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HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY

being heard before:

SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)

MR DAVID LANE

MS GERALDINE DOHERTY

held at

Banbridge Court House

Banbridge

on Tuesday, 6th January 2015

commencing at 10.00 am

(Day 82)

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

1 Tuesday, 6th January 2015

2 (10.00 am)

3 WITNESS HIA204 (called)

4 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Before we
5 start this morning can I, as always, remind you to
6 ensure that your mobile phones are turned off or placed
7 on "silent"/"vibrate" and also remind you that no
8 photography or indeed recording is permitted in the
9 chamber or anywhere on the premises.

10 Yes, Ms Smith.

11 MS SMITH: Morning, Chairman, Panel Members. Our first
12 witness today is HIA204. He is "HIA204". HIA204 wishes
13 to affirm and he also wishes to maintain his anonymity,
14 Chairman.

15 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

16 WITNESS HIA204 (affirmed)

17 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

18 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

19 MS SMITH: Now, HIA204, if you could just bear with me for
20 a little moment I just want to tell the Panel Members
21 about where some of the documents relating to your
22 evidence are in the bundle.

23 His statement can be found at SNB-304 to 307. The
24 congregation's response is at SNB-1699 to 1700 and the
25 Health & Social Care Board response is at SNB-5653 to

1 5654. The statement simply confirms that they believe
2 this was a private placement and that they have no
3 records in respect of HIA204.

4 Now coming back to you, HIA204, you will see here
5 that your statement has come up on the screen in front
6 of you. As we discussed earlier, instead of your name
7 it says "The Witness Statement of HIA204". If we could
8 just look at the last page of that statement, please,
9 you will see there that instead of your signature we
10 have blocked that out with the letters "HIA204" and you
11 dated it on 6th August of last year, when you signed the
12 statement. Is that correct?

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. Can I just ask, HIA204, that this statement of evidence
15 is something that you want the Inquiry to take into
16 account together with whatever else you tell us this
17 morning? Sorry, HIA204. Do you understand what I'm
18 asking? This is your statement of evidence and you want
19 the Inquiry to consider this along with anything else
20 you tell us today?

21 **A. Yes, I agree.**

22 Q. Thank you. Now just to be clear, HIA204, I was talking
23 to you earlier and

24 You were 89 years old

25 Isn't that correct?

1 **A. That's correct.**

2 Q. And we believe that you are the oldest person to come to
3 speak to the Inquiry about your time in institutional
4 care. So that makes you a very special person in our
5 eyes.

6 **A. I'm pleased to be here.**

7 Q. Thank you very much. Well, if we can just go back to
8 the first page of your statement, in paragraphs 1 and 2
9 of that statement at page 304 you talk about your
10 personal circumstances. You say -- it is recorded there
11 that you were born, which was not in Ireland. Your
12 parents had other children. You are unsure of how you
13 ended up in care, but that you believe your father had
14 left and you moved back to -- he moved back to the
15 country you had been living in from Northern Ireland and
16 your mother was trying to establish a career. So you
17 believe that's why you and your siblings were placed in
18 care. You went to Nazareth Lodge and your older sisters
19 were sent to Nazareth House. Your younger sister, in
20 fact, stayed with your grandmother in Northern Ireland.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. Now -- sorry -- you went to Nazareth Lodge when you were
23 3 and you were there between 1929 and 1936. So you were
24 there between the ages of 3 and 10. Isn't that correct?

25 **A. That's correct.**

1 Q. At paragraph 3 of your statement you describe the
2 dormitory layout and you say that you were initially in
3 the nursery part of the home before you moved to what
4 would have been the junior dormitory, which was known as
5 St. Joseph's, and there was also another dormitory
6 called St. Patrick's, which was for the senior boys.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. Now one of the things that you go on to talk about in
9 that statement is that there was a particular nun, and
10 we can use her name in here, but it is not to be used
11 outside this room, but we have given her the designation
12 "SR118". You know that I am talking about SR118. You
13 remember her. Isn't that right, HIA204?

14 **A. True.**

15 Q. She was in charge of certainly the dormitory in which
16 you slept. Is that right?

17 **A. Yes, she was in charge of the boys in the dormitory.**

18 Q. You say she had a cell at the end of the dormitory, but
19 that it was the older boys who were in charge of you at
20 night-time.

21 **A. Repeat, please.**

22 Q. Sorry. Just reading from your statement, HIA204, it
23 says here:

24 "She had a cell at the end of the dormitory, but it
25 was the older boys who were in charge of us at

1 night-time."

2 **A. Yes. During -- during the bathing hour, the bathroom**
3 **occurrences.**

4 Q. I just wanted to ask you a little bit more about, that
5 what responsibilities the older boys had in respect of
6 you younger boys. Can you remember what they had to do
7 in respect of you?

8 **A. They had to bring the boy into the bathrooms, you know,**
9 **and wash them, wash the boys, you know, and towels**
10 **provided, you know, to dry the boys when he came out,**
11 **and then you went to your bed, which was just down --**
12 **outside the bathroom down the hall.**

13 Q. Did any of the older boys sleep in your dormitory at
14 night?

15 **A. Repeat your question.**

16 Q. Did any -- sorry. Perhaps my microphone is not adjusted
17 properly. Can you hear me a little bit better now?

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. Did any of the older boys sleep in your dormitory at
20 night? Do you remember?

21 **A. Yes. They went to the senior -- senior floor up in the**
22 **higher dormitory above, the higher floors.**

23 Q. The nuns would say and have said to us that, in fact,
24 the boys would not have been left in charge during the
25 night-time, that it would have been the Sister who would

1 have been looking after the boys at night-time. Would
2 that be right?

3 **A. That is correct.**

4 Q. Now in paragraphs 7 and 8 of your statement, if we can
5 just scroll to that, you talk about the sexual abuse
6 that you suffered at the hands of these older boys who
7 were in charge. You say they were about 14 or 15 years
8 old.

9 "At night when the boys were taking a bath, the
10 older boys were left in charge, as the nuns did not come
11 into the bathroom. That is where the sexual abuse took
12 place. I was regularly taken into the toilet cubicles
13 in the bathroom and made to perform impure acts on
14 them."

15 You were abused by a boy whose name you give there
16 in the statement and whom we have given the designation
17 "NL121".

18 "I would cry in bed every night because of the
19 abuse. I was also abused in the dormitory at
20 night-time. A different boy called NL119 abused me. He
21 made me perform acts on him and he performed acts on
22 me."

23 So if I have got this right, what you are saying is
24 that this older boy came into the junior dormitory at
25 night-time. Is that the position, HIA204?

1 **A. That is true.**

2 Q. You -- just to be clear that the congregation, the
3 Sisters, the nuns would say that they were unaware that
4 such sexual abuse was taking place in their home, and
5 that they have been horrified and shocked and devastated
6 to learn that this was taking place. Can I ask you
7 would you accept that they probably weren't aware that
8 this was happening?

9 **A. Yes. They occurred while the nuns were dining or having**
10 **their evening meal, you know, and they weren't**
11 **responsible for that. They wouldn't be -- they wouldn't**
12 **be assigned to the bathroom in the evening, you know.**
13 **So they had full control, you know.**

14 Q. And this -- so what the boys were doing to you was
15 without the knowledge of the sisters. Is that what you
16 are saying?

17 **A. Yes. It was in -- in the toilet department of the**
18 **bathroom. They would take the victims like myself into**
19 **the toilet, toilets, you know, and perform these immoral**
20 **acts, you know.**

21 Q. In paragraph 10 of your statement -- I will come back to
22 paragraph 9 shortly -- you say that the older boys
23 bullied you. You say that they played mind games. You
24 talk about a time where one boy broke a statue of Our
25 Lady and told you if anyone asked, you had to say you

1 had done it. You felt you were so manipulated by them
2 you even told the priest in confession you had broken
3 the statue when you hadn't done it.

4 **A. That is true. Very true.**

5 Q. And that's --

6 **A. Very much true.**

7 Q. If I have understood what you are saying to us, HIA204,
8 is you used this as an example of the type of control
9 they had over the younger boys.

10 **A. True, very much. I mean, the senior boys were -- it**
11 **really occurred in the bathroom while the nuns were in**
12 **church praying or in their own refectory, you know,**
13 **having their evening meal.**

14 Q. You also in paragraph 5, if we could just go back to
15 that, you talk about an incident in the school. The
16 school that you went to was in Nazareth Lodge and it was
17 run by the nuns. You say that if you got a bad report
18 in school, you were beaten by the nuns. You do remember
19 there was a lay teacher who you name there, NL118, who
20 had a temper. You remember she hit you across the face
21 with a whip once and left a terrible mark on your face.
22 She told you to lie to the nuns if they questioned what
23 happened to your face and tell them you had fallen.
24 That's a particular -- do you remember what age you
25 would have been at that time, HIA204?

1 **A. I probably would have been about 5 or 6 years old.**

2 Q. Do you accept -- you never told the nuns this teacher
3 had done this to you, did you? Did you ever tell the
4 nuns this teacher had struck you in this way and told
5 you not to say anything?

6 **A. Repeat that again.**

7 Q. Sorry. You said here that she told you to lie to the
8 nuns if they questioned what happened to your face and
9 tell them that you had fallen.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. Did -- first of all, did the nuns ever ask you what had
12 happened to your face? Do you remember?

13 **A. I can't recall.**

14 Q. Do you ever -- did you ever say anything to them about
15 being hit by a teacher in the school?

16 **A. No.**

17 Q. What do you think might have happened if you had done
18 that? Would you have told them?

19 **A. I would have been beaten again.**

20 Q. You don't think they would have done anything or spoken
21 to the teacher about this?

22 **A. I don't believe the nuns really knew what was happening,
23 what was going on, because they were occupied outside,
24 you know, with their other duties and their
25 responsibilities.**

1 Q. In paragraph 6 you talk about you yourself were selected
2 to sing in concerts. You say you were an attractive
3 child and you described to me the curly hair that you
4 had.

5 "I would also have been selected to present boxes of
6 chocolates to visiting nuns."

7 You one time took the box of chocolates and shared
8 it amongst yourself and some other boys. You remember
9 being beaten by one of the nuns with a strap for doing
10 that.

11 **A. Yes, I was punished by Sister in charge because they**
12 **wanted the chocolates for themselves, you know. They**
13 **didn't want me to have it, but I broke the law I suppose**
14 **in sharing them with the other lads, you know.**

15 Q. Would you accept then that it was appropriate that you
16 were punished for doing this?

17 **A. I think it was overdone.**

18 Q. Overdone. Just going back then, if I can, to
19 paragraph 9 -- sorry -- going on to paragraph 9, you
20 describe the fact that you had a bedwetting problem.
21 When you wet the bed, you were punished the next morning
22 by being taken to the bathroom by the older boys, where
23 they threw buckets of ice cold water over you. You then
24 had to kneel outside SR118's room. We know that's
25 SR118.

1 "When she came out, she made me lie down on the
2 floor and she beat me on the backside with a strap.
3 This went on for years."

4 This was a regular occurrence that you wet the bed,
5 HIA204. Is that right?

6 **A. Yes. I had this weakness and nearly I would say mostly**
7 **every night this -- I had this weakness I'd say, but**
8 **nothing was done to correct it, you know, but by taking**
9 **me out to the bathroom, taking me to the toilet later**
10 **would have helped I suppose, but nobody cared about**
11 **that. Just you went to bed. Everybody went to bed at**
12 **the same time. You got up at the same time, you know.**

13 Q. Then if you had wet the bed, this is what happened?

14 **A. Yes. That was the -- it was the punishment, yes. You**
15 **were strapped and it was sore. It was -- it brought**
16 **tears to your eyes, you know.**

17 Q. What -- can you remember what it was that was used to
18 strap you?

19 **A. It was like a belt, like a leather belt, a thick leather**
20 **belt. It was mostly the belt was used. Sometimes it**
21 **was a cane.**

22 Q. But mostly the belt?

23 **A. Mostly the belt, yes. It was the punishment.**

24 Q. At paragraph 4 of your statement, HIA204, you talked
25 about your mother coming to visit you. She had got

1 a job which was some distance away from Belfast. She
2 was only able to come and visit you once a year in the
3 summer time for about an hour. You believed she was
4 unable to afford to visit you more often as well as the
5 fact that she worked so far away.

6 You also said that she -- it was later in your
7 statement -- earlier maybe -- that she had been paying
8 the sum of 10 shillings for your keep there. At
9 paragraph 3 you said that. I asked you earlier when we
10 were speaking about how you knew that she had paid for
11 your keep. This was something she told you in later
12 years. Is that right?

13 **A. That's true, yes.**

14 Q. We know from the Order that some parents did make some
15 payments, but they certainly are unable to provide us
16 with any records in your case as to whether any payments
17 were or were not made, but you know this from what your
18 mother told you. Isn't that the position?

19 **A. True.**

20 Q. Can I just ask before we go just whenever she did come
21 to visit there, paragraph 11, if we could just scroll
22 down to that, you talked about how you would cry every
23 night about the abuse, but you knew that you could not
24 do anything about it.

25 "I told my mother about the abuse every year when

1 she visited but she could not do anything. I think she
2 was worried that if she made a fuss, the nuns would kick
3 me out and she needed the nuns to keep me so that she
4 could make a living in the place she was working."

5 Now can I just ask you what do you remember telling
6 your mother about exactly, HIA204?

7 **A. The fact that I was beaten. That was the thing, and**
8 **there was nothing I could do about it, you know, but**
9 **I had to accept it, you know, and this occurred just**
10 **about every night, you know. I mean, one -- it was**
11 **probably like seven nights a week this occurred, you**
12 **know, and nothing could be done about it. I mean, there**
13 **was no doctors -- brought the doctor or nurse or**
14 **anything like that, you know. It just happened, the**
15 **beatings, and it continued even after I left Belfast**
16 **too.**

17 **Q. Did you -- when you were talking to your mum, I mean,**
18 **you were telling her you were being beaten for wetting**
19 **the bed. Is that right?**

20 **A. Yes, yes.**

21 **Q. Did you tell her about the older boys and what they were**
22 **doing to you? Did you tell her?**

23 **A. No, I didn't mention it, because I didn't think it was**
24 **fair to impose the knowledge to her. You know, I had**
25 **respect for her. She was my mother after all, you know,**

1 and I had respect. I couldn't -- I couldn't talk to her
2 about it. There was nobody else you could share it
3 with, you know. So it was all -- you had to accept what
4 was -- what was happening to me, you know.

5 Q. Do you know whether she ever spoke to the nuns about the
6 fact that you were being beaten? Do you know if she
7 ever did that?

8 A. **No, I can't say for sure. I can't say she did.**

9 Q. Another thing you talk there at paragraph 12, just
10 moving on to something else, is that:

11 "If the weather was good in the summer time, I saw
12 my sisters a couple of times a week, as the girls from
13 Nazareth House used to come and play in the field in
14 front of Nazareth Lodge",

15 but you never saw them during the winter time. You
16 were aged 3 and your sisters were older than you. Isn't
17 that correct, HIA204?

18 A. **Yes.**

19 Q. You were the -- apart from your younger sister, who
20 stayed with your grandmother, you were the youngest of
21 the group who was in the home -- in the homes I should
22 say. How did you know these girls who came down were
23 your sisters?

24 A. **Well, by their appearances, you know, their -- we --**
25 **they would be with their friends too, you know, and they**

1 would go on the swings and other -- other -- mostly on
2 the swings. They would go for the swings or else they
3 would walk around playing tig with their friends, you
4 know. So I never bothered too much. I didn't run
5 around with them all the time they were there, you know.
6 I'd be -- I'd stay with my friends, the other boys, you
7 know, in my own age. We had our own little clan, own
8 little groups, you know, we used to associate with, you
9 know, people that you palled with, little children you
10 palled with, you know. So you'd see them a few times,
11 a few hours during the week in the summer time and you
12 just said "Hello", and you're too young to go into much
13 detail, you know, as to what was happening, and I never
14 probably said anything to them -- complained to them
15 about anything that was going on in my life.

16 Q. I am just wondering. There was no -- nothing formally
17 organised for you and your sisters to meet, was there?

18 A. No, no.

19 Q. They just happened to be there playing with the other
20 girls.

21 A. They would come with their -- probably another Sister,
22 another nun, and they'd stay there an hour or so and
23 then they would go back -- walk back the Ravenhill Road
24 back to their convent where they were, you know, but you
25 realised that they were part of the family, but, I mean,

1 there was a certain distance there, you know, because --
2 I mean, there was very limited time, you know. You
3 wanted to play with your -- boys of your own age,
4 because you had your own little clans, you know, and you
5 played -- you went with.

6 Q. HIA204, I asked you earlier about whether you have good
7 memories of your time in Nazareth Lodge and you did have
8 some fun there. Isn't that true?

9 A. Well, yes. I used -- I was selected to -- to perform at
10 concerts. There was a lot of concerts there, because
11 there were some visitors came, nuns from other convents,
12 from other parts, maybe from England, other parts of
13 Ireland, you know, and there was always a concert put on
14 for them or visiting priests or bishops or whoever
15 happened to be at Belfast at the time, and I was always
16 selected to -- I think I did every Irish dance. There
17 was two hand reels, four hand reels, eight hand reels,
18 sixteen hand reels, and they used to dress me up in
19 a girl's attire, you know, and I would have to sing
20 solos or sing with another boy, you know, songs for part
21 of the concert. They were great people for putting on
22 concerts for visitors. There was always a lot of
23 visitors coming there to be with the other nuns, because
24 they were probably from the same order, Sisters of
25 Nazareth, you know. There were Sisters of Nazareth and

1 **Mother. Most of them seemed -- they have come from**
2 **foreign count... -- from overseas.**

3 Q. You enjoyed taking part in the concerts?

4 **A. Yes. I enjoyed, because I had a good voice and I had**
5 **the ability to perform the dances, but I was whipped if**
6 **I didn't toe the line. You know, I had to -- it had to**
7 **be perfect, you know, and there were plays that**
8 **sometimes I had to participate in. So I was very**
9 **prominent in the entertainment field at an early age.**

10 Q. Well, HIA204, can I just ask about some of the general
11 things in the home? We talked a little bit earlier
12 about food and the accommodation and that, and I think,
13 if I am right in summing up -- summarising what you said
14 about the conditions in the home, you just accepted
15 whatever food you were given.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. You didn't know any different really. You were there
18 from the age of about 3. Isn't that right?

19 **A. Yes. There was no menu provided, you know, so you had**
20 **to accept whatever was -- they would bring in big bowls**
21 **of food and senior boys would serve it into the place**
22 **and put in front of you and you had to eat it. You had**
23 **no choice. Beggars can't be choosers.**

24 Q. You just basically accepted the status quo about things
25 like that. Isn't that correct?

1 A. You couldn't say, "I'm sorry. I can't eat this", you
2 know. You had to eat it and you didn't know what you
3 were eating half the time. It could have been horse
4 meat or something else, you know.

5 Q. Well, can I also ask you -- one of the things you talked
6 about was you had chores to do every day also, cleaning
7 the dormitory and that, and you and your friends --

8 A. Oh, yes.

9 Q. -- turned that into a game and had races to see who
10 could do it --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- quickly.

13 A. The dormitories were kept very, very clean, polished.
14 Floors were polished, and you would race under the beds
15 and see who would win the race, you know. That was
16 acceptable, because you were really cleaning up the
17 place. Especially on Good Friday and holidays, you
18 know, you had to perform extra, making a greater effort,
19 you know, to the place, good for inspectors, other nuns
20 from other convents coming and inspect -- look around
21 the place, you know, and it had to be very ordinary, you
22 know, very well kept.

23 Q. Just one thing. You talked about SR118 and I was asking
24 you if you remembered any of the other nuns in the home
25 at the time you were there --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- and what you can say about them.

3 A. Yes. SR118 was -- she was -- she was the person in
4 charge most of the time I was there. There was SR100
5 and there were other nuns, a few other nuns as well, but
6 SR118 stands out, I mean. She was the -- she was in
7 charge most of the time I was there that I recall.

8 Q. Do you have any good memories of her at all?

9 A. Beg your pardon?

10 Q. Do you have any good memories of her?

11 A. Any what?

12 Q. Good memories of SR118?

13 A. Yes, I remember her as being the person in charge, you
14 know, of the home. She was very mean. She was always
15 strapping, I mean, with the strap or the stick. Mostly
16 it was with the strap, you know. She was constantly
17 slapping kids around. I mean, I wasn't the only one.

18 There were other ones beside myself, you know, were
19 victims, you know. Like when we go to the bathroom for
20 the wash, there would be other kids in there. Most of
21 the time I was the only one there. Didn't have too many
22 people who wet the bed or anything.

23 Q. HIA204, your mother was able to take you back when she
24 got a job in the north of Ireland and you and your
25 sisters were taken from the homes and went back to live

1 with your mother.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. Your life after care is described in paragraphs 13 to 16
4 of your statement. I am not going to go into the
5 details of that, but you certainly had a very
6 interesting life after you left the home.

7 Just one thing that I discussed with you, because
8 the congregation through a statement they have provided
9 to the Inquiry have said that they are happy to
10 apologise to you personally for any hurt or harm that
11 you may have suffered in their care. I read that
12 paragraph from their statement to you earlier today.
13 I just wondered is there anything you want to say about
14 that, about that personal apology to you?

15 **A. Well, I suppose I accept their kind -- their**
16 **consideration, you know, but, I mean, through my life**
17 **the memories never left me, you know. I always --**
18 **I always remember that part of my life when I was**
19 **a child and what happened to me, but for some -- the**
20 **Good Lord helped me and I became a success later on**
21 **after I left there. It was miraculous how my life**
22 **changed with my mother. I went in the army, and she**
23 **didn't want me to go, but I went and I volunteered for**
24 **the army, because there was -- there was -- they were**
25 **recruiting soldiers for the -- for the war in Korea and**

1 **I had to go along, you know, and serve -- put in my time**
2 **there, you know.**

3 Q. Well, one question that we ask everyone who comes to
4 speak to us, HIA204, is that this Inquiry at the end of
5 its work has to make recommendations to the office of
6 the First and Deputy First Minister and the Government
7 of Northern Ireland about what should happen now.

8 In paragraph 17 of your statement you feel that the
9 victims of child abuse in care ought to be -- ought to
10 receive compensation for their suffering. Is that your
11 view? Is that what you want the Inquiry to recommend or
12 is there anything else that you want to say about that,
13 HIA204?

14 A. **The compensation is -- doesn't mean an awful lot to me,**
15 **you know, but it is just that the rules and regulations**
16 **of these places should be overseen more by outside help,**
17 **you know; more inspections on these places. The**
18 **premises should be improved so that children could be**
19 **respected as children, you know, children of God.**

20 Q. Well, HIA204, those are all the questions that I want to
21 ask you this morning. Is there anything that you feel
22 that you want to say about your time in Nazareth Lodge
23 that we haven't covered or is there anything that I have
24 forgotten to ask you that you want to say? Now is your
25 opportunity to do that.

1 **A.** I can't think. I want to express my thanks and
2 appreciation for the legal centres for bringing this
3 matter to a head and -- so that this type of thing won't
4 happen to other children in the future. I suppose,
5 like, what happened in the past has changed, you know,
6 and -- children are children, you know, and they deserve
7 a certain amount of respect, and especially orphan
8 children, children who have nobody to look after them
9 during their youth. I mean, later on in life I became
10 a total success, incredible success in my jobs,
11 outstanding in education and so forth. I mean, I was
12 a bird. I was free to do what I wanted to do, you know,
13 and I had forgotten a good deal about my childhood,
14 because I have been so successful in my life afterwards,
15 and I thank the Good Lord for the blessings he has
16 bestowed on me and for my mother who worked so hard and
17 tried so hard to make life liveable for me, and I think
18 of her every day, and for all the people who helped me
19 improve my life.

20 **Q.** HIA204, thank you very much. As I say, I have nothing
21 further that I want to ask you. The Panel Members may
22 have some questions for you. I don't know, but we will
23 know shortly.

24 **A.** Thank you.

25

1 Questions from THE PANEL

2 MR LANE: Thank you very much for your evidence. You
3 mentioned the way that you got treated when you wet the
4 bed, the cold baths and the beatings. Did you see that
5 happen to other boys as well?

6 A. Oh, yes. Not too -- not too -- strange. There were not
7 too many cases. There was just a few --

8 Q. Uh-huh.

9 A. -- but I seemed to be one. There were others who were
10 constantly there, but when I took the bath, I was always
11 alone.

12 Q. Right.

13 A. It was strange. There wasn't like four or five people
14 there being looked after. I seemed to be the only
15 person involved for some reason.

16 Q. Why do you think they did that? Do you think that they
17 thought this would stop you wetting the bed?

18 A. Yes. It probably was that, punishment would change my
19 lifestyle, you know, as a child, but it happened even
20 after I left the home. I was living in with my
21 mother. I still had the bedwetting problem. It seemed
22 to be an ongoing thing, you know.

23 Q. Thank you very much.

24 A. Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA204, I am sure you will be relieved to

1 morning, it is perfectly okay. The Panel understand
2 this can be difficult for people and it can be emotional
3 for people. If you keep your eyes on me and we will
4 work through this, and if at any stage we need to take
5 a break, the Panel will understand that and there's no
6 difficulty about that. Okay?

7 What I am going to do is just bring up on the screen
8 a copy of your witness statement. If we can bring up
9 SNB-218, please, and you will recall us discussing the
10 black marks, which are the Inquiry's anonymity policy,
11 so that when this statement is published, no-one will be
12 able to know that it is you that it's talking about.
13 You want to keep your anonymity.

14 **A. Uh-huh.**

15 Q. Isn't that right?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. Can you just check the first page that's on the screen,
18 and you have a hard copy in front of you, HIA408, that
19 you can see what's under the black marks, and just make
20 sure that they are the same two pages.

21 **A. Uh-huh.**

22 Q. You are happy they are?

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. If we can go then, please, to SNB-224, which is the last
25 page, HIA408, and if you look at the last page in the

1 hard copy that you have in front of you, and the one on
2 the screen has a black mark over the signature, but can
3 you confirm you've signed the witness statement?

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. And you want to adopt the witness statement as your
6 evidence to the Inquiry? You want to adopt it as your
7 evidence to the Inquiry?

8 **A. Uh-huh. Yes.**

9 Q. HIA408, as I explained to you, I am just going to give
10 the Panel some references to documents that are in the
11 bundle. So bear with me for a moment and then you and
12 I will have a further conversation.

13 Chairman, Members of the Panel, the response
14 statement from the Sisters of Nazareth can be found at
15 SNB-1622 through to 1624, and I have made HIA408 aware
16 that that includes an apology to him, which we will come
17 back to.

18 There then is a response statement from the Health &
19 Social Care Board at SNB-5670 to 5671, and essentially
20 the Health & Social Care Board are saying they have no
21 record of HIA408 and therefore believe him to have been
22 a private placement, although he was from Derry,
23 privately placed in the Nazareth Lodge home.

24 Then one of the principal people that HIA408 talks
25 as someone who abused him is SR118, known as "SR118".

1 The Sisters of Nazareth have provided a statement about
2 her. That's at SNB-1904 and 5.

3 I have spoken to Mr Montague and made him aware the
4 Inquiry will be asking for some further material and
5 detail relating to her, which we will write to him
6 about.

7 So those are the core documents that relate to
8 HIA408's evidence.

9 HIA408, I was discussing with you earlier you were
10 born on and you are about to turn 86

11 --

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. -- but you are 85 at the moment.

14 **A. Uh-huh.**

15 Q. I was saying you are wearing very well for almost 86 and
16 that made you smile. You have two children of your own

17 --

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. -- who are now grown up.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. You make the point in paragraph 2 of your statement that
22 ultimately you were one of 16 siblings.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. You have travelled from England today in order to share
25 with the Inquiry what happened to you during your time

1 at Nazareth Lodge.

2 You were in Nazareth Lodge -- and there is an issue
3 over this which we are going to deal with -- but the
4 register that the Sisters of Nazareth kept -- and it is
5 the only document unfortunately that there is that
6 relates to you -- suggests that you went into Nazareth
7 Lodge on 11th August 1932, when you were aged 3 and
8 a half, and you remained there until 18th August 1937,
9 aged 8. Now that's in the admission record, which is at
10 4525 and 4526. That record suggests, HIA408, that you
11 went in along with two older brothers, NL 142, who was
12 born in 1923 and therefore aged 9 at the time you go in,
13 and , who was born in 1927. So he would have been
14 5. The three of you appear to have gone to Nazareth
15 Lodge, and am I right in saying you think some of your
16 sisters might have gone to Nazareth House?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. That record suggests that an RUC sergeant had some
19 involvement in you coming to Nazareth Lodge, but it
20 appears that still may have been as a result of
21 a private arrangement, and we have asked both the
22 congregation and the Health & Social Care Board just to
23 look a little further into whether there is any way we
24 can be clearer as to how you came to be in Nazareth
25 Lodge, because you don't remember the circumstances of

1 you coming in.

2 **A. No, no.**

3 Q. But whether it was on foot of a court order or more
4 likely a private placement, we can't be entirely sure
5 about that, but we will look into it a little further.

6 You make the point in your witness statement in
7 paragraph 3 that you believe you were in Nazareth Lodge
8 for longer than the admission record suggests. It says
9 you left in August 1937, but you believe you were there
10 until you were 12 to 13 years of age, and you say two
11 reasons for that. One is that's the age that you
12 remember being taken from the home, chosen by a family
13 called NL 82 to work on their farm --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- and the other reason you say that is because you
16 remember being in the home when the bombs fell on
17 Belfast during the Second World War.

18 **A. Yes, yes.**

19 Q. We know that what became known as the Belfast Blitz took
20 place on 7th and 8th April of 1941, 15th and 16th April
21 and then 4th and 5th May. So you remember being in
22 Nazareth Lodge when the bombs fell. Is that right?

23 **A. Yes, yes.**

24 Q. And why do you remember that? Why is it that you link
25 the bombs to being in Nazareth Lodge?

1 **A. Well, we liked seeing the lightening of the bombs and**
2 **the bombardment. It was something different to the**
3 **convent life, something more exciting.**

4 Q. So it may be the case that, although the register entry
5 says you and your two brothers left in August '37, you
6 think you were there for longer. So if you left at that
7 point, you think you were brought back again.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. You do know on one occasion you tried to run away, which
10 we will talk about. You are not sure whether it is
11 that. Your position is you were there until you were 12
12 or 13 and until a period after the Belfast Blitz had
13 taken place --

14 **A. Uh-huh.**

15 Q. -- and --

16 **A. I don't remember and NL 142 leaving.**

17 Q. You don't remember them leaving.

18 **A. I don't remember them ever leaving.**

19 Q. But -- and this is maybe a third reason why you say you
20 were there for longer -- when we come to talk about
21 a particular incident involving an older boy who abused
22 you, you were visited by your brother who had left the
23 home by that stage, and you believe he took into that
24 other boy, and therefore if the register entry was
25 right, all three of you left at the same time. So --

1 but that's your recollection about it, and if there's
2 any more we can do to iron that out, then we'll try and
3 do that.

4 You describe -- and I am not going to go into this
5 in any detail -- but the congregation point out that
6 during the period that you are there Nazareth Lodge is
7 being inspected as a reformatory -- an industrial school
8 -- my apologies -- not an reformatory school --
9 an industrial school, and the inspectors were
10 acknowledging that the place looked fine and the
11 children looked well and the place appeared to be being
12 run properly, and they make that point about the period
13 that we are looking at, but what you say is that despite
14 that particular incidents were going on involving
15 particular nuns that were not acceptable. The nun that
16 you identify as being most cruel to you was SR118.

17 **A. SR118.**

18 Q. She for the record, Members of the Panel, is SR118. You
19 described her to me earlier as a little lady. Is that
20 right?

21 **A. Little lady, yes, small.**

22 Q. But you also characterised -- you saw the nuns who were
23 looking after you as very special people.

24 **A. Yes, not humans. They were angels according to our**
25 **religion. They were angels, not human beings.**

1 Q. And you had a similar view of the priests, that they
2 were, you know, above --

3 **A. Yes, way up.**

4 Q. -- with the nuns above you, as it were --

5 **A. And we were --**

6 Q. -- and special and important.

7 **A. And we were afraid of the priests. We were frightened**
8 **of them.**

9 Q. Just for the Panel so that context is given to the
10 evidence you are giving, SR118 appears to have been born
11 in and came to Nazareth Lodge originally
12 for a year in 1922 and then again from 1929 until 1954,
13 when she left for Aberdeen. The references for that are
14 at 12139 and 10403 and 4. So the time that you are
15 talking about between '33 and '37 or '42 she would have
16 been a person who was 33 to 42 years of age --

17 **A. Uh-huh.**

18 Q. -- over those years. You remember her as being in
19 charge of the dorm that you lived in during the period
20 that you can recollect --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- being in the home.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. I was asking you how many children were in the dorm.
25 You thought there were around 60.

1 **A. Possibly, round about, yes.**

2 Q. You describe two rows of beds on each side of the room

3 --

4 **A. That's right.**

5 Q. -- and a row up the middle.

6 **A. Yes, yes.**

7 Q. Then I was asking you -- and the congregation pointed

8 this out -- I was asking you, "Where did the nuns

9 sleep?" and you were saying there was a little cubicle

10 at the end of the dorm where she resided.

11 **A. Uh-huh.**

12 Q. You laughed remembering the window that was there.

13 **A. With the curtains up, yes.**

14 Q. If we look at paragraph 6 of your statement at 219, one

15 of the things that you remember being hit for was your

16 arms not being crossed at bedtime.

17 **A. Yes, yes.**

18 Q. You were saying to me earlier that the sheet would be

19 brought back to see were your arms crossed --

20 **A. Uh-huh.**

21 Q. -- and if they weren't crossed, then you were hit.

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. You also make the point here that you remember SR118

24 leaving some older boys in charge of your room --

25 **A. Yes, yes.**

1 Q. -- or your dorm.

2 **A. Uh-huh.**

3 Q. They used to use sweeping up brushes to hit you. Just
4 take your time, HIA408. Take your time. There's no
5 problem. You were explaining to me that you remember
6 one particular older boy who called your name, and when
7 you answered, you got hit for not being asleep.

8 **A. (Inaudible.)**

9 Q. On another occasion when he called your name and you
10 didn't answer, then you got hit for not answering.

11 **A. Uh-huh.**

12 Q. That's something that sticks in your mind of what the
13 older boy was doing. Can you remember was this done in
14 front of the nun or was she not around when this was
15 happening?

16 **A. We weren't allowed to talk to the nuns. We couldn't
17 tell them what was happening.**

18 Q. But was she in the --

19 **A. Any abuse you had, it was your own. You couldn't
20 discuss it with the nuns, and if you could discuss it,
21 you wouldn't tell them anyway, because you felt so
22 ashamed.**

23 Q. And -- but when you were being hit by the older boy in
24 the dormitory, in the bedroom, the nun wasn't around?

25 **A. No, no, no. SR118 would say, "Goodnight, Sister --**

1 **goodnight, children". We would say, "Goodnight,**
2 **Sister". Then when she went, in the older boys with the**
3 **brushes every night, every night.**

4 Q. As I was explaining to you earlier, HIA408, the Sisters
5 accept -- and this is at paragraph 6 of SNB-1623,
6 Members of the Panel -- they accept they were helped by
7 older boys, presumably because of the number of children
8 to staff, but they say it wasn't acceptable for those
9 older children to be hitting other children, and if that
10 is what happened, then they apologise for that, and they
11 make the point, as you do, that the nun in each dorm had
12 a cubicle or a cell, as it was called, in the corner of
13 the dorm to keep an eye, as it were, through this
14 window, but you don't remember SR118 --

15 **A. No, no.**

16 Q. -- looking through her window at you?

17 **A. She went into her little room and we were asleep. We**
18 **never seen her once going into -- going to bed.**

19 Q. Now, HIA408, you talk then in paragraphs 7 and 8 about
20 what happened over bedwetting. You say that when
21 someone wet the bed, all the boys in the dorm were
22 brought to the bathroom to watch the bedwetters getting
23 punished. You've explained that they were put into
24 a cold bath --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- and then buckets of cold water were poured over them.

2 **A. Uh-huh.**

3 Q. You made the point to me earlier that that happened, the
4 cold water happened, winter and summer.

5 **A. Uh-huh. Exactly.**

6 Q. The cold water was poured over by an older boy, and then
7 when the person was taken out of the bath and put on to
8 the red tiled floor, then SR118 would have hit the boy.

9 **A. Uh-huh.**

10 Q. What did she use to hit the boy who had been brought out
11 of the bath?

12 **A. She took her belt off from her waist. She had a belt.**

13 Q. Then you explained to me that in addition to using the
14 belt she used her foot on occasion. When did she use
15 her foot?

16 **A. When the boy was hit on the behind, his body was very,
17 very cold and the strapping was stinging him. So he
18 turned over that way, and SR118 put the heel of her shoe
19 in his private area and twisted it. That happened all
20 the time.**

21 Q. One of the points you make: you were glad you were not
22 someone who ever wet the bed.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. I was asking you then -- because the Inquiry may have
25 looked at yesterday a document from the Ministry of Home

1 Affairs -- I was explaining to you that in 1927 the
2 Ministry attended at the home, and, Members of the
3 Panel, it is at SNB-13659 and 13660, and as a result of
4 that visit it was explained that punishing children for
5 bedwetting was counter-productive and shouldn't happen,
6 and you are there between '33 and '41/'42. So that's
7 after that has been discussed in the home.

8 **A. Uh-huh.**

9 Q. How regularly was this punishment for bedwetting taking
10 place? Did it happen just once or twice?

11 **A. Every day. Every day. Every day maybe three or four**
12 **boys wet the bed and so it happened every day.**

13 Q. And did that go on through as far as you can remember
14 your time --

15 **A. Exactly.**

16 Q. -- in Nazareth Lodge?

17 **A. As far as I can remember it went on all the time.**

18 Q. Because in your statement in paragraph 8 you talk about
19 "boys", plural, and that's why I wanted to see could you
20 assist the Inquiry with whether this was a regular
21 punishment that was taking place.

22 **A. Oh, yes, yes.**

23 Q. And --

24 **A. SR118 was only happy when she was beating you.**

25 Q. The -- as I said to you earlier, the Sisters now accept,

1 and have said in paragraph 7 of the statement at 1623
2 relating to you, they accept that children shouldn't
3 have been punished for bedwetting in the home, and
4 therefore that shouldn't have taken place. You
5 shouldn't have been witnessing --

6 **A. Uh-huh.**

7 Q. -- what you are describing.

8 You go on in paragraph 9 then, HIA408, to describe
9 corporal punishment. I was asking you -- this occurred
10 essentially in the school, which was on the premises.

11 **A. Uh-huh.**

12 Q. You were taught by the same nuns who looked after you in
13 the home.

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. I was asking you what you were hit on the knuckles with
16 and you were explaining to me that that was a wooden
17 ruler.

18 **A. Ruler, yes, a wooden ruler.**

19 Q. It was the side of the wooden ruler that was used --

20 **A. The side, yes, yes.**

21 Q. -- on your hands. I was asking you what you got hit
22 for.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. You gave me some examples. Can you tell the Panel the
25 examples that you gave me?

1 **A. Well, if you made a mistake in reading, or if your**
2 **arithmetic was no good, or any mistake, then you were**
3 **taken up in front of all the boys and beaten on your --**
4 **on your hand with a ruler, not with the flat of the**
5 **ruler; the edge of the ruler.**

6 Q. You make the point later in your Inquiry statement in
7 paragraph 26 -- you say the education wasn't -- you say
8 the education was very poor, and I was asking you
9 earlier what you mean by that. You are saying you felt
10 there was much more concentration on being taught
11 religion and Latin --

12 **A. There was, yes.**

13 Q. -- than maths, English and geography.

14 **A. Uh-huh.**

15 Q. You made the point to me you didn't really understand
16 where England was in relation to Ireland.

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

18 Q. You make the point then in paragraph 10 of your
19 statement that your memory of the food that was in the
20 home isn't a positive memory, and, as I said to you
21 earlier, the Sisters have explained in their statement
22 that they did the best they could with food at the time.

23 I was asking you did you -- they have made the point
24 that the nuns ate the same food as the children. Do you
25 remember were the meals taken -- were the nuns eating

1 with you or did they -- did you see them eating food?

2 **A. No, no.**

3 Q. It was the boys ate together and then the nuns ate

4 somewhere else or at a different time or --

5 **A. Yes, yes. The nuns didn't eat with us. We were in**
6 **a refectory table, boys each side, and the nun would**
7 **walk up, and some of the food was terrible. Potatoes**
8 **were rotten. The nun would walk up and she had**
9 **a thimble on her finger, and if you weren't eating the**
10 **food, she'd bang on the top, "Eat up", with the thimble.**
11 **In them days you'd no receptacles to throw food away**
12 **what you don't like. It was there and you had to eat**
13 **it. Terrible.**

14 Q. When I was discussing with you earlier about eating the
15 same food, you gave me one example. On one occasion you
16 had to bring breakfast up to SR118 in her cubicle.

17 **A. I did, yes, yes.**

18 Q. You can't remember whether that was a special occasion
19 or --

20 **A. When she was in bed. Maybe she was ill or something.**
21 **I~don't know.**

22 Q. You remember that being bacon and eggs.

23 **A. Uh-huh.**

24 Q. That was the first time you had seen bacon that you
25 could remember.

1 **A. Uh-huh.**

2 Q. You were admitting to me many years now after it that
3 you stole a piece of the bacon.

4 **A. Just to taste it.**

5 Q. To break a piece off.

6 **A. We never had bacon.**

7 Q. You didn't have bacon as you were --

8 **A. No. We had no eggs or nothing. Our breakfast was**
9 **porridge with sour milk.**

10 Q. But that was only one occasion that you remember that
11 and that's the only occasion you saw bacon and eggs?

12 **A. Exactly. Exactly, yes.**

13 Q. What you then describe -- and I know this is very
14 difficult for you, so I am going to summarise it for you
15 -- in paragraph 12 of your statement you describe how
16 an older boy sexually abused you. He was someone who
17 worked in the , and he took you up there and
18 made you do something to him that the Panel are able to
19 read from your statement. I just want to be clear with
20 you that that was the only occasion that you were made
21 to engage in that type of activity. He just did that to
22 you once, where he made you touch him --

23 **A. Uh-huh. Terrible.**

24 Q. -- and there was nothing beyond that, but that's been
25 a horrible memory that's stuck with you through your

1 life.

2 **A. Not a frightening memory; terrifying --**

3 Q. Terrifying memory.

4 **A. -- which has caused me --**

5 Q. And you feel you were about 7?

6 **A. -- which caused me nightmares, nightmares. Yes, I was**
7 **about 7. A long time before the war. I could only have**
8 **been about 7, maybe 7 and a half, nothing more.**

9 **I remember it was terrifying.**

10 Q. And can you remember --

11 **A. I didn't know what was going on. I didn't.**

12 Q. Can you remember how much older he was than you?

13 **A. Oh --**

14 Q. If you can't, there's no problem.

15 **A. -- I would say about -- about 12 at least, maybe more.**

16 Q. He was a few years older than you --

17 **A. Uh-huh.**

18 Q. -- you think, looking back on it. You make the point he

19 took you to and that was a room he worked

20 in.

21 There then is a second incident that you describe
22 where he took you to the toilets and he removed your
23 clothing and used a sally rod, as you describe it, to
24 hit you with.

25 **A. Beat me, yes. Terrible.**

1 Q. You describe in paragraph 13 then that you think that
2 you told your brother NL 142 after he had left and
3 joined the navy, and he had come back to visit you on
4 one occasion in the home, and you told him about what
5 this boy had done, and you think that your brother gave
6 him a hiding, because he never came near you again after
7 that.

8 **A. I didn't tell him that he had --**

9 Q. You didn't tell him he touched you; you told him about
10 the beating.

11 **A. I told him he was beating -- he was always beating me
12 some time or other. I told him that, yes.**

13 Q. You didn't disclose to him about the sexual stuff?

14 **A. I was too ashamed to tell him about the sexual abuse.**

15 Q. That was the same for the nuns for the same reasons you
16 have given. You didn't feel able to talk to them
17 anyway.

18 **A. You couldn't tell them, because -- and if you did, you'd
19 be ashamed to say what happened.**

20 Q. I was asking you to describe, if you could, the number
21 of children compared to the number of nuns. You think
22 there were six or seven nuns who were working in
23 Nazareth Lodge --

24 **A. Uh-huh.**

25 Q. -- and 150 to 200 children. That's your --

1 **A. Something near, yes.**

2 Q. -- recollection. We will look into trying to establish
3 the precise figures, but there was a lot of children to
4 a small number of nuns. That's essentially what you're
5 saying.

6 **A. Uh-huh.**

7 Q. I made you aware earlier, HIA408, that in paragraph 11
8 of the Sisters' response at 1623 they acknowledge the
9 abuse that you suffered, describe it as shocking and
10 that shouldn't have been something that you had to
11 endure, and they are very sorry you did endure it. The
12 Inquiry will have to look into why that type of abuse
13 was possible in the home.

14 You then describe in paragraph 18 at 222 an incident
15 where you ran away and how SR118 was going to punish
16 you, and how another nun that is a positive memory that
17 you have of Nazareth Lodge, which was SR186, who is
18 SR186, who was , tried to stand up for
19 you --

20 **A. Of course, yes.**

21 Q. -- but you still were punished, and that punishment
22 involved having to kneel on the red tile floor and being
23 kept awake by an older boy --

24 **A. Uh-huh.**

25 Q. -- until SR118 decided that that was enough.

1 **A. Uh-huh.**

2 Q. You describe in paragraph 23 of your statement, HIA408,
3 that you were visited only by your godparent that you
4 can remember in the home.

5 **A. Uh-huh.**

6 Q. One of the things that you are unhappy about is that
7 nothing was done to have the brothers and sisters seeing
8 each other beyond the two who lived with you in the home
9 and that familial contact wasn't encouraged.

10 **A. Uh-huh.**

11 Q. Your experience after has been that, while you met your
12 other siblings, relationships were too late to be
13 formed.

14 **A. It was, yes.**

15 Q. That's a regret that you have --

16 **A. Uh-huh.**

17 Q. -- but you do have positive memories. One was SR186.
18 Do you want to tell the Panel what it was about her that
19 was positive?

20 **A. SR186, of course, she was and she was a**
21 **very kind woman and lovely. I felt that -- I knew she**
22 **wasn't my mother, but I felt she was, and she always --**
23 **she would always safeguard you from a hiding from SR118.**
24 **I used to talk to her a lot, you know.**

25 Q. You were explaining to me earlier she taught you to

1 .

2 A. Oh, yes, she taught me to play , which today
3 I can't. She taught me Latin, especially "Adeste
4 Fideles". In English it is "Oh, come all you faithful",
5 but I didn't know. She was the sort of woman that if
6 she'd have stayed with me till I got older, I would have
7 been something in later life, but she died fairly young,
8 and I really loved her, and even today I pray for her
9 every day -- not today; tomorrow, every day. She was
10 a lovely woman.

11 Q. That's a positive memory that you --

12 A. Oh, she was a lovely woman.

13 Q. -- hold on to. Also in paragraph 11 of your statement
14 you talk about Christmas time and how that's a positive
15 recollection that you have.

16 A. Uh-huh. Christmas time when we were on the farm. Oh,
17 in the convent?

18 Q. In the home.

19 A. In the convent Christmas Eve we went outside to the
20 other world. The convent was all iron -- it was like
21 an open prison.

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. Christmas Eve we went out to the cinema to see Mickey
24 Mouse. That's how young I was. On the way in there was
25 a man there and he gave you a paper bag, a brown paper

1 bag. It had an orange, an apple and three sweets, and
2 that was your Christmas box, and we cherished that.
3 That was something personal, and we didn't particularly
4 watch Mickey Mouse. We were watching the curtains and
5 the lovely lights shining, boom, and we wondered who was
6 pulling the curtains. We didn't know nothing about
7 technical advances like today, you know. We knew
8 nothing. It was absolute --

9 Q. A different type of experience --

10 A. We knew nothing.

11 Q. -- from places in the home.

12 HIA408, you then explain in paragraphs 19 through to
13 21 of your statement about you leaving the home to go
14 out to work on the farms.

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. You were explaining to me earlier -- can you just
17 explain to the Panel how you were selected -- that
18 experience of NL82 and NL83 coming into the home. Can
19 you explain how you were picked?

20 A. Well, SR118 took twelve boys and took them to the Mother
21 Superior and lined us up, and this woman and her son --
22 I knew it was her son, because I was told -- NL83 and
23 her son -- I forget his name -- and they walked up and
24 down by the boys and looked up and down, up and down all
25 of us, like objects, and she said, "Sister, I will have

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

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

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

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

16 A. I went to near , --

17 Q. And --

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

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

7 **Q. Yes.**

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

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

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

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

17 **A. Yes.**

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

20 **A. Yes.**

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

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

25 **Q. And --**

1 is that at the end of the Panel's work the Panel have to
2 consider recommendations that they might make to the
3 Northern Ireland Executive, to the Government about
4 three different general areas. One is about some form
5 of apology, or some form of memorial, or some other
6 means of redress.

7 I was identifying in your statement at paragraph 27,
8 224, you make the point that an apology is important and
9 compensation. Is there anything you want to say to the
10 Panel about the recommendations they might consider
11 making and why you have the views that you have?

12 **A. No, I don't -- don't -- I don't have an idea what to**
13 **say, you know.**

14 Q. You have said what you want to say about it. Is that
15 right?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. I said to you that the last question that we ask every
18 witness is whether there's anything else they want to
19 say to the Panel, because this is your opportunity to
20 say what you want to say about what occurred to you when
21 you were in Nazareth Lodge. Maybe I haven't covered
22 something properly or haven't covered it in enough
23 detail or didn't cover it at all. Now is your
24 opportunity to say if there's anything else that you
25 want to say to the Panel.

1 **A. I don't think so, no.**

2 Q. We have covered the -- we have skimmed over the very
3 difficult bits that are very difficult for you, but you
4 felt that we have covered them in enough detail. The
5 Panel are aware of it, having read it, in any event.
6 There is nothing else you want to say?

7 **A. I don't think so, no.**

8 Q. If you bear with me, HIA408, for a short while, the
9 Panel may want to ask you one or two things in a similar
10 vein to our discussions. So just bear with me for
11 a moment.

12 Questions from THE PANEL

13 CHAIRMAN: HIA408, you told us about being taken to work on
14 a farm in , first of all, and then going to
15 other farms, one in Fermanagh and one somewhere else
16 near . Can you tell us anything about how
17 the decision was taken to move you to another farm? Did
18 the nuns take you back to Belfast first or did the
19 farmer just put you on a bus or a train or something?

20 **A. When I was with NL82 and NL83, sometimes he beat me with
21 a cudgel, you know.**

22 Q. Yes.

23 **A. Not every day, not -- just sometimes, and this day -- I
24 don't know -- I was getting towards 14, and he was a big
25 tall man, you know, and I don't know what made me do it,**

1 but I took his hat off. I had hold of the stick and hit
2 him over the head, which I shouldn't have done, but
3 I did. The next thing I ran to . How I knew
4 where was I don't know, because I had never
5 been there before. Anyway I went and found NL83, his
6 wife. The next thing is I was back in the convent
7 again, and when I was in the convent after a few weeks
8 or a couple of months -- I don't know -- a farmer come
9 up and he was looking for a boy, because in them days
10 the farmers -- they hired boys out, you know. You were
11 like a slave. You were hired out. You weren't asked
12 did you want to go or was it okay. You were just hired
13 out. I said to the nun -- I said, "I am not working for
14 that farmer unless he pays me". He said, "Oh, I will
15 pay", he said. He paid me 7 and 6 a week. In today's
16 money that is 5p a day, 5p. Then I worked for him for
17 a little while.

18 Then I went to another farm in Fermanagh,
19 . Then I was working there for a little while.
20 I saved up enough money to get to England. I saved 3
21 quid. It took me a long, long time, but when I went to
22 get my ticket, it was £3.50 in them days, and you had to
23 have a passport, which I didn't, but eventually I got
24 a passport.

25 Then I came to England, to London, travelled all the

1 way from Belfast to London, no food, no water, because
2 I had no money, and when I came to Portobello Road the
3 lived in and he said to me, "HIA408, where is
4 your suitcase?" I said, "Suitcase, sir? What am
5 I going to put in a suitcase? I have only got what I'm
6 wearing" and that was it. Things were -- and you didn't
7 know nothing.

8 I remember when I got off the train, I said to this
9 soldier, "Could you tell me where Portobello Road is?"
10 He said, "You get a number 7 bus". I said, "I have got
11 no money for a bus", and I asked a policeman and he
12 said, "Number 7". I said, "I have got no money". Then
13 I met another soldier and told him I want to go to
14 Portobello Road. He said, "You had best go down the
15 underground". I said, "What are you on about,
16 underground station? I don't know what he is talking
17 about". So he said, "You go down these steps and that".
18 I said, "But I have got no money for the underground".
19 So he gave me a thrupenny piece, the old one with the
20 coat, and I got on the train, and I went round and round
21 and round, because I didn't know that you had to look
22 out the window and see where you were with each station.
23 I didn't know, because I had never been on the train
24 before, and eventually I got off the train and went and
25 seen the and I worked there for a while, you

1 **know.**

2 Q. Thank you.

3 MS DOHERTY: Thanks very much, HIA408. Can I just ask do
4 you think that the nuns were aware of the older boys
5 bullying the younger boys? Do you think they knew about
6 that?

7 **A. What, the nuns? No, no, they didn't.**

8 Q. They didn't?

9 **A. First and foremost, we were afraid of the nuns.**

10 **Secondly, we weren't allowed to talk to them. So we**
11 **weren't allowed to talk to them.**

12 Q. But do you think were they around any of the times that
13 the older boys were hitting the younger boys? Were any
14 of the nuns around?

15 **A. You couldn't tell the nuns nothing. You couldn't tell**
16 **nothing, and if you did tell them the boys -- they'd --**
17 **they'd just ignore you. You would have nobody. You**
18 **were just an object. They didn't -- they didn't enquire**
19 **how was your health or how was your -- "HIA408, is**
20 **everything okay?" You were asked nothing. It was just**
21 **all Latin and prayers, and when I think about it now,**
22 **they were committing a sin every day punishing boys for**
23 **no reason just because they wet the bed. Next thing**
24 **they were in the church praying. It's contradictory.**
25 **They were religious one way and not religious the other**

1 way. Terrible. Terrible. A lot of English people say
2 to me today when I tell them about it -- they say, "And
3 you are still going to church", and I say, "Well, that's
4 the way I was brought up", you know. They can't believe
5 why I still go to church.

6 Q. I know you didn't tell the nuns about what happened or
7 didn't feel able to tell the nuns about what happened,
8 but I am just wondering were the nuns -- when older boys
9 were in charge, were the nuns not around at all when the
10 older boys --

11 A. No.

12 Q. So they --

13 A. When we went to bed, the nuns said, "Goodnight,
14 children". "Goodnight, Sister." That's when the older
15 boys came out with the brushes. They didn't hit one or
16 two boys. Boom, boom, boom, boom, right round.
17 Terrible, terrible, and I often wonder today if I knew
18 them and I met them, what would I do? Would I set about
19 them or would I ignore them? I don't know. Terrible.

20 Q. Thanks very much. Thanks, HIA408.

21 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA408, thank you very much for coming to
22 speak to us.

23 A. Thank you.

24 Q. I am sure you will be glad to hear those are the only
25 questions we have to ask you. We appreciate that you

1 have come to speak to us, particularly since you had to
2 come quite a long way today to get to speak to us, but
3 thank you very much for coming.

4 **A. Thank you very much. Thank you.**

5 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, HIA408 can take
6 his leave and get a cup of tea, if that would ...

7 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

8 (Witness withdrew)

9 WITNESS STATEMENT OF AND DOCUMENTS RELATING TO HIA427 DEALT
10 WITH BY COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

11 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, a slight change
12 to our timetable for today, and another witness that we
13 are going to deal with is the evidence of HIA427, who is
14 "HIA427". He unfortunately passed away on

15 . He provided his witness statement to the
16 Inquiry four days previously on .

17 That can be found at 562, SNB-562, please, and it runs
18 through to SNB-568. That was executed in the presence
19 of his solicitor.

20 If we can bring up, please, 562. Then if we can
21 move through to SNB-568, you will see in the right-hand
22 side in addition to the signature, which does lie under
23 the redaction:

24 "In the presence of his solicitor, Miss Connolly."

25 You may recall, Members of the Panel, that I opened

1 HIA427's statement as far as it related to Rubane on Day
2 57 of the Inquiry, which was 8th October of 2014, and on
3 that occasion HIA427's solicitor, Miss Connolly,
4 attended on behalf of the family. Neither Miss Connolly
5 nor members of HIA427's family were able to attend today
6 and indeed, Chairman, you made it clear on Day 57 that
7 it was not necessary for them to do so, but they are
8 aware that I am going to open HIA427's statement today
9 as far as it relates to his time in Nazareth Lodge.

10 In addition to the witness statement from HIA427
11 there is a psychiatric report of 22nd July 2013 from
12 Dr Gerry McDonald, which was part of HIA427's ongoing
13 civil claim against both the Sisters of Nazareth and the
14 De La Salle Order. That runs from SNB-1663 to 1672, and
15 its content is similar to the Inquiry statement.

16 There then is an affidavit from HIA427 of
17 31st January 2013 as part of the civil proceedings.
18 That runs from SNB-72093 to 72096.

19 The Sisters of Nazareth have provided a response to
20 HIA427's evidence, which runs from 1649 to 1650, but
21 then with exhibits that run from 1651 to 1696, and in
22 the main that is copies of the pleadings and medicals
23 from the ongoing civil proceedings.

24 Then there is a response statement from the Health &
25 Social Care Board, which is at 5553 through to 5554, and

1 essentially that statement points out that HIA427's time
2 in Nazareth Lodge was a privately arranged placement.
3 You may recall that when he moved to Rubane, that was
4 also a private placement, but he eventually came under
5 the care of the Special Education Authority midway
6 through his time in Rubane.

7 In addition, of relevance in terms of core material
8 relating to HIA427 is a witness statement from another
9 Inquiry witness, who will give evidence later this week,
10 and that's HIA183, and the relevant part of his evidence
11 is paragraph 5 of his statement at SNB-522, which I will
12 come back to shortly.

13 In summary, Chairman, Members of the Panel, HIA427
14 was born on and so he was 69 when he
15 passed away in February last year. He explains to the
16 Inquiry that he went into St. Joseph's Babies' Home and
17 then moved to Nazareth Lodge when he was 5 years old.
18 His register entry, which is at 4529 and 4530, confirms
19 that he entered Nazareth Lodge on 1st September 1949,
20 aged 5, and remained there until 20th August 1956, when
21 he moved to Rubane, aged 12, as part of the yearly
22 transfer of Nazareth Lodge boys to Kircubbin.

23 In summary, he describes his time in Nazareth Lodge
24 as characterised by fear and with regular physical
25 assaults by nuns. If we can look, please, at

1 paragraph 5 of his statement at 563, where he makes that
2 point.

3 Then in paragraph 9 he identifies four nuns as being
4 particularly cruel to him. He identifies SR100, SR151,
5 SR34 and SR118. Of course, with all of these names none
6 of them should be reported beyond the chamber. In
7 paragraph 9 he describes the punishment he received as
8 a result of bedwetting. You can see what he says
9 happened to him in terms of being strapped and wet and
10 dirty sheets being put over him and subject to cold
11 baths. Obviously this is now 1949 to 1956, so long
12 after the 1927 Ministry of Home Affairs' visit.

13 In paragraph 10 he describes the assaults of SR100,
14 who is "SR100". He said she was very rough and loved
15 hitting him. He gives some examples of that.

16 Then in paragraph 11 he describes two nuns who were
17 extremely rough. One was SR151, "SR151", but the other
18 is SR118, "SR118":

19 "They beat me often and I was constantly afraid and
20 anxious."

21 Now as to that if we can move through, please, to
22 SNB-522, which is the statement from HIA183, and,
23 Members of the Panel, you will see here HIA183 is
24 describing being punished a couple of times when he was
25 5 or 6 years old for something trivial:

1 "... put in a freezing cold bath by SR118, placed in
2 the cold water and then the cold water poured over my
3 head about half a dozen times. I remember on one
4 occasion I was punished in this manner along with
5 another boy called HIA427", so that's HIA427, "who was
6 my age. He had special needs and was not always in
7 control of his bowels. I was punished first. SR118
8 then ordered me out of the bath and told HIA427 to get
9 undressed. I realised HIA427 had soiled his underpants.
10 SR118 took his soiled underpants and violently and
11 cruelly rubbed them in his face. Until my dying day
12 I will never forget what happened or what SR118 was
13 capable of. HIA427 was only 7 years old and the
14 experience had a profound effect on me."

15 Then he indicates that he visited HIA427 when he was
16 dying of cancer.

17 If we go back to HIA427's statement at paragraph 12
18 on 564, in addition to describing the assaults of nuns
19 HIA427 says that:

20 "Nuns had older boys who were considered", he says,
21 "to be their pets and were allowed to tell you what to
22 do and would often hit you."

23 He says:

24 "They would pull your hair, hit you against a wall
25 or hit you on the head."

1 He lived in fear of them. He says here graphically
2 what some of the older boys made him do on one occasion.
3 He then describes some other individuals -- some of
4 those individuals who he says were the older boys who
5 beat him.

6 He then describes in paragraph 13 how the punishment
7 for wetting and soiling was being strapped and how the
8 older boys would have held you down whilst that was
9 happening.

10 He then makes the point in paragraph 16 of his
11 statement that:

12 "No-one from the outside world ever came in to see
13 the boys during my stay."

14 He recalls one occasion when a man took him out and
15 he got to the cinema. His family were kind to him, but
16 that's the only occasion that he remembers that
17 occurring.

18 If we can look, please, at SNB-1650 and paragraph 6,
19 which is the response from the congregation, and it
20 makes the point the Sisters HIA427 refers to are now
21 deceased and therefore can't speak for themselves. The
22 congregation therefore offers HIA427 an unreserved and
23 sincere apology for any treatment he received from any
24 Sister which fell below the acceptable standard.

25 That's what I propose to say. Obviously, Members of

1 the Panel, you have the documentation and are aware of
2 HIA427's background from Day 57. Unless there is
3 anything else I can assist with at this stage that's
4 what I propose to say about his evidence.

5 CHAIRMAN: I don't think so. Thank you.

6 MR AIKEN: I know that Ms Smith is taking the next witness.
7 I am not sure whether she will shortly be in a position
8 to do that. Perhaps that's something we could review.

9 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Well, I think this witness was scheduled
10 for this afternoon. Is that right?

11 MR AIKEN: Yes. I believe --

12 CHAIRMAN: We will rise now and we will be able to tell
13 everybody in a few minutes when we will hope to resume.
14 So, if possible, we will try and complete the witness'
15 evidence before lunch, but that may not be possible. So
16 we will let you know, ladies and gentlemen, in just
17 a few minutes.

18 (12.07 pm)

19 (Short break)

20 (12.25 pm)

21 WITNESS HIA99 (called)

22 MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, the next witness today
23 is HIA99. He is "HIA99". HIA99 is happy to take a
24 religious oath and wishes to maintain the anonymity that
25 has been afforded to him by the Inquiry.

1 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

2 WITNESS HIA99 (sworn)

3 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, HIA99. Please sit down.

4 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

5 MS SMITH: HIA99, just before I come to speak to you I am
6 just going to tell the Panel and Chairman that your
7 statement can be found at SNB-274 to 282.

8 The congregation's response is at 1628 to 1630.

9 The Health & Social Care Board response at 5661 to
10 5662, and they simply say that they believe this was
11 a private placement and they have no records relating to
12 HIA99's time in care, and there are also civil claim
13 papers which can be found at 70607 through to 70616.

14 If we could put up HIA99's statement, please, which
15 is at 274, SNB-274. HIA99, can you see the screen in
16 front of you clearly?

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. Hopefully you will be able to read it and follow what
19 I am reading out to you.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. This is, as you will see it says, "The Witness Statement
22 of HIA99" and that's where your name is recorded. If we
23 could just go to the last page at 282, please, SNB-282.
24 The system seems to -- there we go. You will see,
25 HIA99, there rather than your name we have put a black

1 box over that saying "HIA99".

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. Can you just confirm that you signed this statement on
4 9th July of last year?

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. And that you want the Inquiry to consider this as your
7 evidence together with anything else you tell us today?

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. Thank you. Now, HIA99, going back to the first page of
10 your statement, your personal details are set out at
11 paragraphs 1 and 2. You are now 84 years of age. Isn't
12 that correct?

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

14 Q. You recall at paragraph 6 -- paragraph 3 -- apologies --
15 that you went to Nazareth Lodge. You don't know the
16 dates, but from what we have been able to ascertain that
17 was in April 1937, but your memory is of walking up the
18 drive with your mother. You would have been 6 at that
19 stage. She left you there and you asked why she didn't
20 come back to collect you. You asked people in the home
21 and you kept being told she would come back tomorrow,
22 but that never happened.

23 You go on then to describe you were there until
24 1941, and we will talk about you leaving, but at
25 paragraph 4 of the statement you talk about what

1 bathtime was like in the home. You said you got bathed
2 every Saturday. There usually would have been three
3 boys in the bath at the same time and you remember it as
4 a big bath that you had.

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

6 Q. You say that -- you go on to talk about the treatment
7 that you received in the home for wetting the bed and
8 you say:

9 "I wet the bed when I was at Nazareth Lodge.

10 I remember an occasion when I had wet the bed and was
11 taken to a bathroom where the bath had been filled up
12 with cold water. SR118 ...",

13 and you will be aware that this is the designation
14 we have given to a nun whom you knew as SR118.

15 **A. Right.**

16 Q. She was the nun in charge. She was a bulky woman who
17 was in her 30s or 40s. She told you to get into the
18 bath, but the water was so cold that it took your breath
19 away. Two bigger and older boys held you down in the
20 bath until the water was nearly up to your chin. She
21 was standing in the middle of the bathroom watching the
22 boys push you down.

23 "Another boy filled a bucket with cold water and
24 repeatedly threw it over my head to the point of making
25 me feel like I was drowning. SR118 told me to get out

1 of the bath and made me lie on the bathroom floor on my
2 stomach. She had a big thick leather belt and
3 repeatedly hit me on my backside with it. She could
4 have hit me 100 times, but I never felt it, because my
5 bottom was numb after the cold bath water."

6 You say that happened to you frequently and you had
7 to endure the same punishment each time. I take it by
8 that you mean each time you wet the bed. You assumed
9 this was also happening to other boys, because:

10 "When the boys were getting punished for whatever
11 reason, a crowd of us were made to stand in the corridor
12 outside the bathroom door to hear what they were going
13 through."

14 You can't remember the names of the boys who would
15 have assisted the nun in this way.

16 You then go on, HIA99 -- just before I can move on
17 to that, you are aware, and I told you this, that the
18 congregation have given us a statement in response to
19 what you say about your time in Nazareth Lodge.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. They at paragraph 7 of their response statement at
22 SNB-1629 -- and I don't need to open that -- but what
23 they say essentially is that they accept that the
24 methods used were not acceptable in relation to children
25 who wet the bed and that they are remorseful that they

1 didn't assist you in a satisfactory manner for the
2 difficulties you had with bedwetting.

3 Paragraph 5 of your witness statement you go on to
4 talk about when you first started wetting the bed:

5 "... the bigger boys came along and woke us up out
6 of our beds to go to the toilet in the middle of the
7 night."

8 **A. That is correct.**

9 Q. You say you were annoyed about that, and you do remember
10 one occasion when you wet the bed, and a boy said to you
11 he wouldn't tell Sister if you did something for him.
12 You say he then put his penis into your mouth and he was
13 laughing. It is only one occasion that you remember
14 that happening. You don't remember the name of the boy,
15 but you were afraid that it was going to happen to you
16 again, and you were afraid that it was going to happen
17 to you at night.

18 Now can I just pause there and ask this boy who did
19 this to you, was he an older boy, HIA99?

20 **A. An older boy, yes.**

21 Q. And can you remember what age these older boys were who
22 treated you this way in the bathroom and --

23 **A. Well, they looked man size, not fully, but a good few
24 years older. I would have been terrified of them
25 anyway. Put it that way.**

1 Q. You talked at paragraph 6 here about a memory you have
2 in the home about a particular boy whom you name. You
3 remember seeing him in the toilets. You describe how he
4 looked there. You say he was in a lot of pain and you
5 felt very sorry for him. You saw the injuries that he
6 had or how his back passages looked when he was in the
7 bath. At the time as a child you just felt sorry for
8 him. I think what you said to me you were glad that it
9 wasn't you, because he was crying with pain at the time,
10 and now with that memory you look back and you believe
11 that that boy must have suffered sexual abuse and that
12 that caused the injuries --

13 **A. Yes, indeed.**

14 Q. -- but that is only something that you have thought
15 about in later life, HIA99. Am I right?

16 **A. That is correct, yes.**

17 Q. You can't say for sure why he was in the state that he
18 was. Isn't that right?

19 **A. No.**

20 Q. Another thing you talk about is how runaways were
21 treated, the boys who ran away from Nazareth Lodge, at
22 paragraph 7 here. You do remember a boy running away,
23 but you don't remember what age he was, and that when he
24 came back, you were again made to stand out in the
25 corridor outside the bathroom. You did not see what

1 happened in the bathroom, but two of the bigger boys
2 came out and their clothes were soaking. So you think
3 that they were pushing him into the bath in the same way
4 as they had done that to you.

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

6 Q. You remember SR118 coming out of the bathroom, her face
7 being red, and you say her face was red the way it was
8 when she was hitting you with the strap.

9 **A. That's correct.**

10 Q. So your belief is that really this runaway child
11 received the same type of punishment that you had
12 received for wetting the bed.

13 **A. That's correct.**

14 Q. You say you never thought about running away, because
15 you didn't have anywhere to go to in any case.

16 **A. Indeed.**

17 Q. So just before I move on from that, HIA99, the sexual
18 abuse that you say that you suffered on the one occasion
19 that you did, do you think the nuns would have been
20 aware that such behaviour was happening in the home?

21 **A. I don't think so.**

22 Q. Just again about the older boys, you talk in
23 paragraph 11 here about being -- sorry. Just before we
24 move on there, paragraph 9, you said that the older boys
25 dined with the nuns and you used to see them eating

1 meat.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. The nuns had a separate refectory. Isn't that correct,
4 or do you remember that?

5 **A. Yes, they would have been -- they would have been dining**
6 **themselves -- with themselves, but I did on occasions**
7 **see boys dining with the nuns, the older boys.**

8 Q. And could you see into the nuns' refectory or did that
9 happen in the refectory where you had to eat? Can you
10 remember?

11 **A. It was on one or two occasions I would have seen.**

12 Q. Because the nuns would say that they ate as a community
13 apart from the children.

14 **A. Oh, they did. Oh, they didn't dine with us or anything**
15 **like that. Oh, no, they never. They wouldn't, but on**
16 **occasions I seen the boys dining with the nuns. Once or**
17 **twice I would have seen.**

18 Q. Just talking -- going back to these older boys, and at
19 paragraph 11 there you talk about the boy -- they were
20 responsible for combing your hair, for example:

21 "They lined us up and combed our hair in turn."

22 You remember one day you were given the comb to look
23 after, but lost it when you were out playing in the
24 field, and you spent the whole day praying to
25 St. Anthony to help you to find the comb. So you missed

1 out playing with the other children as a result of that.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. You don't know what would have happened to you if you
4 didn't find it, but St. Anthony turned it up I take it.

5 **A. I don't know what would have happened to me, but I was
6 terrified what the outcome might be.**

7 Q. And I take it St. Anthony came to the good and turned
8 the comb up for you?

9 **A. Yes, indeed.**

10 Q. In any event, just about these older boys, one of the
11 things that you described here is them being responsible
12 for combing your hair. Did they have other
13 responsibilities in respect of you younger boys or what
14 can you remember about how things were in the home in
15 respect of them?

16 **A. I would have been vaguely aware that they were in
17 charge, but I just can't pinpoint it actually, but they
18 seemed to be in charge a good deal too -- when the nuns
19 weren't about, that is.**

20 Q. Was this every older boy in the home or was it just
21 a group of older boys? Can you remember?

22 **A. They seemed to be the same age group. They weren't --
23 they didn't stand out any different. They always seemed
24 to be the same age group, but they were a lot older.
25 Put it this way. We were afraid of them if they got**

1 **angry.**

2 Q. In paragraph 17 you talk again a little bit more there
3 about the older boys. You remember -- for example, you
4 remember being -- you say that in the home you wore
5 sandals most of the time, but you remember being at the
6 nuns' cemetery and being made to wear shoes that were so
7 tight you could barely fit your feet into them.

8 **A. That is correct, yes.**

9 Q. I will come back to that in a moment. You couldn't walk
10 in the shoes, but:

11 "The bigger boys escorted the younger boys and hit
12 us with sticks to move us on."

13 I think you gave me a little bit more detail about
14 what you were doing in the cemetery. It was
15 a procession round the nuns' cemetery in May.

16 **A. Yes. It would have been about May, and older boys would**
17 **have carried the statue of Our Lady round the cemetery**
18 **where the nuns were buried, and this was a ritual every**
19 **May, and we would have followed them, and that would**
20 **have been the case, and we would have been walking. Now**
21 **I am not 100% sure whether I wore sandals or shoes on**
22 **that particular occasion. It was either there or at the**
23 **beach in Tyrella or Newcastle once a year when that**
24 **occurred.**

25 Q. That's when you had to wear these shoes --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- that didn't fit, but in this you talk about the
3 bigger boys escorting the younger boys and hitting them
4 with sticks to move on.

5 **A. Prodding them, pushing them on, yes.**

6 Q. You say they seemed to be in a privileged position --

7 **A. Oh --**

8 Q. -- and you describe them as older and bigger than you.

9 **A. -- they were always in a privileged position, always.**

10 Q. One of the things -- you talk in paragraph 21 there
11 about them basically bullying the younger boys. Just
12 this is when you are talking -- these are your
13 reminiscences of Nazareth Lodge during the wartime
14 period.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. At night when you were lying in bed:

17 " ... the bigger boys came up to us with a hurley or
18 a baseball bat and came down on our bodies with them.
19 They were shouting at us to keep our head under the
20 blankets. If we dared to put our head out from under
21 the blanket, the bigger boys would have come down on us
22 with the bats. I cannot remember how often this
23 happened, but I was scared and thought they might
24 smother us. It didn't happen every night, but it
25 happened more times than I felt comfortable with."

1 Looking back on it now, you understand that you were
2 made to keep your heads under the blankets so you
3 couldn't witness any of the sexual abuse by the older
4 boys on the younger boys --

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

6 Q. -- and that's you think was why they were carrying out
7 this behaviour.

8 **A. The part that I was afraid of was getting smothered.**
9 **I wasn't thinking of the sexual abuse.**

10 Q. But can I just ask did the older boys share the
11 dormitory with the younger boys?

12 **A. On one occasion there was an older boy was in the bed**
13 **beside me where the sexual abuse took place. That's the**
14 **one occasion I can pinpoint to an older boy in a bed**
15 **beside me.**

16 Q. This is --

17 **A. I can't really say to you yes, they shared beds, or if**
18 **they did and shared them further along the dormitory,**
19 **I wouldn't have been aware of it, but I would have said**
20 **they would be somewhere about. It's most likely they**
21 **shared the dormitory if they were doing that in the**
22 **first place.**

23 Q. Now the boy that you said he was in the bed beside you,
24 that's the boy you say abused you.

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. What about the nuns? Where would they have been at
2 night-time?

3 **A. Well, the nuns had a cell in the dormitory. I can't be**
4 **specifically sure that they had one in the attic area,**
5 **but in the dormitory below, which I spent the time**
6 **there, they had a cell there and it had a window and**
7 **they could have looked down the dormitory through this**
8 **window if so be it.**

9 Q. Well, now one of the things again -- you have described
10 that these older boys essentially bullied and physically
11 struck you on occasion.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. Is it possible that the nuns didn't know about this?

14 **A. Quite possible, yes.**

15 Q. I think what you said to me is that they couldn't have
16 been aware of what was going on behind their backs and
17 the boys wouldn't have done this in front of them.

18 **A. Oh, no, I don't think they would have dared to have done**
19 **them in front of the nuns.**

20 Q. Paragraphs 8 and 9 of your statement you talk about the
21 food in the home. You describe it as poor, but I think
22 in fairness what you are saying is that by today's
23 standards you would describe it as poor. Would that be
24 right?

25 **A. Well, that's true.**

1 Q. At the time you just took what you were given.

2 **A. I didn't feel hungry. I got by.**

3 Q. You do talk about one incident, though, where you were
4 made to eat all of the meal, including a rotten potato,
5 by SR118, and you said that you did that because you
6 were frightened of what might have happened if you
7 didn't eat up.

8 **A. Yes, and I might have felt that was an exception,**
9 **because I was the only one that left something on the**
10 **plate.**

11 Q. I think you said that your view was this particular nun
12 picked on you for some reason.

13 **A. Yes, I always had that feeling, yes.**

14 Q. Just one of the things that the congregation would say
15 was that the food that they provided was essentially the
16 best that they could and you would accept that I take
17 it.

18 **A. I would indeed, yes.**

19 Q. And that they would also say that nobody was force fed
20 in any way.

21 **A. No, no.**

22 Q. You do have good memories, and you talk about these in
23 your statement. You talk about Christmas at
24 paragraph 10 there. You looked forward to Christmas,
25 because it was a time when you felt comfortable in the

1 Nazareth Lodge. You were given toys to play with on
2 Christmas Day, but you didn't get to keep them. Do you
3 know what happened to the toys afterwards?

4 **A. No, I wouldn't, unless they were recycled to the**
5 **following year.**

6 Q. You don't remember birthdays ever being celebrated and
7 you didn't know what birthdays were until you were
8 older.

9 **A. I didn't know what birth... -- no, I didn't know what**
10 **birthdays were.**

11 Q. You have also talked in paragraph 12 there about being
12 happy at school. The teachers concentrated on the
13 children who were the brightest, but you have no
14 complaints about the teachers. They were good people.
15 You felt safe and secure in the classrooms, and you
16 particularly remember a civilian man teaching you there.

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. You also -- you didn't have any difficulties with the
19 religious regime in the home.

20 **A. No.**

21 Q. You were happy with the prayers and with going to chapel
22 and that.

23 Apart from the fact that in paragraphs 17 you say --
24 and 18, where you talk about the tight shoes that you
25 were given and the older boys making you wear underwear

1 that was too tight for you, you have no complaints to
2 make about the clothing. Isn't that right, HIA99?

3 **A. The underwear, that annoyed me badly, because I was**
4 **vulnerable. There was plenty of underwear available**
5 **that would have fit me that I didn't have to wet the**
6 **underwear to get out of them to go to the toilet and**
7 **this seemed to be always happening with me.**

8 Q. This was the older boys who were giving you these
9 clothes?

10 **A. Yes. Indeed, yes.**

11 Q. So they had that responsibility in the home as well?

12 **A. Yes, and on occasions the nuns would have been in the**
13 **bathroom at some time or another when we would have been**
14 **going into our underwear.**

15 Q. What do you mean by that?

16 **A. Well, they would have been just there to see that**
17 **everything was going according to plan as far as the**
18 **getting washed and whatever. It wasn't -- and maybe**
19 **coming out of bath time as well, and that's the time**
20 **that I felt uneasy having to wear -- and went to the**
21 **toilet, and I would have wet myself before I got to the**
22 **toilet, because the underwear was that tight.**

23 Q. One of the other things, just coming back there, you
24 don't -- you talk about the -- at paragraphs 19 and 20
25 about the chores that you carried out. You said

1 Nazareth Lodge itself was -- you say it was warm enough.
2 Your bedding was scrupulously clean. You remember there
3 were about fifty boys in the dormitory and the beds were
4 lined up in rows. You say SR118 would check the
5 dormitory, and if the beds weren't perfectly in line,
6 you had to fix them. The boys you shared with would
7 have been around your age, but it was the older boys
8 that you would have been concerned about. So you have
9 a memory of the older boys still being in that dormitory
10 with you.

11 **A. Not particularly. We always seemed to work together**
12 **getting the beds in line. They had to be in line.**

13 Q. You talk about the polishing the floors, but you didn't
14 consider that -- you quite enjoyed that.

15 **A. Well, I took that in my stride, because I felt I was in**
16 **my own group of boys and was doing something. The**
17 **only -- I always tried to make it in the middle of the**
18 **group that was on the floor so as I wouldn't have been**
19 **on the outside and somebody would take a kick. I always**
20 **felt vulnerable on the outside. I always wanted to be**
21 **on the inside every time. I felt safer.**

22 Q. Now at paragraph 14, just going back to that
23 paragraph in your statement, you talk about this nun
24 SR118 and you say she was very much in charge in
25 Nazareth Lodge.

1 You talk about another nun in the home, whom we have
2 given here the designation "SR100". Just to make it
3 clear who we are talking about, this was SR100.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. Again the names are not to be used outside.

6 **A. SR100.**

7 Q. You say she never inflicted punishment on you herself,
8 but she condoned what was going on around her. You say:

9 "She witnessed what SR118 was doing to us and was
10 acting in a supporting role to her. There were other
11 nuns as well, but I didn't really have much contact with
12 them, as they were not directly looking after us."

13 You draw a distinction then in the next paragraph,
14 HIA99, between these two nuns and another nun, "SR186",
15 who was SR186.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. You say she was a nun who stands out for different
18 reasons. She was like a motherly figure to the boys.
19 You don't know if she was aware of what was going on in
20 Nazareth Lodge in the dormitories or in the bathroom,
21 but she gave you the only comfort in that place.

22 Whenever she was there, you felt protected and she
23 showed you affection. She was often unwell and had to
24 go away because of her ill health, and you used to pray
25 she would get better so she could come back and look

1 after you again.

2 **A. That's correct.**

3 Q. When she was away, SR118 was in charge and the abuse
4 would have happened again. It was like that until after
5 you left Nazareth Lodge. SR186 has since passed away
6 and you yourself have gone to visit her grave.

7 **A. Yes. There was a gloom came over the whole place
8 whenever SR186 went away with ill health.**

9 Q. And the atmosphere changed in the home when she wasn't
10 there?

11 **A. Oh, very much so, yes.**

12 Q. We talked there -- if we look at paragraph 21, you talk
13 about your memories of the Lodge during the war years,
14 and you talk there about the bigger boys, but at
15 paragraph 22 you remember staying in the attic during
16 the war and looking out of the window and seeing the
17 docks area lit up with flames during the air raid.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. "We were moved again from the attic down to the bottom
20 floor, where we had to sit on the floor with blankets
21 over us, because it was so cold. Workmen ..."

22 I take it this was in case there was an actual
23 direct hit at the top of the building?

24 **A. Yes, that's right.**

25 Q. "Workmen built stone blast walls around the bottom of

1 the home to protect us against broken glass."

2 You remember:

3 "SR118 was walking around the room with her large
4 rosary beads, repeating the decades of the rosary, and
5 asking us to pray that the Germans would beat the
6 Russians, because the Russians didn't believe in God."

7 **A. That's correct.**

8 Q. You remember an occasion where you got in trouble,
9 because as she came past you, you passed wind. The next
10 morning she took you to the bathroom and you were
11 punished in the way that you have described, and she
12 said that you disrespected her.

13 **A. That's correct.**

14 Q. This is an example of one of the reasons why you felt
15 that she picked on you.

16 **A. I had that feeling, yes --**

17 Q. And --

18 **A. -- but it didn't take that one incident to cause that.**
19 **That was -- she was like that from I went there for my**
20 **experience with her, but that was one incident and it**
21 **wasn't planned obviously.**

22 Q. But this was one incident that sticks in your memory --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- of the kind of thing that might have happened that
25 led to you being punished by her.

1 **A. Yes, she might that felt that.**

2 Q. In paragraph -- sorry. Just before I move on from that,
3 again I have read out to you what the Sisters said in
4 their response statement about the fact they now offer
5 you an unreserved and sincere apology for any treatment
6 you received at the hands of any Sister which fell below
7 the acceptable standard.

8 We will come back to talk about what you feel about
9 that apology shortly, HIA99, but in paragraph 23 you
10 remember speaking to a priest in confession and you told
11 him about the punishments that you were getting in the
12 home --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- and you told him -- when we were talking earlier, you
15 told me that in confession you actually told him about
16 what happened in the bathroom.

17 **A. Indeed, yes.**

18 Q. You say that a week or two later a couple came to the
19 home to meet you and SR118 told you that they were going
20 to adopt you and you would live with them until they
21 died and that their farm would be passed on to you.

22 Now you believe this was -- this happened so short
23 a period of time after you had spoken to the priest that
24 he must have had something to do with this change in
25 your circumstances.

1 **A. Yes. It seemed more than a coincidence.**

2 Q. I am not going to go into the details of what happened
3 to your life after care, HIA99, save for a couple of
4 things. What you say happened to you is set out there
5 in paragraphs 24 to 28, but at paragraph 26 you say that
6 no-one came to visit you or check up on you after you
7 left the Lodge. You left at the age of 10. So you were
8 still a very young child, but there was never any
9 follow-up to see how you were getting on with this
10 couple that you were sent to.

11 **A. No, no.**

12 Q. Then at paragraph 27 you talked about many years later,
13 when you were 18, you were going to try and join the
14 Irish Army and you needed references. The only person
15 you could go to for a reference was SR118. We actually
16 have a copy of that. You brought that to the Inquiry --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- the letter that she wrote, and I have seen the
19 original that you have with you this morning.

20 **A. Yes. A very good reference it was too.**

21 Q. It can be pulled up on the screen here at SNB-30862, and
22 we will see that it is dated 1949, 3rd March 1949. It
23 reads:

24 "This is to certify that I have known", and your
25 name is given there --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- "since 1937.

3 He is sober, honest and industrious and I feel sure
4 he will endeavour to give every satisfaction if accepted
5 as a recruit in the Army of Eire, to which I understand
6 he has made application."

7 She has signed it:

8 "SR118, Sister of Nazareth."

9 You still retain that to this day --

10 **A. I still have that copy, yes.**

11 Q. -- although you never actually joined the Irish Army as
12 things turned out.

13 **A. No, the reason being I could not get a reference from
14 anybody in the South, but I had SR118's, which
15 I appreciated at the time, yes.**

16 Q. Now in paragraph 29 of your witness statement you talk
17 about going to see a solicitor, and that's at page 281.
18 You had contacted the solicitor -- the Sisters in 2005
19 asking for compensation, but instead they offered you
20 counselling, and then in 2009 a solicitor contacted them
21 on your behalf.

22 You say you have suffered from flashbacks of your
23 time at Nazareth Lodge, and speaking to you and your
24 daughter, who is here with you today, a lot of this
25 happened whenever you yourself retired and had more time

1 to spend with your own grandchildren, HIA99 --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. -- and saw the life that they had, and were able to
4 contrast that with your own childhood --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- and that is when these memories started to come back
7 to you.

8 **A. Indeed, yes.**

9 Q. You didn't ever report what happened to you to the
10 police, but in contact with your solicitor you did speak
11 to two reporters over a time and you actually spoke to
12 a --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- and gave an interview. You believed he was
15 a newspaper reporter at that time. You gave
16 an interview, which was recorded in the press --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- in , which can be seen at SNB-18400.

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. Do you remember how you came to give that interview to
21 him?

22 **A. I was talking to my solicitor, Mr Keenan, and he told me
23 he would have a gentleman to talk to me about my
24 experiences and that would be .**

25 Q. I am not going -- the Panel can read this, and if they

1 want to take time to do it, they can. You didn't give
2 your name or allow your name to be published at that
3 time. Isn't that right?

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

5 Q. You did speak to another reporter, .

6 **A. I did indeed.**

7 Q. He wanted you to actually be filmed and speak on
8 a report he was doing for television.

9 **A. That's correct.**

10 Q. It is correct you initially agreed to do that, but on
11 reflection decided that that wasn't a course that you
12 wanted to take.

13 **A. No, I thought I wasn't up to that ordeal, no.**

14 Q. He respected that decision.

15 **A. He did indeed, yes.**

16 Q. So this is the only time that you have spoken publicly
17 in this newspaper report before speaking to this Inquiry
18 about your time in care.

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

20 Q. Now at paragraph 31, HIA99, you say that -- this is
21 page 282 -- just before that I should say that,
22 paragraph 30, you say that you read a story about SR118
23 and another nun being taken to court for the abuse of
24 children living in an orphanage in Scotland. You
25 understand she was not convicted, but that the other nun

1 was. That was something that your daughter brought to
2 your attention.

3 **A. Yes, I did not read it, but my daughter did read it and**
4 **took my attention to it.**

5 Q. This was really because you had been speaking to your
6 daughter about your time and this name jumped out to her
7 --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- as an unusual name, if I can put it that way, and she
10 wondered if it might be the same person.

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

12 Q. We -- I think the Inquiry Panel have been told we will
13 be making further enquiries from the congregation about
14 SR118 and where she went after she left Belfast --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- and that will be looked at later, but at paragraph 31
17 there you say the abuse you suffered at the hands of the
18 nuns in Nazareth Lodge has not affected your religious
19 belief. You believe you cannot judge all the nuns just
20 by one bad apple. You go on to say that priests have
21 been given a hard time in the media, but you still go to
22 mass every Sunday.

23 **A. That's correct.**

24 Q. You certainly have made the contrast between SR118,
25 SR100 and SR186 --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- the nuns that you had experience of.

3 One question, HIA99, that we have asked everybody
4 who has spoken to us is this Inquiry has to make
5 recommendations at the end of its work about what should
6 happen. You say something about this in paragraph 32,
7 where you say that apologies are easily given and you
8 don't believe that an apology would go far enough, but
9 you are:

10 "... glad now that someone is taking notice of what
11 happened to us children in the homes and I am glad what
12 I am saying will be told to the Inquiry."

13 **A. That is correct.**

14 Q. I quoted that when I opened this section of the Inquiry
15 to the public yesterday, HIA99.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. Now is there anything else that you want on reflection
18 to say about, first of all, the fact that as of today
19 for the first time you have received a personal apology
20 from the congregation?

21 **A. Would you repeat that, please?**

22 Q. Is there anything -- you were made aware for the first
23 time today that the congregation had made a personal
24 apology to you. Is there anything you want to say about
25 that? Does that change how you feel about apologies

1 being easily given?

2 **A. Well, as I've said there and you were just repeating to**
3 **me, apologies are easy given, but it would have to be**
4 **outside the context of compensation. I wouldn't be**
5 **satisfied with an apology as such. I would be looking**
6 **for compensation.**

7 Q. You said to me that you yourself don't feel that you
8 personally will benefit from compensation, but you would
9 like your family to benefit from it.

10 **A. Yes. I am 84, going on 85, and no doubt this Inquiry**
11 **will take some time. So I would like my family to be**
12 **the beneficiaries as such.**

13 Q. Well, HIA99, those are all the questions that I want to
14 ask you about your time in Nazareth Lodge, but is there
15 anything you feel that we haven't covered here this
16 morning?

17 **A. No, I don't think so.**

18 Q. Is there anything else that you want to say? This is
19 your opportunity to take them and say whatever it is
20 that you want to say.

21 **A. No, and if I wanted to speak and say something positive**
22 **about the nuns, any nuns I have seen outside this are**
23 **nice people and I couldn't identify them with what**
24 **I experienced.**

25 Q. Well, thank you for that, HIA99. As I say, I have

1 nothing further that I want to ask you, but the Inquiry
2 Panel may have some questions for you.

3 Questions from THE PANEL

4 CHAIRMAN: HIA99, can I just ask you to go back to the time
5 you left the home and went to a farm? That seems to
6 have been somewhere up around from what you
7 say. Is that correct?

8 **A. It would be -- could I give you the actual area itself,
9 because in the public domain if I identified where the
10 farm was, that would --**

11 Q. I am not asking you for that, HIA99. It is just to get
12 a general idea. It is somewhere out in the country you
13 go to anyway. Is that right?

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. Now you were still at school at that stage --

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. -- and were you asked in any way for your agreement or
18 was there any discussion with you before you were sent
19 to the farm?

20 **A. No. It came out of the blue. I was just carrying on
21 with chores in the home, whatever they were at the time,
22 and I was just called by SR118.**

23 Q. You seem to have stayed in farming for quite a long
24 time.

25 **A. It wasn't a party by any means, but I found it exciting**

1 from the home on the farm, but I felt that I was being
2 used as an unpaid slave. I didn't expect payment as
3 such, but I could identify boys around me and they
4 seemed to have a better life than I had.

5 Q. Did anybody from the home come out to check up on you
6 afterwards --

7 A. No.

8 Q. -- to see how you were getting on with the family?

9 A. No, no. The only person outside maybe took an interest
10 would be the parish priest. He was called
11 and he is dead, of course. Where I was working on the
12 farm I was asked to do a chore and I felt that, "I have
13 had enough", and I just walked away and went to
14 a friendly farmer, where I could get the means of
15 getting a hurling stick by doing chores. So the farmer
16 that I was living with, he went to the parish priest and
17 said oh, I have cleared off, and the parish priest said
18 to him, "If would you give him a cigarette or two, he
19 might stay".

20 Q. But that was the only way in which somebody took
21 an interest in you after you left the home?

22 A. All the neighbouring farmers and people took an interest
23 in me more --

24 Q. Nobody in an official capacity?

25 A. Nobody in an official capacity, no.

1 Q. Thank you very much. Well, HIA99, I am sure you will be
2 relieved to know we don't have any further questions for
3 you.

4 **A. Thank you.**

5 Q. Thank you very much for taking the time to come and
6 speak to us about your experiences today.

7 **A. Thank you.**

8 Q. Thank you.

9 MS SMITH: Chairman, that actually concludes the evidence
10 that we are going to put before the Inquiry today. We
11 will have more witnesses tomorrow morning.

12 CHAIRMAN: Very well. Well, we will resume tomorrow morning
13 at the normal time. Thank you very much.

14 (1.05 pm)

15 (Hearing adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning)

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