there was between  
5           one member of staff and one boy, the name that you  
6           circulated.

7    **A. Yes.**

8    Q.    Was that true of the other brothers? Did they also have  
9           particular favourites that they used to call out of bed  
10          at night?

11   **A. They would have been sitting, as I was saying, you know,**  
12          **at night with the boys and their arm round them.**  
13          **I think maybe BR14 might have had. I can't remember the**  
14          **name of that particular boy --**

15   Q.    No.

16   **A. -- but I have seen him on occasions sitting with his arm**  
17          **round him, you know, and I think I've seen him, this**  
18          **boy, being taken out of bed at night as well. They**  
19          **would have been a bit close, but then I've seen them**  
20          **sitting with their arms round other boys as well, you**  
21          **know, and other boys being taken out of the bedroom too.**

22   Q.    So would they have actually done this with a whole  
23          variety of boys or were there some boys who would have  
24          got away with not being --

25   **A. There would have been boys that probably would have got**

1 no abuse at all, you know, there sexually, you know, but  
2 it was going on nearly mostly every night of the week or  
3 a good few nights of the week anyway. I used to be  
4 afraid to go to sleep, because I was afraid of being  
5 called out again, you know, or taken out, you know.

6 Q. Okay. Thank you very much.

7 A. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA252, thank you very much indeed for  
9 coming to speak to us today.

10 A. Thank you for listening to me. Thank you.

11 Q. I am sure you will be relieved to hear that's all we  
12 want to ask you.

13 A. Okay. Thank you very much.

14 Q. Thank you.

15 (Witness withdrew)

16 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, that concludes  
17 the witness evidence for today. We, all being well,  
18 begin again tomorrow.

19 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. 10 o'clock tomorrow, ladies  
20 and gentlemen.

21 (3.47 pm)

22 (Hearing adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning)

23 --ooOoo--

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