

1 Friday, 19 July 2019

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. We resume oral evidence this  
4 morning and I think we're ready to go, is that right,  
5 Mr MacAulay?

6 MR MacAULAY: Yes, good morning, my Lady. The first witness  
7 wants to remain anonymous. He is an applicant and he  
8 wants to use the pseudonym "Patrick" in giving evidence.

9 "PATRICK" (affirmed)

10 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable,  
11 Patrick.

12 One of the things that's important is that you're  
13 close enough to the microphone so it picks up your  
14 voice. If you get too close it fuzzes, and I'll tell  
15 you about that, but if you can try to make sure that  
16 you are using the microphone, that would be very  
17 helpful.

18 If you're ready, I will hand over to Mr MacAulay and  
19 he will explain what happens next. Is that all right?

20 A. Very good, my Lady.

21 Questions from MR MacAULAY

22 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Patrick.

23 A. Good morning.

24 Q. In front of you, you will find that there is a red  
25 folder, and inside the folder you will find your signed

1 statement. I want to give the reference of the  
2 statement for the purposes of the transcript and that's  
3 WIT.001.002.5335.

4 If you could turn to the last page, can I ask you to  
5 confirm that you have signed the statement?

6 A. I have signed the statement. That is my signature.

7 Q. Do you say in the final paragraph:

8 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
9 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

10 A. No, no objection.

11 Q. Do you go on to say:

12 "I believe the facts stated in this witness  
13 statement are true"?

14 A. Yes, I do.

15 Q. Patrick, I will be asking you questions based on your  
16 statement. The statement itself is before you, but  
17 it'll also come in front of you on the screen, and  
18 sometimes witnesses find it more helpful to read it off  
19 the screen.

20 When I ask you questions, it may be the case, and it  
21 sometimes happens, that witnesses remember things they  
22 had not remembered when they gave their statement and if  
23 that's the case, feel free to tell us. The other side  
24 of that coin is if I ask you a question and you can't  
25 remember, just say, "I can't remember".

1 A. Very good.

2 Q. I don't need your date of birth, I just require to have  
3 the year of your birth so I can get a time frame for  
4 your evidence. Can you confirm that you were born in  
5 1948?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. In the early part of your statement, Patrick, you  
8 provide us with some information about your family  
9 background and in particular, certainly in the earlier  
10 years of your life, you lived abroad with your family;  
11 is that correct?

12 A. That's correct, yes.

13 Q. I think you tell us you had a younger brother.

14 A. I did, yes.

15 Q. How much younger was he to you?

16 A. He was two years younger than me.

17 Q. I think before you came to school in this country and  
18 you came to Carlekemp and Fort Augustus -- and I'll look  
19 at that in a moment -- while you were abroad you did  
20 attend an elementary school; is that right?

21 A. Yes, that's correct.

22 Q. I think that was in Aden.

23 A. That was in Aden, yes.

24 Q. And it was a school run by nuns?

25 A. Yes, it was a convent. There were also some monks, but

1           it was mostly a convent with nuns.

2           Q. How long did you spend at that particular school?

3           A. It wouldn't have been long. A year, a year and a half,  
4           two years maximum.

5           Q. What sort of experience was that?

6           A. Excellent.

7           Q. Are you able to provide us with some background as to  
8           how it came to be that you went to Carlekemp Priory  
9           School in North Berwick?

10          A. My mother was Roman Catholic, my father was Protestant,  
11          and my mother insisted that my brother and I be raised  
12          in the Catholic faith, which my father accepted.  
13          Essentially, the reason why we both found ourselves at  
14          Carlekemp was that in the early to mid-1950s, there was  
15          a lot of trouble in the Middle East, where my parents  
16          were stationed, and they wanted us to have the best  
17          Catholic education, so they booked us into Carlekemp.  
18          I went there in [REDACTED] 1955. And I was very young.

19          Q. Yes. I can confirm that because we have in fact  
20          recovered records relating to the time you went to  
21          Carlekemp, and I think it was close to your birthday.

22          A. That was my birthday. I believe it was [REDACTED]

23          Q. I've led you into disclosing your date of birth.

24          A. Sorry.

25          Q. Don't worry, it won't appear anywhere. In any event, it

1           was in the autumn of 1955 --

2           A. Right.

3           Q. -- when you were aged 7; is that correct?

4           A. That's correct, yes.

5           Q. And I think, according to the records at least, you left

6           in [REDACTED] 1962 when you were about 13?

7           A. Carlekemp, yes.

8           Q. Because you then went at the beginning of that school

9           year to Fort Augustus?

10          A. Correct.

11          Q. And you left Fort Augustus at the end of the school year

12          of 1965 --

13          A. Correct.

14          Q. -- when you were aged about 16 or so?

15          A. Yes.

16          Q. When you went to Carlekemp, I think at that time your

17          younger brother didn't go with you --

18          A. No.

19          Q. -- because you were 7 and he'd only be 5.

20          A. That's correct, yes.

21          Q. Were you taken to Carlekemp by your parents?

22          A. Yes.

23          Q. When you went with your parents, did you meet one of the

24          monks?

25          A. Yes, the [REDACTED]

1 Q. Who was the [REDACTED] at that time?

2 A. [REDACTED] MEX [REDACTED]

3 Q. I think in your time he died and another [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]

5 A. That's right. I can't remember if it was the second

6 year I was there that he died, I believe, 1956.

7 Q. And the --

8 A. I don't recall exactly.

9 Q. The other [REDACTED] I think, was a [REDACTED] MFD [REDACTED]

10 A. He replaced [REDACTED] MEX [REDACTED] yes.

11 Q. One of the things you tell us is when your parents were

12 there with you, the atmosphere was quite happy; is that

13 correct?

14 A. Yes. They came especially to take us into the school

15 and they met Father [REDACTED] MEX [REDACTED] and they were quite

16 impressed with Father [REDACTED] MEX [REDACTED], thought he was

17 a gentleman, and, after going into the school, they

18 returned to Aden. I didn't see them again until the

19 following summer because we spent the holidays --

20 I spent the holidays with my grandparents in Alloa.

21 Q. In Scotland?

22 A. In Scotland, yes.

23 Q. What you tell us in paragraph 14 is that -- it'll come

24 on the screen as well --

25 A. No, the screen is blank.

1 Q. The technology should catch up with you.

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. I myself am reading from the screen so --

4 LADY SMITH: Patrick, do let me know if there is a problem  
5 with your screen.

6 A. I just have a blank screen.

7 LADY SMITH: There is nothing on your screen at all?

8 A. No, it's just black.

9 MR MacAULAY: I'd quite like to have that sorted.

10 LADY SMITH: Yes, because we may get to a stage where we  
11 want you to look at other things that are not in your  
12 red file. I'm going to rise, this will have to be  
13 sorted out. I'm sorry to mess you about, Patrick, but  
14 it's going to be unhelpful to you when you're giving  
15 your evidence if that screen is not working.

16 (10.16 am)

17 (A short break)

18 (10.20 am)

19 LADY SMITH: Patrick, I'm sorry for that interruption, but  
20 I'm told your screen is all right now.

21 I was wanting to take you to paragraph 14 now on the  
22 screen:

23 "We were shown around the school. I was used to  
24 Franciscan methods back home, but this was completely  
25 different. This place was so austere. The jollity of

1 the staff whilst parents were present all disappeared."

2 Can you explain what you mean by that?

3 A. I think it's pretty obvious that the school staff were  
4 doing their PR episode for the parents when the children  
5 went into the school. But why I say it was austere was  
6 because I went to a convent with white fathers and nuns  
7 in white, all Italians, who have -- I think it's pretty  
8 well-known, Italians have affinity with small children,  
9 they were always very warm and loving.

10 I would go into this place and it's sort of mock  
11 baronial mansion in North Berwick, and all these monks  
12 in black habits. As I say, once the parents had left,  
13 the seriousness of the staff really hit you, the  
14 earnestness. Not at all the lightness that I was  
15 accustomed to in the convent in Aden. That's what  
16 I tried to explain when making the statement.

17 Q. You were very young.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Were you one of the youngest in the school?

20 A. I was the youngest in the school, yes. Most of my  
21 peers, at least in the first form, were a year or two  
22 older than me. They were 8, 9.

23 LADY SMITH: Patrick, tell me this: was that period, so that  
24 would be through from the autumn of 1955 through to  
25 spring 1956, your first experience of living through



1 a Scottish winter as well?

2 A. Yes.

3 LADY SMITH: So you came from the sun and bright light of  
4 Aden to a Scottish winter where monks were dressed in  
5 black?

6 A. Exactly, my Lady. Aden is a really hot environment and  
7 I was sort of parachuted into Scotland, where even  
8 in the autumn -- my grandparents were obliged to send me  
9 blankets and pullovers and special string vests which  
10 you used to wear in those days to keep me warm because  
11 I was always very, very cold. So I think it got ...  
12 They were a bit frustrated. I think the teachers were  
13 a bit frustrated at this because I never stopped griping  
14 about how cold I was.

15 That wasn't the only thing, you know. I couldn't  
16 tie a tie, I couldn't tie shoelaces. There were lots of  
17 things where I was miles behind. At least they were  
18 decent enough at that stage on my entry into the school  
19 to let me wear slip-on shoes. I was exempted from  
20 wearing a tie for the first term and I was allowed to  
21 wear roll-neck pullovers.

22 MR MacAULAY: So there was some consideration?

23 A. From that point of view, there was some consideration  
24 and they allowed me to have special blanket on my bed  
25 and stuff like that.

1 Q. Can I then focus on who the monks were when you were  
2 there, beginning with the earlier period and perhaps  
3 moving beyond that. Can you remember who the monks  
4 were?

5 A. Yes. There was Father MEX who we've already  
6 mentioned, [REDACTED] And then there was  
7 Aidan Duggan and MEW MEZ and at  
8 a later stage, MFC

9 Q. We'll come to look at your involvement with MFC  
10 MFC in a moment. According to records that have  
11 been made available to the inquiry, the suggestion  
12 is that MFC was at Carlekemp from about  
13 1958 to 1961, so that would cross over with your period  
14 there.

15 A. That's right. He definitely wasn't there when I went  
16 in. I'm not sure that I've mentioned all of them,  
17 actually.

18 Q. You may have mentioned, I think, most of them in fact.

19 A. MEX MEZ

20 Q. And of course you mentioned already that when

21 MEX died, MFD.

22 A. Exactly, yes.

23 Q. If we look at your statement at paragraph 9, so we're  
24 going back a little bit -- I will pick this up and  
25 I will return to it shortly, but in that particular

1 paragraph, I can tell you are talking about Father

2 [REDACTED] MEW

3 A. That's right, whose brother was in the Franciscan order,  
4 yes.

5 Q. And you say in the third line:

6 [REDACTED] MEW was the [REDACTED] but was  
7 a brute of a man."

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. When you are using that description, what are you  
10 seeking to convey to us?

11 A. He was extremely liberal with his hands. I mean, he  
12 would have been quite at home in a boxing ring. That  
13 was my first ever experience of adult violence, you  
14 know, being thumped on the head by [REDACTED] MEW

15 Q. In what situations could this happen?

16 A. This could be anything from loitering to not paying  
17 attention in class, especially at prep. We used to have  
18 these, what we called, prep sessions, where in the  
19 evening there was a study period of about half an hour  
20 or 45 minutes, where we were supposed to prepare -- do  
21 the homework of the day.

22 Depending on how attentive you were to your studies,  
23 and what have you, he would nicely come up behind you  
24 and give you the most appalling whack on the head with  
25 his hand. That was really the first thing of brutality

- 1           that I experienced at the school.
- 2           Q. How often did this sort of --
- 3           A. Often. Often. I confess I was not a good student and
- 4           I was not attentive, so I was hit quite a few times.
- 5           Q. Here we're focusing on [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED] at the moment?
- 6           A. Yes. Whereas with the Franciscans, it was how they
- 7           handled children -- getting whacked by this guy,
- 8           I mean ... Incredible.
- 9           Q. Did this happen from the very outset when you were there
- 10          at 7 years of age?
- 11          A. Yes. This man created an atmosphere of fear in the
- 12          whole of the school. I can't say for all of the levels
- 13          of school, but certainly in our first year at school
- 14          we were all terrified of this guy, who we called
- 15          [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED], "Watch it, [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED] coming", this sort of thing.
- 16          How he got the surname [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED] I don't know. I think
- 17          it's something to do with his name, [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED] or
- 18          whatever, but we called him [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED] It was not a term of
- 19          endearment.
- 20          Q. Apart from what you've been describing and the being hit
- 21          on the head, I think you --
- 22          A. Yes, never elsewhere. Never elsewhere: around the ears,
- 23          the back of the head.
- 24          Q. Would you be crying?
- 25          A. Yes, frequently.

1 Q. Did you see this happening to other boys?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Would they be upset?

4 A. Yes, very much so.

5 Q. You mentioned the prep arrangements. I'll put a couple

6 of photographs on the screen for you, just to perhaps

7 bring back some memories for you. You're happy with

8 that, are you?

9 A. Of course, yes.

10 Q. If I can put one on, first of all: INQ.001.004.1985.

11 (Pause)

12 That's the building?

13 A. That's Carlekemp, yes.

14 Q. If we move on to the next photograph at

15 WIT.003.001.4732, does that photograph bring any

16 memories back to you?

17 A. Yes, it does.

18 Q. Is that where you did your prep?

19 A. Oh, goodness. Well, I recognise ... This is much

20 later, maybe three years after I joined Carlekemp.

21 I don't know what the date of this photograph is.

22 Q. We don't have a date for this photograph.

23 A. But it's quite possible that the boy right down at the

24 bottom right-hand corner is yours truly.

25 I recognise ...

1 Q. We've blanked out some faces to protect people's  
2 identities. Do you recognise the monk?  
3 A. The monk at the door -- that's the door of the chapel  
4 and the monk at the door of the chapel is MFA  
5 MFA  
6 Q. He was the monk who came --  
7 A. He was the monk that was there, but later. He came  
8 even -- I believe, if I remember correctly, he came  
9 after MFC even. But they were all monks  
10 from Fort Augustus. They sort of shuttled between  
11 Carlekemp and Fort Augustus.  
12 Q. We see from that picture that the monk is wearing  
13 a black robe.  
14 A. He's wearing a black habit, yes, with a hoodie, as they  
15 call them now.  
16 Q. Can we just leave MEW aside for the moment  
17 and just look at some aspects of the routine and the  
18 set-up.  
19 A. Sorry, this is a prep lesson that we have here -- well,  
20 it's not a lesson, but a prep period that we see there,  
21 with Father MFA acting as sort of invigilator.  
22 Q. And this is the whole school?  
23 A. Yes, this is the whole school sitting there, the senior  
24 boys and juniors. Everybody in the whole school.  
25 I think we would be about 70 in all.

- 1 Q. Then looking at some other aspects of the set-up at  
2 Carlekemp, let's look at the sleeping arrangements.  
3 When you went there as a 7-year-old, what was the  
4 set-up?
- 5 A. There was a series of dormitories, each with ...  
6 I don't recall, but depending on the dormitory it could  
7 be six, seven, eight beds. Each dormitory had a name,  
8 which I don't remember. I remember some of them. They  
9 were named after monks that were martyred, Benedictine  
10 monks that were martyred in Tudor times.
- 11 Q. Would you have boys in your dormitory of approximately  
12 the same age as yourself?
- 13 A. That's right. The junior entry boys, those that went  
14 in that first year, we were all together in one  
15 dormitory. Then, as we went through the school, we went  
16 through different dormitories.
- 17 Q. When you were at the bottom end, was it a matron who was  
18 looking after the dormitory?
- 19 A. That's right, exactly. Matron had her study cum studio  
20 bedroom next to the small boys' dormitory.
- 21 Q. As you moved through the ranks, so to speak, was it  
22 a monk who would be in charge of the dormitory?
- 23 A. That's right.
- 24 Q. Did you find that the school was very sport-orientated?
- 25 A. Yes. To me, that was a good aspect of the school --

1           apart from the cold. I was very shocked the first day  
2           when we had to go out on the rugger field with a very  
3           slim rugger tunic and short pants and what have you, and  
4           I think it must have been about minus 5 or so. It was  
5           extremely cold on the rugger pitch. The master came and  
6           bawled me out because I was always going on about how  
7           cold we were and there we were, standing in this bitter  
8           wind, but I got used to it.

9           I think the sports programme at school has served me  
10          very well, served me much better than the scholastic  
11          side of things.

12         Q. If I can look at the scholastic side. When you started  
13          out as a 7-year-old, I think you tell us in your  
14          statement that there was a female teacher in charge of  
15          your class; is that right?

16         A. Yes, Ms Gilhooley.

17         Q. How did you get on with that?

18         A. She was excellent. Looking back at it now, I think she  
19          was perhaps the only professional teacher of the whole  
20          cadre of the school.

21         Q. Did she deal with the lowest class?

22         A. She dealt with the lowest classes, yes.

23         Q. Did she stay there for long during your time?

24         A. No, I think she left in the second or third year I was  
25          there and was replaced by another lady, who also stayed



1 a very, very short time, and then left.

2 Q. Apart from the female teacher for that early period,  
3 were your teachers thereafter the monks themselves?

4 A. That's correct, yes. They were all monks apart from one  
5 layperson, who was the [REDACTED] teacher, [REDACTED] MFB

6 Q. Was he also involved in the [REDACTED]

7 A. He was the [REDACTED] yes -- sorry, I don't  
8 know if I should name names.

9 Q. You can name names, we can deal with that. In fact,  
10 it's easier for you to name the names so we know who  
11 you're talking about.

12 We've already mentioned [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] who we  
13 think may have arrived in 1958. How did you get on with  
14 him initially?

15 A. Very well. I can say to you now that when  
16 [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] arrived, let's put it this way, the  
17 cadre of the school, lay and monks, were all middle-aged  
18 men, and [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] arrived and he must have been  
19 in his early 20s. So he attracted a lot of sympathy  
20 from the boys because here was somebody who hadn't long  
21 been ordained and we liked him when he came.

22 Q. And at that time --

23 A. He was popular, he was a popular monk when he first  
24 came, and I think it was because of his youth.

25 Q. At that time you'd be, if it's 1958, aged 9 or 10?

1 A. Yes, that's correct.

2 Q. What you tell us in your statement is that he actually  
3 called you by a particular name; is that right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. What was the background to that?

6 A. I don't really recall. I think it was "1066 and All  
7 That". He used to call me **MLN**. In "1066 and All  
8 That", there was -- I don't know if you remember, if you  
9 even read it, but there's a wave of kings, Aethelred and  
10 Ecgfrith and whatever. He was a kind of specialist in  
11 humorous books, **MFC**. He decided to call me  
12 **MLN**.

13 Q. I don't want you to tell us what the other monks called  
14 you, but was it the case that the other monks called you  
15 by your surname?

16 A. Yes, as did the other boys.

17 Q. How would you address the monks?

18 A. Father. Father So-and-so, Father **MFC** Father Aidan.

19 Q. I will come back to **MFC** shortly.

20 A. I could just say, talking about names, **MFC**  
21 asked me that when we were alone that I call him **MFC**  
22 which was his proper given name. But I never did. In  
23 a lot of the things that he sent me, little messages on  
24 the back of religious cards and what have you, he put  
25 "Love, **MFC** All the other monks -- I mean, I addressed

1           him and all the other monks as Father So-and-so.

2           Q. I will come back to MFC in a moment. In  
3           your statement, you do tell us that you have  
4           a recollection of inspectors coming to inspect the  
5           school.

6           A. Yes.

7           Q. I think you thought that happened on an annual basis.

8           A. It was certainly ... It certainly happened a couple of  
9           times while I was there. Whether it was annual or  
10          biannual, whatever, but certainly inspectors did come,  
11          and I believed they were government inspectors, they  
12          were civil persons. I don't think they had anything to  
13          do with the Catholic faith or Catholic schools. I might  
14          be wrong.

15          Q. Did they speak to the boys?

16          A. Yes, they did speak to a couple of boys and asked they  
17          how they liked it and so forth, and of course we said we  
18          thought it was brilliant, you know.

19          Q. I think your younger brother did arrive at Carlekemp  
20          during your time there.

21          A. Yes.

22          Q. What age was he when he arrived?

23          A. I think he was perhaps a wee bit older, 8 perhaps.  
24          I really couldn't be certain, I'm sorry. He was two  
25          years younger than me.

1 Q. So he'd be arriving there -- if you arrive there as  
2 you've told us in 1955, he'd be arriving in --

3 A. 1958 or 1959, something like that.

4 Q. You tell us in your statement that he was rather  
5 talented musically; is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Can you just explain that?

8 A. Yes. My parents asked if we were interested in music,  
9 because there was the syllabus before we went into  
10 school, and asking if the boys would be interested in  
11 music. I wasn't and my brother was, and he said that he  
12 would like to learn to play the [REDACTED] and at Carlekemp  
13 he did play the [REDACTED]. He got on very well and he went  
14 through -- I can't remember the different stages, but  
15 occasionally he had to come into Edinburgh to ...  
16 I don't know, there was a place there where they used to  
17 do the exams to pass the different ... I don't know if  
18 it was the conservatory or whatever, but they used to  
19 trot in from North Berwick to go there.

20 He got on very, very well and he was a very talented  
21 young player and he used to play in front of the parents  
22 on parents' day in the summer at the end of the school  
23 year.

24 Q. Can you remember who the monk was that taught [REDACTED]

25 A. [REDACTED] MEZ [REDACTED]

1 Q. I don't think you yourself played the [REDACTED]

2 A. No.

3 Q. Were you told by your brother what --

4 A. My brother was ... I mean, he did mention that he'd had  
5 trouble with the [REDACTED] that he had to be  
6 careful because he slammed the [REDACTED]  
7 protection down on his hands if he made too many  
8 mistakes and stuff like that. He was also a ruffian, in  
9 spite of appearances. I can tell you that my brother  
10 got on so well at playing the [REDACTED] that my grandparents  
11 forked out a fortune to buy him one and it was a [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]  
13 which was installed in our new house, because my parents  
14 had bought a house or built a house in Dollar,  
15 Clackmannanshire, and this was duly installed in the  
16 house. Oh, surprise, when it was presented to my  
17 brother when we came in from term.

18 This would be some time later, this would be,  
19 I think, more or less when he was leaving Carlekemp.  
20 I'm not sure when that was.

21 Q. Just to be clear about the time frame, he was still at  
22 Carlekemp?

23 A. He was still at Carlekemp, yes.

24 Q. Were you at Fort Augustus at this time?

25 A. I was at Fort Augustus at the time, yes. He came in and

1 he looked at the [REDACTED] and he said to my mother,  
2 "I don't play any more", and that was it. The way he  
3 said it was final, and from that day -- and my mother  
4 tried to say, "Come on, your grandparents ..." and he  
5 said, "You don't have to tell granny and grandad that  
6 I don't play any more, but I'm telling you that I don't  
7 play any more".

8 Q. Did he give any explanation as to why that was his --

9 A. No, no. I have a very strong suspicion -- I'm not sure  
10 I should say this in front of my Lady and yourselves,  
11 but I have very strong suspicions that he underwent --  
12 I don't know what kind of problems at Fort Augustus --  
13 at Carlekemp and Fort Augustus. But he never, ever  
14 talked about it.

15 In fact, we both ended up in Switzerland in  
16 different colleges, and even then he would never talk  
17 about his school days at Carlekemp and Fort Augustus.  
18 So there we are. But I know he had a very difficult  
19 relationship with [REDACTED] MEZ

20 Q. What was your own relationship with [REDACTED] MEZ

21 A. A very slim one, thank goodness. Personally, I didn't  
22 like the man. I was involved in the [REDACTED]  
23 I could [REDACTED] so I was part of the  
24 [REDACTED] but I didn't like him. You meet people in  
25 life -- I don't want to sound judgemental -- that you

1 just can't ... that repel you or whatever --

2 Q. But nothing in his behaviour towards you --

3 A. Towards me? No, no. He was also a [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED] MFB looked after the [REDACTED] but

5 [REDACTED] MEZ was the [REDACTED] He knew everything about

6 [REDACTED] He was the specialist. When he wanted to show

7 you how to bat, he would come up behind you, "This is

8 how you block, this is how you do ..." (indicating).

9 Q. Is he making contact with you?

10 A. Yes. But you know, looking back on it now with the mind

11 of an adult, and at the time you don't understand the

12 context, sexual or otherwise, you just feel it's really

13 creepy, you know.

14 Q. But looking back, do you consider that there was

15 a sexual context?

16 A. Yes, absolutely. Absolutely.

17 Q. Can I move on to your involvement with [REDACTED] MFC

18 You've already touched on your academic capabilities at

19 this time. I think [REDACTED] was a difficult subject for

20 you.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you require to get extra tuition at [REDACTED]

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Can you just set out for me how it came to be that

25 [REDACTED] MFC became involved in that tuition?

1 A. It started off with -- I had really lamentable results  
2 at school, especially at [REDACTED] They got in an old boy,  
3 who was a university student, to come in and give me  
4 some extra tuition. When he was no longer available,  
5 when he had to go back to university, lo and behold, it  
6 was [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] that took his place.

7 Q. What age were you when this began?

8 A. 8 or 9.

9 Q. I think if [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] arrived in 1958, you were  
10 probably up to about 10.

11 A. Right, 10, yes.

12 Q. Where did the extra [REDACTED] tuition take place?

13 A. Well, it started off, when it was the boy, [REDACTED] the  
14 university student, it used to be in one of the monk's  
15 studies. They had a study area which was right at the  
16 top of the building on the right-hand side of the  
17 building. It was a sort of semi-public space with the  
18 other monks going to and fro. But when it came to  
19 [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] he wanted it to be on the back stairs  
20 that went up to this sort of apartment thing for the  
21 monks. These back stairs were never used and they  
22 were -- you know ...

23 Q. So what --

24 A. At the top of these back stairs, there was a sort of  
25 short landing, a small landing area, and he put a chair



1           there. I didn't have a chair, I had to sit on his knee.

2           Q. Could I just find out: was this a private place then  
3           in that you wouldn't expect other people to be there?

4           A. No, no. It was really quite a secluded part of the  
5           building.

6           Q. Was there any reason why the tuition should have been  
7           there as opposed to anywhere else?

8           A. No. I mean, it should have been where it took place  
9           with the boy, [REDACTED] the student.

10          Q. So can you tell me then what happened?

11          A. Yes. Well, it started off normally enough, like,  
12          "Sorry, I don't have a place where you can sit, but you  
13          come and sit here on my knee". It started off with me  
14          leaning on his knee and he would have the textbooks and  
15          the jotters on his other knee, the pencil, showing me  
16          how [REDACTED] work and all this kind of stuff. Then it  
17          progressed from there. It ended up with him tucking his  
18          habit down between his legs and I'd have to stand  
19          between his legs and sit on his thigh.

20                 And still the same -- and then, when it was time to  
21          go, it was, "Give me a kiss".

22                 The first kiss was here (indicating) --

23          Q. On the forehead?

24          A. -- as a sort of religious thing. And then he said,  
25          "Yes, but now kiss me on the lips". I remember he had

1 very rubbery lips. So it got to kissing on the lips and  
2 him saying, "You know, I'm not a very good priest", in  
3 a sort of -- I mean, I'm also putting an adult's thing  
4 on this as well, which I didn't see at the time,  
5 of course. There was a sort of breathlessness about him  
6 saying, "I'm not a terribly good priest, I want you to  
7 pray for me", or some such.

8 And of course, it went on like this. For some  
9 reason, it stopped, he could no longer give me the extra  
10 tuition, which I was happy about because ... I find it  
11 all singularly creepy, you know, even at the time.

12 Looking back at it now, it's ... But you know, even  
13 at the time, it was ... Maybe if I explain to you how  
14 my relationship with my father and male members of my  
15 family: we were never really physical, you know.

16 I don't remember ever being kissed by my father. My  
17 father would shake my hand -- even as a boy, he'd shake  
18 my hand or maybe put his arm around my shoulder, but  
19 that's the limit of it. Likewise with my grandfather.

20 Q. Then how long did this behaviour you've described with  
21 you being held by him and kissed on the lips go on?

22 A. A year, perhaps.

23 Q. When this came to an end, for whatever reason, was

24 MFC still at the school?

25 A. Yes, at the school, yes. He was still there after

1 I went to Carlekemp. I don't know when he finally left.

2 I understood that he left to go back to Fort Augustus,

3 but when that was, I have no idea.

4 Q. He wasn't at Fort Augustus when you were at

5 Fort Augustus?

6 A. No, no.

7 Q. I think you also tell us in your statement that you did

8 not wet the bed --

9 A. No.

10 Q. -- as a youngster.

11 A. No.

12 Q. But you did require to go to the toilet during the

13 night?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Did MFC feature in that particular process?

16 A. I'm told that he did, but I have no direct evidence that

17 he did. If you'll just allow me to explain that

18 a little bit. There was an episode, and I must have

19 been 10, 11, 12, but there was an episode there where

20 I got this need to go to the toilet very frequently. It

21 woke me up in the middle of the night and I'd have to

22 go. I'd have to go and just do a few drops.

23 I talked about it to matron and all this kind of

24 stuff, but it passed off, you know. During one of these

25 episodes of getting up at night, I woke up at night,

1 I heard footsteps going up and down the corridor  
2 outside. I did not want to go out, I was terrified.  
3 I had sort of images of supernatural whatever -- you  
4 know what it's like when you're that age.

5 I waited for the steps to stop and then I went and  
6 I came back to bed. Never heard about it. When  
7 I mentioned it to somebody else, they said, "Oh, it's  
8 MFC patrolling the corridor". If you  
9 imagine there's this corridor and there were two  
10 dormitories on one side and two on the other side  
11 (indicating). This was him, in the middle of the night,  
12 I'm talking about something like 1 o'clock or 2 o'clock  
13 in the morning, walking up and down. I was saying, "You  
14 know, there must be a ghost in this place because  
15 there's somebody clumping up and down the corridor in  
16 the middle of the night". But I was told, "No, no, it's

17 MFC

18 So what MFC was doing patrolling the  
19 corridor at that time of night is anybody's guess. In  
20 those days, it could have been passed off as -- because  
21 frequently, after bedtime, a monk would come round with  
22 a torch and put the torch on the boys to see that  
23 everybody was sleeping or everybody was okay. But  
24 usually, that would be about 10 or 11.

25 Q. Did you ever discover then what MFC was

1           doing?

2           A. No. I've been told about it since, but no. In terms of  
3           the evidence I should give, I shouldn't mention it, but  
4           I'll mention it if you wish.

5           LADY SMITH: I'm interested in what you have been told.

6           I can quite properly listen to what you've been told and  
7           you can explain to me the circumstances in which you've  
8           been told anything, so please do.

9           A. Yes. Well, I was told that when boys came out of the  
10          dormitory to go to the lavatory or whatever, he would  
11          grab them and take them to his study. They had a study  
12          cum bedroom. He would ask the boy to go over in  
13          a corner of the room and drop his pyjamas and bend over  
14          and he told the boy, from what I heard, just to stay  
15          there, eyes front, don't look back, and he'd come and  
16          smack him on the bottom with a hairbrush or whatever,  
17          some weapon. And he'd say, "Eyes front, eyes front",  
18          and then come again and smack him on the bottom and say,  
19          "Don't look round", and this went for a while.

20          This transpired at Carlekemp. I've heard other  
21          things that he did from other sources at Fort Augustus,  
22          which are ... But this is what happened to wee boys,  
23          and apparently this was him patrolling the corridor  
24          during the night and grabbing boys, taking them to his  
25          apartment and whacking them. I don't know if they were

1           actually -- I know they were whacked, from what I was  
2           told they were whacked, but whether they were actually  
3           raped or whether it was a masturbatory exercise by him  
4           or whatever, I don't know.

5           MR MacAULAY: Okay. Could I move on and ask you about one  
6           of the other monks you've mentioned, and that's  
7           Aidan Duggan. Can I just ask you about him?

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. What was the position so far as you're concerned with  
10          him?

11          A. I didn't have any sexual thing with Aidan Duggan at all.  
12          When I heard about it, I was really quite surprised.

13                 One thing I do know -- looking back and remembering  
14          Duggan at the school, he was a religious knowledge  
15          teacher and Latin teacher if I'm not mistaken. He was  
16          a sadist for sure. But I only learnt about his sexual  
17          misdemeanours much, much later -- not even when I was at  
18          Fort Augustus.

19          Q. But if we look at your description of him as a sadist,  
20          can you elaborate upon what you mean by that?

21          A. Yes. Duggan's speciality was a cane -- this is  
22          something that **MFC** also inherited from him,  
23          but it was Duggan that started it. He'd have this cane,  
24          about 40 centimetres, a bamboo cane about 40 centimetres  
25          long, and he'd whip us with it. Unlike **MEW**

1           who -- as I mentioned, with MEW, you got  
2           cuffed if you weren't standing right or if you weren't  
3           looking at your books properly or whatever. But with  
4           Aidan Duggan, it was not answering correctly to  
5           questions, not being able to decline mensa properly,  
6           whatever, and he'd swing at you with this cane.

7           So a lot of us were striped from the lower back, the  
8           buttocks, the top of the thighs, the back, the calves,  
9           with weals, bruised weals. Frequently he'd come into  
10          the class and he'd have this little upright desk, walk  
11          in with his habit. The habit has a sort of spatula  
12          thing on the front. He'd draw out from behind this  
13          thing his cane and he'd put on the desk like this  
14          (indicating) and look at us, and we were shaking in our  
15          wellies. Seriously, this terrified us, all of us. This  
16          was his speciality. He was a great man for the  
17          beatings.

18         Q. Just to look at the beatings themselves and take an  
19         example of one on you, would the beatings be in the  
20         class in front of the other boys?

21         A. Yes, absolutely. What he'd do is, if we had to answer  
22         questions -- we had these desks, they were the desks  
23         with the desk and the seat in one piece with the sort of  
24         metal armature, and we had to stand up and go into the  
25         corridor to answer a question, or we'd stand up and go

1           into the aisle, and he'd come right up beside us and  
2           say, "Well, how about dominus?" and then he'd start ...  
3           you know. So we wouldn't be able to decline dominus or  
4           mensa or anything else out of straight terror.

5           Q. Could you in fact decline these nouns?

6           A. Yes, frequently, yes.

7           Q. So it was fear that was --

8           A. It was fear. It was fear.

9                     And I can tell you a true story -- I don't know if  
10           it's in the report. It's not a funny joke, but it's  
11           a true story. I don't know if you saw in the picture  
12           before with the boys doing prep, there was one teacher  
13           there, MFA standing in front of the chapel door.

14                     The door you see at the bottom with the light, the  
15           open door to the left, that was a classroom and we had  
16           lessons, Aidan Duggan lessons, Latin lessons in there.  
17           At the back of this classroom was an entrance to the  
18           chapel with a glass door. We were having this lesson  
19           and -- I'll just go back a little bit. Every Saturday  
20           evening, we'd have a film, there would be a film shown  
21           in this hall. They put the projector up on top of the  
22           balcony, which you can't really see here, and the screen  
23           here (indicating). We were watching this film and it  
24           was Quasimodo, the Hunchback of Notre Dame, the original  
25           one -- no, the second one with Charles Laughton.



1           There's one episode in the film where he gets Esmerelda  
2           and he takes her into the cathedral because she's being  
3           hounded by thieves or whatever, soldiers.

4           And he says, "Sanctuary, sanctuary", for those who  
5           haven't seen the film. We asked the priest afterwards  
6           "What does this mean, sanctuary?" And they said -- it  
7           was Aidan Duggan himself who said, "Well, what it means  
8           is that whenever you go into a consecrated place like  
9           a church or a chapel, like this chapel here, and you say  
10          'sanctuary', it means they can't touch you", which  
11          in the case of the Hunchback of Notre Dame, he managed  
12          to put Esmerelda in there and none of the authorities or  
13          whatever could go in and get her.

14          During this lesson, he comes up to this boy, who's  
15          quite quaking with terror, before he even started to  
16          give his answer, and Duggan, as his usual habit, would  
17          stand right next to the boy, stand right next to him  
18          with his cane. The boy did a quick swivel, opened the  
19          glass door, went in, and said, "Sanctuary, sanctuary",  
20          and Duggan was absolutely flummoxed and started to laugh  
21          and said, "Okay, you've won that one, but it won't  
22          happen again". We were terrified of him.

23          Q. If you look then at the nature of the beatings -- let's  
24          assume you haven't declined mensa or dominus to  
25          Father Duggan's liking, what would happen then?

1 A. We would get whipped.

2 Q. How would you be whipped?

3 A. Whipped across the back, across the legs.

4 Q. Were you wearing short trousers at that time?

5 A. Yes, shorts with long socks, but that didn't stop the  
6 pain and it didn't stop the weals. When I went back  
7 home and my mother saw the weals, she went bananas, as  
8 the Americans say, and she asked for an explanation.  
9 I said, "Well, we were whipped at school".

10 I suppose corporal punishment wasn't banned in those  
11 days -- to my knowledge it wasn't. There were  
12 punishments at the school for various misdemeanours and  
13 breaking the rules. But being whipped for poor  
14 performance in class and stuff like that, I mean ...  
15 I'm not sure, I have a feeling my mother spoke to him  
16 about it, but what actually transpired I don't know.

17 Q. If I can come back to that incident then, clearly before  
18 you went home for that particular holiday, you had been  
19 whipped in the way you described --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- some time beforehand?

22 A. Yes, because the weals stayed for -- it's like a bruise.  
23 If you bruise your leg, it can stay blue for weeks.  
24 That's what it was, stripes, and some had more than  
25 others.

1 Q. What was your mother's reaction?

2 A. She was absolutely flabbergasted.

3 Q. But you don't know whether or not she spoke to him?

4 A. I don't know. I have a feeling she did, but of course

5 my parents were there and I was there. My parents were

6 thousands of miles away.

7 Q. How regular an occurrence then was this type of

8 whipping?

9 A. Daily. It could be whenever you had a Latin class -- or

10 with [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] whenever we had a [REDACTED] class,

11 because he did that too.

12 Q. I'll come on to him in a moment. So far as Aidan Duggan

13 was concerned, did this happen when you were

14 a 7-year-old?

15 A. No.

16 Q. So when did this start?

17 A. That started -- we didn't start Latin until we were two

18 or three years into the school, so I would say I'd be

19 about 10, something like that.

20 Q. Did it persist throughout the whole period at Carlekemp?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. You mentioned [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] and you've already told

23 us about the interaction you had with him in connection

24 with the [REDACTED] tuition, but you've also said that he

25 also would use a cane.

1 A. Yes. The same, the same type of cane. I don't know if  
2 there was some kind of supply company that supplied  
3 these, a bamboo cane like that (indicating), perhaps  
4 a centimetre in diameter, a centimetre and a half in  
5 diameter, which they'd swing at you.

6 Q. Which part of the body would it be directed at?

7 A. Always the buttocks and the backs of the legs and  
8 calves.

9 Q. Was this before or after the [REDACTED] tuition episode?

10 A. At the same time. Talking about lovey-dovies in the  
11 evening and then brutality during the day in the  
12 classroom.

13 Q. And would you describe --

14 A. The fact that he was friendly -- I don't know you would  
15 put that, but he obviously showed me a certain kind of  
16 favouritism, and the fact -- irrespective of that fact,  
17 it didn't stop me from getting beaten in the class.

18 Q. And were others beaten?

19 A. Absolutely, yes.

20 Q. These were beatings for what reason?

21 A. For not being able to know your vocabulary or ... it was  
22 always for performance-related things.

23 Q. You do tell us in your statement, Patrick, that

24 [REDACTED] MFC [REDACTED] tried to ingratiate himself into your  
25 family.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Was that after your parents had moved back to this  
3 country?

4 A. Well, my parents were still based in Aden and they were  
5 until 1967. But my father had decided to build a house  
6 in Dollar. I can't remember exactly when that was.  
7 I guess 1959/1960, something like that, he built  
8 a house. My mother came over and she spent more time in  
9 Scotland, furnishing and looking after the completion.

10 Shortly after everything was ready, MFC  
11 asked if he could come and spend a week or so with us in  
12 our house in Dollar.

13 Q. Was this during the holidays?

14 A. This was during the holidays, yes.

15 Q. Were you still at Carlekemp?

16 A. I was still at Carlekemp, yes. He came and stayed with  
17 us and he stayed a lot shorter than he had originally  
18 planned.

19 The very first day -- he came in the afternoon and  
20 had tea and then off to bed. The very next morning, my  
21 mother said -- because my father was away in his  
22 business in Aden, my mother said, "Go and wake up  
23 Father MFC and tell him breakfast's ready". I went  
24 into the bedroom and he was still lying in bed. He was  
25 awake and he got up on an elbow and he said, MLN

1           please stay a little while", and I said, "No, no, come  
2           down to breakfast, breakfast is ready".

3           I had this sort of revulsion, I don't know what it  
4           was, or how to explain at that age when you don't really  
5           know any of the sexual stuff, but a really creepy  
6           feeling was there. So I scurried out and said,  
7           "Breakfast's ready, come down", and that was it.

8           Then afterwards, there was a sort of distance  
9           between us, even when we went back to the school. That  
10          episode created a sort of distance, if I remember.

11         Q. Did that episode occur during the time that he was your  
12         ██████████ or after that time?

13         A. No, during the time. No, I think it would be finished  
14         by then.

15         Q. Moving on then from Carlekemp -- and I think we already  
16         looked at this -- you left in the summer of 1962.

17         A. I'm glad you mentioned that because it's very fuzzy in  
18         my memory when exactly I did leave and when I started at  
19         Fort Augustus. I know exactly when I started and when  
20         I left Fort Augustus, but in between ...

21         Q. According to the records, you then moved to  
22         Fort Augustus for the school year beginning 1962.

23         A. Right.

24         Q. I think what you tell us in your statement with regard  
25         to the set-up at Fort Augustus is that there were two

1 houses.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you were allocated to one of the houses; is that

4 right?

5 A. Yes, Vaughan.

6 Q. And the other house was called?

7 A. Lovat.

8 Q. Do you remember the names of the monks?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Can you tell us who they were at that time?

11 A. The [REDACTED] was Father [REDACTED] MFF [REDACTED] Then we had

12 Father [REDACTED] MRQ [REDACTED], who was a [REDACTED] teacher. There

13 were a number of lay teachers.

14 Q. What about your housemaster, do you remember who --

15 A. Yes, Father [REDACTED] MFG [REDACTED]

16 Q. And the housemaster of the other house then?

17 A. Was Father [REDACTED] MFE [REDACTED] I remember them very well,

18 but I didn't have any classes with either of them. They

19 were strictly housemasters. They didn't have, to the

20 best of my knowledge, any teaching function.

21 Q. Did they have a role to play in connection with

22 discipline?

23 A. Yes, definitely. Very definitely, yes.

24 Q. I'll come to that in a moment. What was the dormitory

25 set-up at Fort Augustus?

1 A. At Fort Augustus, it was one huge dormitory with  
2 everybody. There was a partition, a sort of wooden  
3 partition separating Lovat and Vaughan -- when I say it  
4 was a one huge dormitory, it was under the eaves, you  
5 know, directly under the eaves and we all had -- it was  
6 all horseboxes, we called them, cubicles with bunk beds.  
7 Only the senior boys had separate beds, single beds, and  
8 then the prefects had little studies.

9 Q. Okay. Did you move from one horsebox, if you want to  
10 call it, to another, depending on seniority?

11 A. Exactly. We were sort of moved around. We could arrive  
12 at the school and they'd say, "This term you're in  
13 such-and-such a place".

14 Q. You mentioned bunk beds. Do I take from that that there  
15 would be two boys in each horsebox?

16 A. Exactly, unless they were more senior and they could  
17 have a single bed.

18 Q. Can I ask you about bullying at Fort Augustus: did  
19 bullying go on?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Can you just describe that for me?

22 A. When I went to Fort Augustus, I was bullied by one boy.  
23 It was the same at Carlekemp. I don't know ... There  
24 was one boy that bullied me quite severely very early in  
25 my first term there; the same thing at Fort Augustus.



1           There was a boy, just one, that bullied me, but  
2           I resisted and fought back. I'll have you know that,  
3           contrary to present appearances, I was very slight and  
4           quite small, so I was a bit of a target.

5           Q. But just from one boy?

6           A. Just one boy. You're either liked or not liked by those  
7           around you, but there's really only one boy that had it  
8           in for me.

9           Q. And did you complain about that?

10          A. There was no point in complaining about anything at the  
11          school in those kind of days. It was part of the -- how  
12          do you say that? -- there's an expression, sorry,  
13          there's an expression ... part of the living experience  
14          of being at boarding school, if you'd let me say it that  
15          way.

16                 I will say that bullying, if it was caught in  
17          flagrante, it was definitely severely punished. They  
18          did look down on it in the school.

19          Q. If they were caught in the act?

20          A. Yes, if they were caught in the act.

21          Q. But did this bullying stop at some point?

22          A. Yes. It more or less stopped after the first or second  
23          term because I don't know if it was because I got bigger  
24          or ... I'd fight him back, you know. He was  
25          considerably bigger than me, but I'd fight him back.

1 Q. You mentioned Carlekemp and perhaps I'll go briefly back  
2 to that. Did you say there was a particular person at  
3 Carlekemp that bullied you?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. But it was different person?

6 A. A different person, yes. I must say that Fort Augustus,  
7 that was really the only case of bullying that I had.  
8 I heard about other cases to other boys ...

9 Q. Can I then move on to discipline. Let's look, first of  
10 all, at the role of the housemaster in connection with  
11 discipline. Can you just explain to us what role the  
12 housemaster would play if punishment was required?

13 A. The housemaster depended on his actions from the  
14 prefects telling him that we'd been caught smoking  
15 or ... Sometimes the offences were pretty trivial, like  
16 hands in pockets and stuff like that. I think,  
17 actually, hands in pockets was the very first punishment  
18 I had at Fort Augustus. I was sent up to Father MFE  
19 and he said, "Hands in pockets is 30 lines", and there's  
20 me thinking, oh great, I have to write out 30 times  
21 "I must not put my hands in my pockets", but it wasn't  
22 like that at all. I had to copy out during the film  
23 projection on Saturday three or four pages of the Latin  
24 primer, enough to keep me from seeing the film.

25 So there were punishments -- as I say, he was the

1           governor of the house and he was the one that meted  
2           out -- really controlled all the discipline in the  
3           house. He relied on the input from the prefects for  
4           this. I have to admit, I was very regularly up before  
5           him for punishment.

6           Q. And what would the punishment entail for a more serious  
7           offence?

8           A. They were graded, as I mention. There were minor  
9           offences and you got 30 lines. The 30 lines, I forgot  
10          to mention, was that -- for 30 lines you had to buy  
11          a sheet of paper from him for 3d. The first sheet you  
12          had to buy from him, and 3d came out of your pocket  
13          money, which he used to also control.

14          LADY SMITH: Just for those who are too young to understand  
15          what you're saying, do you mean thruppence? So it's  
16          just a little more than one new penny?

17          A. Exactly. I beg your pardon, my Lady.

18          LADY SMITH: That's all right.

19          A. But anyway, we would have to pay for this.

20                    Depending on the offence, it was graded. It could  
21          be the strap --

22          MR MacAULAY: On the hands?

23          A. On the hands. Or it could be the whip. We were whipped  
24          on the backside depending on the gravity of the offence.

25          Q. What was used as a whip?

1 A. It was once again a bamboo cane, but a bamboo cane,  
2 maybe 3 or 4 feet in length.

3 Q. Was it over your clothing?

4 A. It was over our clothing, yes.

5 Q. When you had committed the offence and you were being  
6 sent to the housemaster, would that happen straightaway  
7 or would there be a lag in time as to how that would  
8 come about?

9 A. No, we tried as much as possible -- we were sent up by  
10 the prefects, "You go and see your housemaster now", and  
11 we'd try and go as quickly as possible to get it over  
12 with. It was just tough luck if he wasn't in and then  
13 the punishment was delayed. I must say, I was very  
14 frequently up for punishment.

15 Q. But I think what you tell us in your statement is that,  
16 in contrast to Carlekemp, on these occasions there was  
17 at least an offence --

18 A. Yes, exactly.

19 Q. -- whatever the offence might have been?

20 A. Exactly. You had a sort of Articles of War situation,  
21 where such-and-such an offence justified such-and-such  
22 a punishment. If you managed to commit an offence, say  
23 smoking, or whatever, then if you were caught, you knew  
24 what to expect. So for me, that was an improvement on  
25 Carlekemp, where at Carlekemp you could receive a whack



1 A. Yes.

2 Q. For what reasons?

3 A. For poor performance, poor school performance in  
4 lessons.

5 Q. Can you tell me how this would come about?

6 A. Well, I assume that he received reports from the various  
7 masters that I was totally useless and he called me in  
8 and I'd get four strokes.

9 He was a very small man, MFF but  
10 absolutely redoubtable with a whip. But there we are.

11 I don't know if you asked me to comment on him.  
12 He was an academic of some distinction. Even in those  
13 days, he was a noted Gaelic scholar and what have you,  
14 quite well-known in Scotland, Scottish academic circles,  
15 but a very strict, austere person. We used to call him  
16 " MFF -- you know how boys dream up silly names  
17 for their masters.

18 Q. Can you tell me then what would the set-up be, the  
19 arrangements, for you to go and see him? Would somebody  
20 tell you at some point?

21 A. No, he would come into class and he'd say, "I want to  
22 see you in my study at 4 o'clock or 5 o'clock", or  
23 whatever. He'd actually come into the class and say --  
24 there would perhaps be another boy, you know, called up,  
25 and then of course it was, "Oh gosh, what have I done?"

1           Invariably, I wasn't punished by the headmaster very  
2           often, frequently by the housemaster, but the  
3           headmaster, it was always concerning school results and  
4           how I could do better. I didn't think I could, but they  
5           didn't think I was working hard enough.

6           Q. Did he say that to you?

7           A. Yes.

8           Q. Was that --

9           A. "What is wrong with you? Why can't you get better  
10          results?" all in the tone of saying, "I wish you weren't  
11          here, but I need your parents' fee money". Sorry,  
12          that's rather a flippant comment. I was not a model  
13          student at all.

14          Q. If I look at the nature of the punishments themselves,  
15          though, you've mentioned four strokes. Was it  
16          invariably four strokes?

17          A. For that kind of thing, yes, low marks and stuff like  
18          that.

19          Q. Was there any other reason why you'd be --

20          A. Before the headmaster? Not really. Well, no, that's  
21          wrong. If I'd been really, you know -- if there had  
22          been some offence, as I know happened with other boys,  
23          where there were offences outside of the school, in  
24          public, and then of course he would be the one that  
25          punished them, not the housemaster.

1 Q. Did that happen to you?

2 A. That didn't happen in my case, no.

3 Q. When you talk about four strokes, what implement is  
4 being used?

5 A. A cane, a bamboo cane, about 3 or 4 feet in length.

6 Q. What would be the target of the cane?

7 A. My buttocks.

8 Q. Would this be over your clothing?

9 A. Over my trousers, yes, trousers and underpants. We did  
10 try, as stupid boys do, to pad with hankies and stuff  
11 like that. It was totally visible, of course, when you  
12 bent over. I tried that with my housemaster and he  
13 would say, "Get those out of your trousers".

14 It was exceedingly painful. Four strokes doesn't  
15 sound enough, but I can tell you already on the first  
16 stroke, your breath has gone with the pain. It was  
17 really a painful punishment.

18 Q. And with the headmaster, did these strokes cause injury?

19 A. They caused stripes.

20 Q. You give us some information in your statement, Patrick,  
21 about your life after you left Carlekemp (sic). Without  
22 dwelling on that in any way, I think you developed  
23 a career in what you tell us is international commerce.

24 A. That's right, yes.

25 Q. So it would appear that your poor marks didn't hold you



1 back?

2 A. No. Quite miraculously, I've got nothing to complain  
3 about. My professional career and what have you, you  
4 know, a lot of it is due to good luck, but I managed to  
5 get a series of good jobs, each job better than the  
6 previous one and so on, and I managed to retire.

7 Q. And you're now --

8 A. Having a relatively good position, you know.

9 Q. And you have retired and you live in Switzerland?

10 A. I'm retired, yes, and live in Switzerland.

11 Q. Are you able to give us any sense of what you perceive  
12 to be any impact, the way you were treated at Carlekemp  
13 in particular, and possibly Fort Augustus, has had on  
14 you?

15 A. Well, they were certainly the very worst years of my  
16 life. I know that -- I've heard many boys look back on  
17 their school days and they say, oh, you know, "Gaudeamus  
18 igitur", whatever, "Hallowed halls", and, "All those  
19 brilliant years I spent at school". It was definitely  
20 not my case.

21 I remember my last day at Fort Augustus. My father  
22 had managed to get me into a commercial college in  
23 Switzerland. That last day, there was a huge sigh of  
24 relief, and in fact it was the turning point in my life.  
25 You hear people say, "Well, from that time on, I didn't

1           look back", and that was more or less what happened in  
2           my case.

3           Q. And in relation to your personality, do you think that  
4           the treatment you received at these schools impacted  
5           upon the way you are?

6           A. Yes.

7           Q. In what way?

8           A. Firstly, in the way with my relationship to my parents.  
9           Now, I don't think that necessarily has anything to do  
10          with my school or ... it's to do with the fact that  
11          sending a relatively young child to boarding school,  
12          sentimentally, it cut me off completely from my parents.  
13          And when I next saw them, after I went into school and  
14          when I next saw my parents, it was practically a year  
15          later. I was embarrassed, you know.

16                 I didn't at all have the same rapprochement with my  
17          parents that children normally have. That's why in no  
18          way would I have accepted that my children attend  
19          a private school or a boarding school, let's say. It  
20          might have been acceptable if they'd been 12 or 13 years  
21          old, when they already have some kind of self-awareness  
22          and what have you, but certainly not as a child, as  
23          a 7-year-old child. So that's the first thing, the  
24          sentimental connection with my parents.

25                 I don't know if that has something to do with -- if

1           it was done on purpose, in those days, you know, to rule  
2           the Empire they had to send people -- you know, that no  
3           longer had feelings for their family and what have you,  
4           so we sent them to a strict boarding school.

5           The second thing is that my mother -- my father  
6           I leave out of it because my father was C of E and not  
7           really practising, but my mother and my maternal  
8           grandparents were very devout Catholics. This business  
9           of my brother and I attending what were, in those days  
10          anyway, very prestigious schools, they considered it an  
11          honour. We couldn't say much. My mother at the end, by  
12          the time it came for us to leave school, she understood  
13          that we had not been happy there and she was very  
14          remorseful about it.

15          But there was also this religious factor about how  
16          you mustn't say too much about the schools and the  
17          priests because they're special persons next to God.  
18          There we are.

19        Q. You mentioned your brother there in passing; he died  
20          several years ago.

21        A. Yes.

22        Q. You've told us about the [REDACTED] incident. Did he ever  
23          tell you how he had been treated otherwise?

24        A. No. It was impossible to draw him on it. I tried  
25          several times. He just didn't want to discuss it at

1 all.

2 Q. Finally, Patrick, you have a section at the end of your  
3 statement where you're looking at lessons to be learned.

4 I think essentially what you tell us in paragraph 74  
5 is that religious scholastic establishments should be  
6 dissolved, essentially, they shouldn't exist. Is that  
7 your main recommendation?

8 A. Yes. Maybe I said that in a sort of moment of pique,  
9 but fundamentally I do believe that. In my case, I went  
10 to a school with a religious cadre that were not,  
11 I learn now, and it was pretty evident at the time, they  
12 were not qualified as teachers. They may have had  
13 academic degrees or whatever, but they had not been to  
14 teacher training. I really think that every teacher in  
15 a school should have been to teacher training. These  
16 were just people that they shipped around between  
17 Fort Augustus and Carlekemp, part of their ... I don't  
18 know if it was ... we're talking about one monk where  
19 they say ... when they were caught at it, they'd say,  
20 "We'll send them to Carlekemp", and then when they're  
21 caught in Carlekemp, "We'll send them back up to  
22 Fort Augustus or elsewhere", you know, Ampleforth or  
23 whatever.

24 I guess religious instruction -- I don't think it'll  
25 ever be possible to stop it, but I think that all

1 teachers should be teacher trained and I believe that  
2 all teachers should be psychologically -- I don't know  
3 how to explain that, but should be screened in some way,  
4 that they can't, you know ... That they are not  
5 paedophiles or ... i don't know if it's possible, but  
6 I mean, you know ... There should be some form of  
7 screening or thing available.

8 In the case that I'm involved in, these people that  
9 were caught and that have been accused and what have  
10 you, they should not be protected. I'm really angry  
11 that the Catholic Church and the Benedictine Order is  
12 protecting these people.

13 I know of two cases, Father MFC is one,  
14 where -- when we were at school, it was, "Take your  
15 punishment like a man, boy", you know. This is the  
16 thing we had. So we had to take the medicine. But  
17 these guys, they're putting up every single kind of  
18 defence available so that they can't come and face the  
19 music. Do you know what I mean?

20 Q. Okay --

21 A. Sorry, am I blethering again?

22 Q. No, this is entirely your opportunity to say what you  
23 have to say.

24 A. I guess I'm very judgemental on the subject. I can tell  
25 you and I can tell -- it's not fair to say to all those

1 present -- that I have no more connection with the  
2 Catholic Church. Since I left the Catholic Church -- to  
3 honour my parents, my mother especially, I had my  
4 children baptised and my children had the sacraments and  
5 what have you, but they were allowed to choose whichever  
6 path they wanted once they were big, whether they wanted  
7 to continue as Catholics or whatever.

8 I personally have -- I haven't left the church, but  
9 I don't practise and haven't really practised since  
10 I left school. And I can put it at the doorstep of  
11 these guys, who purport to be priests and ministers of  
12 God and so forth. I remember my mum saying -- although  
13 my mother wasn't at all a Bible-basher, but she'd say,  
14 "Maybe have a look at Matthew 23" -- I don't know if  
15 it's Matthew 23, I think it's Matthew 23 -- where Christ  
16 is saying, "Don't look at" -- when he's talking about  
17 the Pharisees: "Don't look at what they do, look at what  
18 they say", or something, "and take it in that  
19 perspective", but I never could.

20 To me, these are men. Like all men they have their  
21 dark sides and their secrets and all the rest of it.  
22 I believe that in many cases, certainly at that time,  
23 when homosexuality was a punishable offence, that many  
24 of these people in religious orders took shelter there  
25 because of that. I have a strong feeling that

1           MFC

2           who took me to have tea with his  
3           mother, by the way, at some tea shop on Princes  
4           Street -- I can't exactly remember the occasion, maybe  
5           we came into Edinburgh with my brother for one of his  
6           music -- I can't exactly remember the occasion.

7           His mother was a grand lady. So I suspect that for  
8           him, the religious order was some kind of refuge, maybe  
9           he didn't have to say to his mother and father, "I'm  
10          homosexual", or, "I'm a paedophile or whatever", and you  
11          can hide away in the Benedictine order.

12          I say hide away, but I qualify it by saying they  
13          could hide because, as I say, they didn't -- the order  
14          didn't report them to the police. They were known -- in  
15          some of the cases, they were known, they were found out,  
16          they were hidden. They didn't call the police and say,  
17          "We have somebody abusing boys, we're sending him to  
18          Carlekemp", or, "We're sending him from Carlekemp to  
19          Fort Augustus", or, "We're sending him from  
20          Fort Augustus to Ampleforth or Downside", or wherever,  
21          somewhere within the Benedictine religious community.

22          Q. Well, I think what we should do, Patrick, we should go  
23          and check what Mark 23 says --

24          LADY SMITH: I think we were talking about Matthew,  
25          actually.

          A. It sounds terrible for somebody like me who is

1 completely atheistic and what have you to come out with  
2 a biblical reference.

3 MR MacAULAY: But it might be:

4 "Look not what they say, but what they do."

5 Can we just check that?

6 (Pause)

7 In any event, Patrick, can I thank you for these  
8 final thoughts and indeed for engaging with the inquiry  
9 and for coming to give evidence today.

10 My Lady, I can say that I haven't been sent any  
11 questions to put to Patrick.

12 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

13 Patrick, can I just ask you one specific question?

14 You may not remember the detail, but you talked about

15 Father MFF --

16 A. Yes.

17 LADY SMITH: -- and being caned by him. Do you remember how  
18 many hands he used to hold the cane? Was it one or two?

19 A. One. I think so, yes.

20 LADY SMITH: I just wondered.

21 A. Yes, I think so.

22 LADY SMITH: That's all right.

23 A. Well, I mean, he always held it in one hand. Of course  
24 we had to bend down and face the other way. I'm pretty  
25 sure it was ... He was a man of [REDACTED]



1 I'm not sure of sizes, but I'd say he was something like  
2 1 metre 65, 1 metre 70, and not more. But I remember he  
3 could kick a rugby ball -- he had really impressive  
4 physical strength.

5 LADY SMITH: Thank you. I just wanted to check.

6 Let me confirm whether there are any outstanding  
7 applications for questions. No.

8 There are no more questions for you, Patrick, and it  
9 simply remains for me to thank you very much for having  
10 engaged with the inquiry as fully as you have, both by  
11 providing your written statement and coming today to  
12 talk about your memories in the way you have and  
13 providing the amount of detail and thoughtful detail, if  
14 I may say, that you have given to us. So thank you very  
15 much for that, it's of enormous assistance to the work  
16 we're doing here, and I'm now able to let you go.

17 A. Okay. Thank you, my Lady.

18 (The witness withdrew)

19 LADY SMITH: I will rise very briefly between the witnesses,  
20 but just let me confirm: the position remains the same  
21 that if, as has happened with this witness, who has  
22 chosen to be anonymous, they sometimes use their own  
23 names, as this witness did a few times in relation to  
24 his second name, that does not mean it can be repeated  
25 outside this room. He retains anonymity and he cannot

1           be referred to anywhere else other than by his  
2           pseudonym, which is "Patrick".

3       MR MacAULAY: A short adjournment?

4       LADY SMITH: We will have a quick adjournment.

5       (12.15 pm)

6                               (A short break)

7       (12.20 pm)

8       LADY SMITH: Ms MacLeod.

9       MS MACLEOD: The next witness, my Lady, is an applicant who  
10           will give evidence using the pseudonym "James".

11                               "JAMES" (sworn)

12       LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable,  
13           James.

14           James, you'll see the red light on the microphone  
15           tells us that it's switched on. It's very important  
16           that we pick up what you have to say through the  
17           microphone and I hope it's a help to you as well as to  
18           us. If you could try and stay in a good position for  
19           it, that would be excellent. Sometimes if you get too  
20           close, it starts fuzzing; you'll realise if that  
21           happens.

22           If you're okay, I will hand over to Ms MacLeod and  
23           she'll explain to you what happens next.

24       A. Yes, thank you my Lady.

25                               Questions from MS MacLEOD

1 MS MACLEOD: Good afternoon, James.

2 A. Good afternoon.

3 Q. I don't need your date of birth, but to give a time  
4 frame for your evidence, can you confirm that you were  
5 born in 1947?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And that you're now 72 years old?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You've provided a statement for the inquiry and there's  
10 a copy of that in the red file on your desk. Parts of  
11 that will also come up on the screen in front of you, so  
12 you may find it easier to look at the screen.

13 First of all, could you turn, please, to the final  
14 page of your statement in the red file. Have you signed  
15 the statement?

16 A. I have.

17 Q. In the final paragraph, do you say:

18 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
19 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

20 A. I do, yes.

21 Q. And do you go on to say:

22 "I believe the facts stated in the witness statement  
23 are true"?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. I'll give the reference for the witness statement and

1           it's at WIT.001.002.3745. That's for the transcript.

2           You provide us with some background, James, about  
3           your family and your life before you went to boarding  
4           school. I think you tell us it was a Catholic family;  
5           is that right?

6           A. Yes, that's right.

7           Q. And you also tell us that it was a naval family?

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. Many generations, in fact, of your family had been in  
10          the Royal Navy?

11          A. Yes.

12          Q. I think you were one of three brothers; is that right?

13          A. Correct, yes.

14          Q. You had an older brother who was just 10 months older  
15          than yourself?

16          A. Yes.

17          Q. And a brother who was two years younger?

18          A. Yes.

19          Q. You tell us in your statement that your father was  
20          in the Korean War for two years and that he returned  
21          in the early 1950s and that you hadn't seen him for  
22          a while.

23          A. Yes, that's correct. Probably about two years, I think,  
24          was the posting.

25          Q. Where were your family living at that time?

1 A. My family was living in Hampshire, a little village  
2 called [REDACTED]

3 Q. And was it decided around that time that your and your  
4 older brother should go to boarding school?

5 A. Yes, it was.

6 Q. Do you remember anything about that decision being  
7 taken?

8 A. I wasn't party to the decision, no. All I can remember  
9 was being told that I was going away to school.

10 Q. Were you around age 7 when you first went to boarding  
11 school?

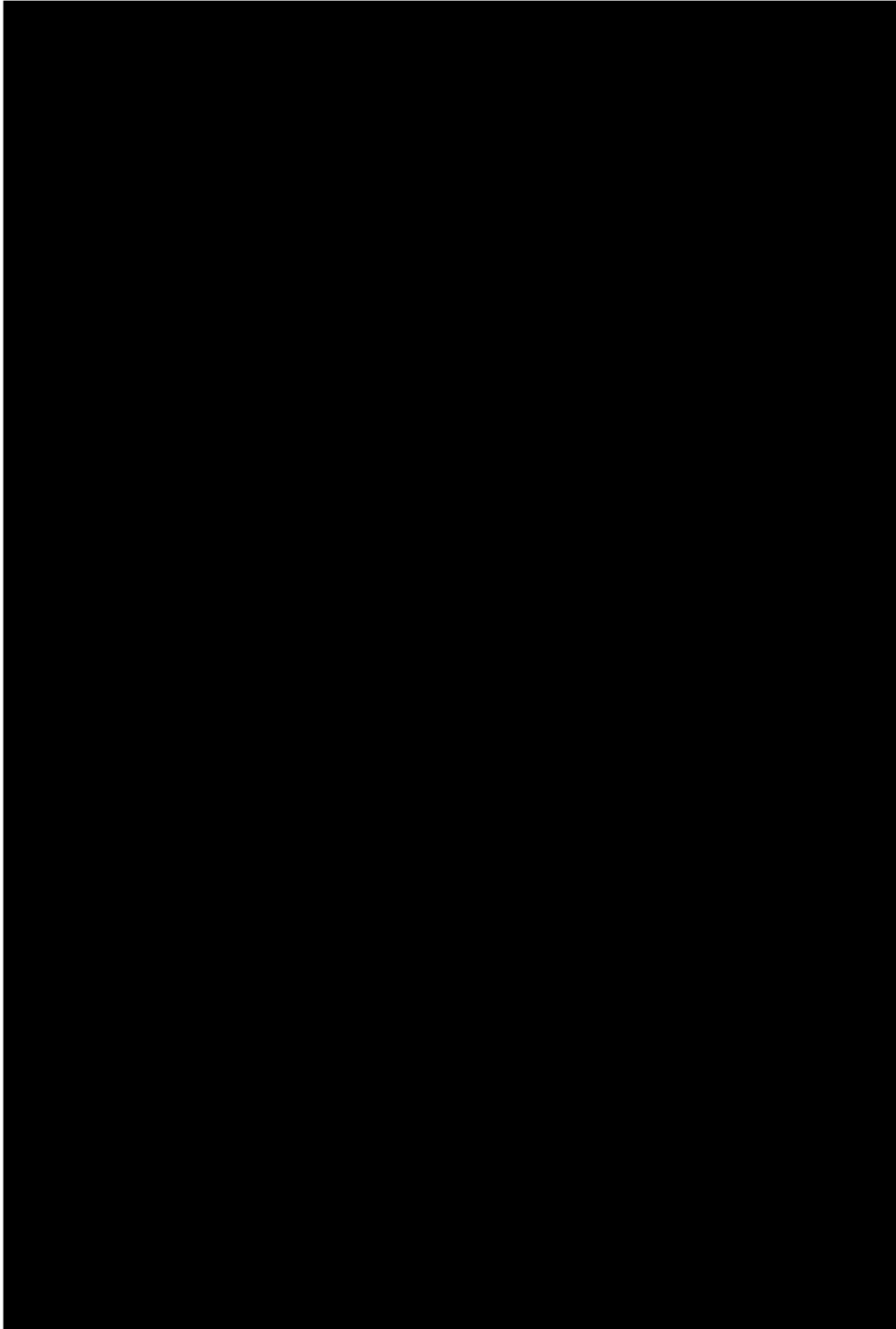
12 A. Yes. I'm assuming I was probably about 7 and a half.  
13 I probably would have been 7 in whatever month it was,

14 [REDACTED] So I probably started in the [REDACTED] of  
15 that year, so yes.

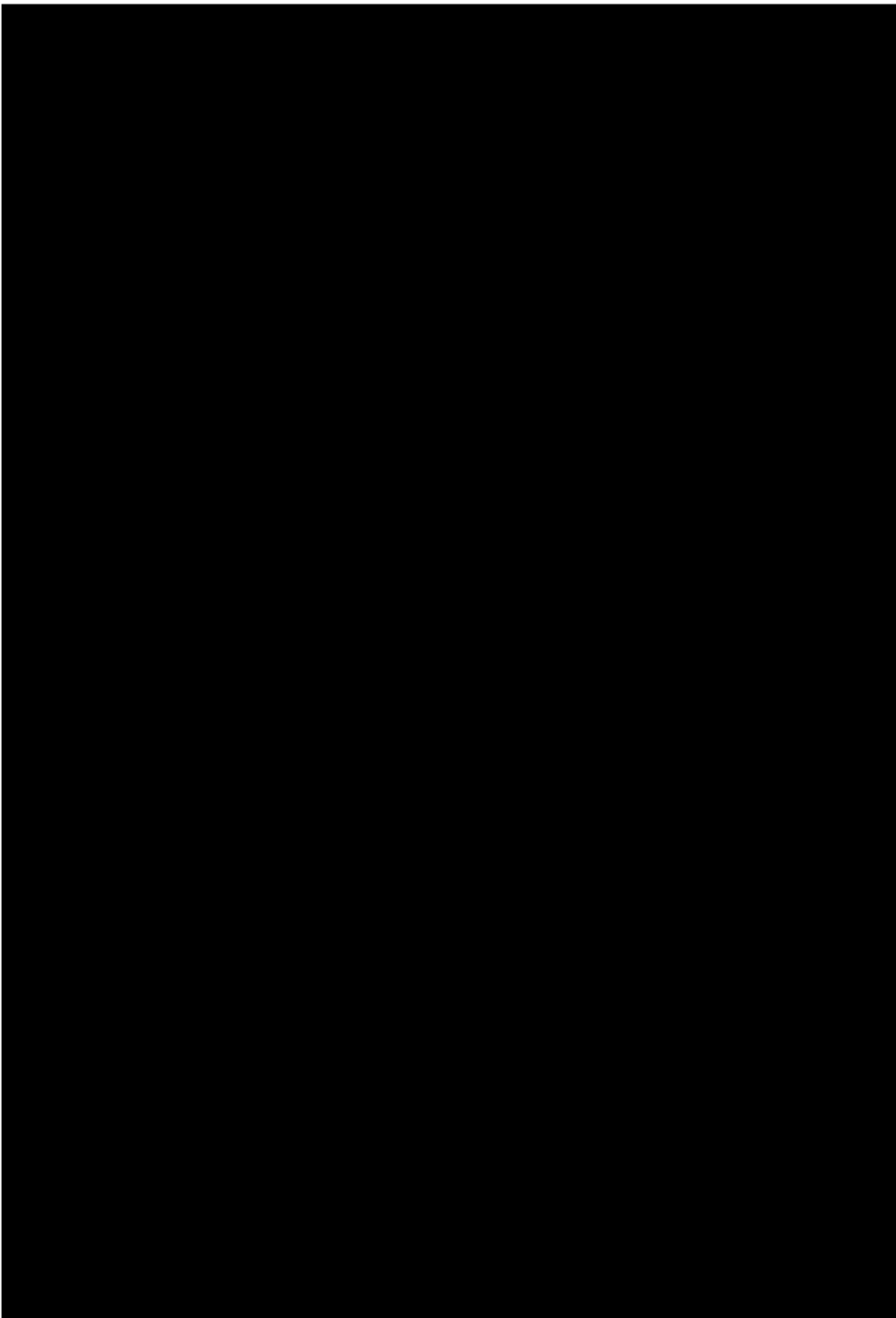
16 Q. [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 A. [REDACTED]  
19 Q. [REDACTED]  
20 A. [REDACTED]  
21 Q. [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]  
23 A. [REDACTED]  
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1 Q. You were at that school from 1957 to 1958?

2 A. Yes. No, fifty ... I left there in 1961.

3 Q. Did you go from there to Fort Augustus?

4 A. Yes, I did, yes.

5 Q. So from 1957 to 1961?

6 A. Yes, sorry. Yes.

7 Q. Did it come about you were moved to Fort Augustus? Were

8 you around 14 when you moved to Fort Augustus?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. You stayed there until 1963?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. We can see from some information that we've recovered

13 from the Benedictine Order that you were admitted to

14 Fort Augustus in [REDACTED] 1961 when you would have been

15 14 --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- and that you left the school on [REDACTED] 1963 when

18 I think you would have been 15.

19 A. 15, yes.

20 Q. Who was the [REDACTED] at Fort Augustus when you

21 arrived?

22 A. The [REDACTED] was Father [REDACTED] MFF

23 Q. And how would you describe Father [REDACTED] MFF

24 A. Small. Very studious. Blind as a bat. He used to wear

25 pebble glasses. I think he was a very learned man, but



1 he was quite vicious. In fact, he's the only person  
2 I've ever met that, when he caned somebody, used both  
3 hands.

4 Q. We'll look at that in more detail shortly. Who were the  
5 housemasters at Fort Augustus?

6 A. My housemaster was Father **MFG** Father **MFG**  
7 **MFG**. The other housemaster was Father **MFE**  
8 **MFE**

9 Q. How did you find the regime at that school when you  
10 arrived from St Bede's?

11 A. I think the regime was harsh, but compared to -- I had  
12 gone through a very difficult time at St Bede's,  
13 therefore you could almost say that anything else had to  
14 be better.

15 It was a very strict school, it was cold. The food  
16 was good -- that was the one good thing about it, the  
17 food was brilliant. But it operated under -- there was  
18 a bit of bullying. I think it was a culture of fear in  
19 a way. So I made some good friends there and when  
20 you have friends, you stick together, and when you're  
21 together in groups, it's surprising what you can  
22 actually withstand.

23 You have to remember that at that sort of school, if  
24 you have any troubles whatsoever, you don't have them  
25 just during the day, you've got them during the night as

1 well.

2 We didn't even have half-terms. You are there for  
3 the duration, so you either play very clever or you keep  
4 your head down, basically.

5 Q. Do you remember your first day at Fort Augustus, James?

6 A. Yes, vaguely. I think we all -- most of us arrived by  
7 train, some obviously from Glasgow, some obviously from  
8 Edinburgh. So I would come on the Glasgow train, which  
9 arrived at, I think it was Spean Bridge, and then we'd  
10 coach to the school, so quite a crowd of us, probably  
11 about 70 or 80 would arrive back there.

12 As new boys, we'd all be greeted in the main foyer,  
13 which was -- the main doors were below the sort of main  
14 clock tower with bastion walls each side, because it was  
15 General Wade's old Redcoat fort. We were then greeted  
16 by various monks and introduced to our housemaster.

17 I assume we were sort of given a few housekeeping rules,  
18 as far as I can remember.

19 Q. I'll put a photograph on the screen if that's all right.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. It is at INQ.001.004.1983. Do you recognise what we see  
22 there in the photograph?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. At the front of the photograph, the front centre of the  
25 photograph, is that the entrance you were telling us

1           about?

2           A. That's the front entrance, yes. It's difficult for you  
3           to see the walls there because, obviously, at one time  
4           when it was General Wade's, they were probably 20 or  
5           30 feet high. But now they're just 4 or 5 feet because  
6           it was too expensive to blow them up completely, so they  
7           were just concreted over. They were called the bastion  
8           walls.

9           Q. You have mentioned the houses, James, within the school.  
10          You mention in your statement that there were three  
11          houses, I think, but two in operation; is that right?

12          A. Yes. They'd created a new house called Calder, and in  
13          fact on the right-hand side of that photograph you have  
14          just shown me was the new wing called the Calder Wing  
15          with a stained glass window in it. So I assume that  
16          Mr Calder, whoever he was, the benefactor, had built  
17          that wing.

18                 But I think what had happened was that the school  
19          hadn't expanded how they wanted to expand it, therefore  
20          there wasn't enough boys, so although I was originally  
21          allocated when I was sent to the school to go into  
22          Calder, there was only the other two operating. So  
23          Calder had never operated, I don't believe, as a house.

24          Q. Were you in the Vaughan house?

25          A. I was in Vaughan, yes.

1 Q. I think something you mention in your statement is that  
2 although you didn't feel intimidated necessarily when  
3 you arrived, there was a bit of hostility there?

4 A. Well, yes, and I mean, it was something I wasn't  
5 expecting. I'd been at boarding school, remember,  
6 probably for five or six years, although I was only  
7 young, so I was pretty good at survival mode. But there  
8 was an awful lot of hostility towards those that weren't  
9 Scots. I think there were only about six of us that  
10 were English and I think there was a Mexican, an  
11 Irishman and a Canadian, and that was about it.

12 Q. Was that hostility from the other boys?

13 A. Yes, yes it was.

14 Q. In relation to the boys, how many boys do you recall  
15 there being in the school?

16 A. I don't know for sure. My number was [REDACTED] but I think  
17 there were probably about 160, I suppose.

18 Q. And the age range?

19 A. Well, normally I suppose if you finished prep school,  
20 they would normally be about 13 or so up to 18. But  
21 I would think there was probably a few 12-year-olds.  
22 I would have said maybe 12 to 18.

23 Q. How were the boys addressed by the monks? Would the  
24 amongst use your first name or your surname?

25 A. No, only surnames were used all the time.

- 1 Q. What were the sleeping arrangements?
- 2 A. We slept in dormitories of about 20, I suppose. I think  
3 the dormitories were split for houses and ages, so it  
4 was a bit of a mixture. It wasn't as though you had  
5 a group of friends and you were all in the dormitory  
6 with your friends. They might be in different  
7 dormitories to you. So it was quite a different sort of  
8 set-up.
- 9 Q. As well as the monks who were involved in the school  
10 side of things, we've heard that there was also  
11 a monastery on the grounds.
- 12 A. Yes, the monastery church was attached to the school,  
13 yes.
- 14 Q. Did you have any dealings with the monks who were in  
15 that monastery but who were not involved in the school?
- 16 A. Well, yes and no, because you would meet some of them  
17 out walking, you would meet some of them doing other  
18 jobs within the abbey and around the school if they  
19 weren't directly teaching. You would meet them in the  
20 abbey church. So yes, you would have contact with those  
21 other monks. So you wouldn't necessarily know all the  
22 monks, but I would think a large proportion of them you  
23 would know, yes.
- 24 Q. In relation to the school and the teaching side of  
25 things, I think you say that a Father MRQ was

1 the main teaching monk.

2 A. He was my main teaching monk. He taught [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
3 and [REDACTED] So he was really my main schoolmaster,  
4 if you like.

5 Q. What did you make of him? What was he like?

6 A. We didn't get on. He had been a boy at the school,  
7 quite successful, I think, a very good cricketer. He  
8 had then become a novice monk and then become a monk, so  
9 he'd never experienced real life. I don't think he  
10 could cope very well. I'm not sure -- you could argue  
11 that maybe his devotion was to the monastery, not  
12 necessarily to teaching, so maybe he resented teaching.

13 He didn't seem very capable of handling and  
14 controlling a class of boys. He would lose his temper  
15 and he'd throw things like board dusters, he might clip  
16 you round the ear. No more violent than that, he didn't  
17 have a cane or anything, but he really didn't take  
18 pressure very well.

19 I can remember one time I fell out with him quite  
20 badly. We were doing a mock Lowers exam and I got  
21 everything right and he gave me 92%, I think, which  
22 I didn't mind. He said he didn't follow enough of my  
23 workings or whatever. I said that was fine, I didn't  
24 mind, but then he awarded someone else a higher mark  
25 than me who had got something wrong. I said, "Hang on,

1 I've got 100% in the mock exam and you have marked me  
2 down because you don't follow some of my workings, I'm  
3 good at maths, you know I am, but you can't mark someone  
4 who has got something wrong higher than me". So we had  
5 a bit of an argument and I think he threw a tantrum and  
6 probably stormed out or something.

7 Q. What would happen when he threw a tantrum?

8 A. He would just throw a board dusters and things around  
9 and might clip you round the ear or something like that.

10 Q. So when you say clip you round the ear, did that hurt?

11 A. No.

12 Q. And were you hit with a board dusters or did he just  
13 throw them?

14 A. If you weren't quick enough to duck, yes!

15 Q. Were you hit with the duster?

16 A. Probably, yes.

17 Q. Was that the kind of duster that had a wooden side on  
18 it?

19 A. Yes. It wasn't a cloth, no, it was a proper wood and --  
20 yes, if it hit you hard, it would hurt you, yes.

21 Q. Do you recall if you were injured by that or if any  
22 other boys were?

23 A. I expect somebody probably had the odd bump from it. It  
24 shouldn't have happened, I suspect, no, but it did.

25 Q. You mention a Father Edmund Carruthers; was he another

1 teacher?

2 A. Yes, he was. Yes, Father Edmund, he taught us Latin.

3 I believe he'd actually been -- I think he was an  
4 ex-heavyweight boxer and his brother was also a monk  
5 there as well.

6 Q. What was he like in terms of his interactions with the  
7 boys?

8 A. He seemed okay. I don't know whether he liked teaching  
9 Latin or whether he was forced to do it. I don't think  
10 he was very good at it, but he wasn't an unpleasant --  
11 his nickname was Tutti Frutti. So if he was an ex-boxer  
12 and we called him Tutti Frutti, he couldn't have been  
13 too bad a guy really.

14 Q. Someone else you mention is Father [REDACTED] MEV

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What were your interactions with him?

17 A. At the time they were very good. He was responsible for  
18 teaching me [REDACTED] or the class [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]. He seemed to be very, very supportive,  
20 very, very friendly, and I got on exceptionally well  
21 with him, I must admit. It was only recently that --  
22 I thought he was dead. I had been told, I think by my  
23 mother, that he'd died. He was very ill and he died and  
24 I was quite upset at the time because I thought he was  
25 okay.



1           When I was expelled from the school, I asked him  
2 specifically to care for my younger brother because  
3 I thought, well, I've been expelled, my younger brother  
4 is now on his own, not only will my friends keep an eye  
5 on my younger brother, I would ask him to do the same.

6           In the light of day, I think probably he's one of  
7 the worst abusers that was there and that perhaps I and  
8 my mother were probably being groomed by him. He would  
9 write to my mother and send postcards to her. He would  
10 take groups of boys on holiday, on trips over to the  
11 islands, and I don't know for a fact, but I'm convinced  
12 that he probably abused those boys there.

13 Q. Was your brother one of the boys that he took on these  
14 trips?

15 A. Yes, my brother was there and he went on several trips.

16 Q. Did you go on any of the trips?

17 A. No, I didn't.

18 Q. What convinces you that something may have happened on  
19 those trips?

20 A. It was a very similar scenario to what had happened at  
21 my previous school in a way. So there are similarities.  
22 You tend to think, hang on, there's a similar pattern  
23 going on here. My brother would never discuss anything  
24 with me whatsoever. I think he was being abused --  
25 I think he probably blamed me most of his life for it.

1           Sadly, he died in the year 2000. I was with him when he  
2           died and I was with him for a long time supporting him.  
3           But we never had that closeness. He never had children,  
4           he never ...

5           There are lots of things that I put together and  
6           I think, well, hang on, there was something going on  
7           there. As I say, it wasn't until recently that I found  
8           out that [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED], not only was he not dead,  
9           he was alive and kicking, and he'd been back to Scotland  
10          several times and back to [REDACTED] and obviously he's  
11          [REDACTED]

12          Q. How did you find that out?

13          A. [REDACTED]

14          [REDACTED]  
15          I thought, hang on, this is a bit strange. So  
16          I discussed it with my wife and I said, look, you know,  
17          and she said why don't you ring him.

18          So I rang [REDACTED] and had some conversations  
19          with him and I said, "I thought [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] was  
20          dead". He said, "No, no, no, he's back here". Then at  
21          one time he said, "He's gone off to [REDACTED]. I said,  
22          "But hang on, I've got postcards from him here and  
23          a Carlekemp newsletter that he was back in Scotland  
24          again".

25          So he was being moved around like a game of chess,

1           really. I think it's called "Pass the paedophile", but  
2           I'm not sure, sorry.

3           Q. Fathers **MES/MEY** are other monks that you  
4           tell us about in your statement. What was their role at  
5           Fort Augustus as far as you were concerned?

6           A. They came back to Fort Augustus and they did a little  
7           bit of teaching.

8           Q. When you say they came back to Fort Augustus, what was  
9           your understanding of where they'd been?

10          A. Our understanding was that they'd been doing missionary  
11          work round the world. I think it was mentioned that  
12          they'd also been to Carlekemp, but not -- it was mainly  
13          the idea was that they'd been out on missionary duties  
14          and they were coming back to join back the monastery  
15          again before they went off on their next trip. That was  
16          the gist of it.

17          Q. What was their role at Fort Augustus?

18          A. I think they did the odd teaching spot, but I don't  
19          really know.

20          Q. Did you yourself have any interactions with either of  
21          **MES/MEY**

22          A. I met them both, but they never actually taught me, no.

23          Q. What role did sport play in life at the school?

24          A. Oh, quite a bit, really. We played sport most  
25          afternoons. We played basically cricket in the summer

1 term and rugby in another term and hockey in another  
2 term. Usually, the hockey was when the weather was cold  
3 enough. If the ground was frozen, we'd play hockey  
4 more. I played for the second XI at cricket and at  
5 rugby and at hockey. I played for the school at hockey  
6 once. We had a very good hockey team. We had a lay  
7 teacher, [REDACTED] MIH [REDACTED] I think he lived in  
8 [REDACTED]. He was very good and I think we had  
9 several boys in the Scotland team at hockey.

10 But very often, the weather was pretty dour there.  
11 Everybody says Scotland can be bad, but believe you me,  
12 Scotland can be bad. We could be cut off for weeks at  
13 a time with snow and rain running and so we would do a  
14 lot of cross-country running and I was exceptionally  
15 good at running. For two reasons, really, I suppose  
16 I quite liked running, and (b) the faster you run, the  
17 quicker you get back and it's warm, and when it's  
18 sleeting and snowing -- so I did well at cross-country  
19 running at school.

20 Q. Was it seen as important to be good at sport?

21 A. Yes, I think amongst your peers it would have been, yes.  
22 In any school, it gains you a little bit of respect if  
23 you're good at something.

24 Q. You have mentioned already the trips that

25 Father [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] would take boys on.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Did you yourself go on any of these trips?
- 3 A. No, I didn't.
- 4 Q. Were those trips done as part of the school regime?  
5 Were they during term time?
- 6 A. Oh, no, no, they were done in the summer holidays.  
7 I don't think they were organised by the school.  
8 I don't think they were official school trips.
- 9 Q. Do you know if there were other staff members or monks  
10 going on the trips?
- 11 A. No, just [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] on his own with six or  
12 eight boys -- in fact, I've got photographs. At one  
13 point they were building a slipway on Colonsay and I've  
14 got photographs of the cement lorry being stuck and all  
15 the boys helping with the slipway.
- 16 Q. Do you recall any inspections of the school while you  
17 were there?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. I would like to ask you now about discipline and  
20 punishment at the school. If you were to be physically  
21 punished at the school, let's deal with that first of  
22 all, who would carry out the punishment?
- 23 A. If you were going to be caned, it would normally be  
24 carried out by [REDACTED] -- sorry, by [REDACTED]  
25 [REDACTED] If it was anything considered maybe

1 a little bit more serious or [REDACTED] wasn't  
2 there, then [REDACTED] would administer the caning.

3 Q. So if we look at the position with [REDACTED]  
4 first of all, was that Father MFG

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. So if you were going to be physically punished by  
7 Father MFG, can you tell me what would happen and  
8 where it would happen?

9 A. Right. You would be punished by caning on the bare  
10 backside. It would be in his study. You'd wait to be  
11 called in, you'd then have to lower your trousers, bend  
12 over a chair, and you'd be beaten on your bare backside  
13 with a bamboo cane.

14 Q. How many times would you be beaten with the cane?

15 A. Normally, six, sometimes 12, but usually six.

16 Q. Were you injured as a result of that?

17 A. Oh yes. Yes, you would have weals across your backside,  
18 yes.

19 Q. How painful was that experience?

20 A. It was painful, yes. You wouldn't want to do it for  
21 a hobby, would you? No.

22 Q. And was there a particular time of day where that would  
23 happen? Would it happen on the spur of the moment or  
24 would it be arranged?

25 A. No, it would be arranged. Oh yes. Yes, you'd have to

1 report to his study at a certain time for that. You  
2 knew it was going to happen.

3 Q. Would there be a number of boys?

4 A. There might be. Let's assume three or four of you were  
5 caught doing something you shouldn't have been doing,  
6 and if two of you were in one house and two in another,  
7 two were sent off to Father MFE and two to  
8 Father MFG. The other would wait outside while  
9 you were in and then he'd go in.

10 Q. What kind of things would be seen to merit this kind of  
11 punishment?

12 A. Going out of bounds. Smoking. Talking in the  
13 dormitory. I don't know, any minor breach of rules,  
14 really you'd get caned.

15 Q. Are these things that [REDACTED] would have seen  
16 for himself or would he come to know about these things?

17 A. He would either see them for himself, but normally they  
18 would be reported to him, either by another monk or by  
19 a prefect. If it was a prefect, if it was something  
20 like talking in study or something like that, you'd  
21 probably have to be done by the prefect three or four  
22 times before finally they'd say, "Right, about time you  
23 went and saw -- I'm going to report it to [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED] sort of thing". It wasn't suddenly, talking  
25 in study, "Get up and get six of the best".

- 1 Q. How often do you think you were caned in that way by  
2 [REDACTED]
- 3 A. Probably half a dozen times, I suppose, in all, by him.  
4 Probably a couple by Father MFF [REDACTED]  
5 I suppose.
- 6 Q. If we move on then to Father MFF and his punishments.  
7 What kind of thing would merit punishment from  
8 Father MFF
- 9 A. Usually something a bit more serious or, as I say,  
10 perhaps if [REDACTED] wasn't available for some  
11 reason, then Father MFF would administer the  
12 punishment. I think I got punished twice by  
13 Father MFF I am not quite sure what it was for at the  
14 time. I probably deserved it.
- 15 Q. Where did he administer the punishment?
- 16 A. In his study, in exactly the same way. The only  
17 difference was that he would use a cane with a back --  
18 two hands, backhanded. Unbelievable. I've never seen  
19 anybody like it. I've been at three schools where they  
20 used caning and the only time I have ever seen somebody  
21 use a two-handed backhander to cane you.
- 22 Q. And how many times did he cane you on the two occasions  
23 you can recall?
- 24 A. Oh, it'd be six, yes.
- 25 Q. Again, would that be on your bare backside?



- 1 A. Oh yes, yes.
- 2 Q. You've mentioned your brother already and I think that  
3 he joined the school at Fort Augustus around a year  
4 after you had arrived.
- 5 A. Yes, that's right.
- 6 Q. During the time that you were there that overlapped with  
7 him, did you see him very often?
- 8 A. Not a lot, really. Obviously I was there to keep an eye  
9 on him. I said to him, "We'll give you any protection,  
10 let us know if there's any bullying, we'll sort it".  
11 But he said, "No, I want to plough my own furrow, try  
12 and make my own friends", so I said, "Fine, you know I'm  
13 here if you need it", and that was the way he chose to  
14 do that. It was only until I left that I asked  
15 Father [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] to keep an eye on him.
- 16 Q. When you asked Father [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] to keep an  
17 eye on him, what was Father [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] response to  
18 that?
- 19 A. "Oh certainly, yes, I would be happy to", and that  
20 I shouldn't worry at all, he'd be perfectly all right.  
21 As you would expect, to me I thought this guy is okay,  
22 he's kind.
- 23 Q. You go on in your statement to discuss three incidents  
24 in particular, and I want to look at these in turn. The  
25 first of those is a death that you speak about, which

1 I think you say happened before you joined the school.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Can you tell me about when you first heard about that?

4 A. Well, I think probably during my first term, I suppose.

5 You heard the rumour that this young lad had died,

6 [REDACTED]. There were lots of rumours, you know, had

7 he been pushed, had he had an argument with somebody,

8 even rumours as to who pushed him, or had he just

9 fallen, was it a nasty accident. Bearing in mind what

10 used to happen -- we never had half-terms at the school,

11 but every three weeks we used to have what was called

12 a three-weekly. You were allowed to go out at a certain

13 time and you could more or less go anywhere, camping or

14 do whatever.

15 You had to log roughly the direction you were going,

16 but only south or north or something. There had to be,

17 I think, a minimum of three of us in a group. You

18 couldn't be less than three. And you had to be back at

19 a certain time. So it was great fun, but you couldn't

20 get very far in the number of hours and you probably

21 didn't want to. We just went out and had a bit of

22 camping and it was great fun.

23 It was one of those occasions that this lad had

24 obviously disappeared, which is strange because there

25 should have been three of them there, because that was

1 the rules. Why there wasn't, I don't know. He was  
2 found the next day floating in the loch. I don't know  
3 which loch, I assume it was Loch Ness, but it may not  
4 have been. So that was it.

5 It wasn't until a bit later that four of us --  
6 I think it was four of us -- were out for a walk. We  
7 used to go for a walk in the afternoons if there wasn't  
8 sport and we'd go to an old derelict house called  
9 Ardverikie House. We got to the gates of this house and  
10 you are probably talking from the gates of this old  
11 mansion to the house, it's probably 150 yards or so. So  
12 you've got an old Georgian-type house with Georgian  
13 paned windows. And all four of us stopped at this gate  
14 and we could see this face in this window. It was this  
15 guy's face, [REDACTED], because we'd seen photographs. But  
16 he had big white ears and it was most strange. We were  
17 absolutely terrified. Even the thought of it now.

18 We just turned and we ran. We got about half way  
19 back to the school, and we stopped, and we said, why are  
20 we running, and we started to ask each other why we were  
21 running. We all said, "We saw this face, it was  
22 [REDACTED] face", and we were absolutely terrified. So we  
23 went back to the school and we told them what had  
24 happened.

25 We said it was funny because he had these big white

1 ears. Then Father [REDACTED] MRQ [REDACTED] said, "Well, that was  
2 how I bandaged [REDACTED] head when we put him in the  
3 coffin, I bandaged white bandage all round his head,  
4 that's what it was". And when we went back there you  
5 couldn't have seen anybody's face from the road from the  
6 gates to that house. It was unbelievable.

7 So Father [REDACTED] MRQ [REDACTED] and Father [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED]  
8 said that they would do an exorcism. So we went back,  
9 I think the following day or the day after, and we went  
10 into the house and we were all in the foyer, the two  
11 monks went halfway upstairs -- it was like one of these  
12 old Georgian staircases where you went up but then you  
13 could see along the galleried landing. They got about  
14 halfway up, they were taller than we were, and they saw  
15 into the galleried landing and they just said, "Get the  
16 boys out of the house", and they did their exorcism and  
17 that was it.

18 It looked as though they'd seen something, but we  
19 don't know. It was just so strange because one was  
20 a Mexican, one was Irish, I'm English, there was  
21 a Canadian. We had nothing in common and yet we were  
22 all totally terrified. So we obviously all saw what we  
23 thought we'd seen. We didn't confer what we thought  
24 we'd seen, we turned and we ran. Supposedly, it was  
25 in the Scotsman newspaper, but I haven't since been able

1 to find it.

2 Q. Thank you for that.

3 A. Sorry, I digressed a bit. But that was all in relation  
4 to [REDACTED]

5 MS MACLEOD: Okay. My Lady, I'm moving on to a different  
6 topic now so it may be convenient to adjourn.

7 LADY SMITH: Just one small thing: I think you mention in  
8 your written statement that so far as you understand,  
9 there was no police involvement.

10 A. No. I wasn't aware that there was in terms of rumour,  
11 there was no police involvement. I don't know for  
12 certain because I wasn't there, but lots of my friends  
13 at the school had been there and they said no.

14 LADY SMITH: They didn't remember any police coming when the  
15 boy's body was found?

16 A. No, no.

17 LADY SMITH: I see, thank you very much. We'll stop now for  
18 the lunch break and I will sit again at 2 o'clock.

19 (1.00 pm)

20 (The lunch adjournment)

21 (2.00 pm)

22 LADY SMITH: Good afternoon, James. Are you ready for us to  
23 carry on?

24 A. Yes, thank you, my Lady.

25 LADY SMITH: Ms MacLeod, when you're ready.

1 MS MACLEOD: Just prior to the lunch break, James, you were  
2 telling us about a death that happened at the school  
3 before you arrived. I think one thing you do say  
4 is that you went back in later life and saw the  
5 headstone for this boy; is that right?

6 A. Yes, that's right. He's the only non-religious person  
7 buried in the monks' graveyard.

8 Q. You go on to tell us in your statement about another  
9 death that happened at the school. This time during  
10 your period there. I think you say it happened after  
11 the summer break of 1962 and that it involved a new boy.  
12 Could you tell me about that?

13 A. Yes. There was a new boy there. I'm still a little bit  
14 uncertain of his name. I thought it was [REDACTED] I've  
15 remembered nearly all of my life, but the last two or  
16 three years, I can't remember it for my life. He was  
17 there and he was being bullied and he was terribly  
18 homesick and he was terribly upset. And myself and --  
19 I believe it was [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] -- found him one day  
20 in floods of tears and everything. We said, what are  
21 your problems, don't worry, if somebody is bullying you,  
22 we can sort it out, if it's any of the monks that are  
23 a problem, we can help sort that out, it's not the end  
24 of the word, we'll look after you, we'll protect you,  
25 don't worry.

1 Q. What did he say?

2 A. He said, yes, all right. We assumed that that was okay  
3 and that he would come to us if he had a problem. It  
4 later transpired, I suppose probably a few days, a week  
5 later, I don't know, I can't be sure or certain, that  
6 he had committed suicide [REDACTED] -- under the  
7 stage that we had in the main hall we used to store all  
8 the trunks when we first arrived back at school. They  
9 were all placed in there. I think that was probably on  
10 a temporary basis until everybody got everything they  
11 wanted out of their trunks and they obviously went  
12 somewhere else for storage. Apparently he had [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED] in this area and he had been found by  
14 Father [REDACTED] MFE [REDACTED] There was no inquiry at the  
15 school, there was no investigation. As far as we were  
16 concerned, as boys, nothing: the lad had just gone and  
17 that was it.

18 Q. What do you remember being told at the time? Was the  
19 whole school told about this?

20 A. Nothing, no. No.

21 Q. What date do you think, if possible, could you put on  
22 this, even an approximate time?

23 A. I have to assume that it was -- we obviously went back  
24 to school in September and I would have thought it was  
25 within three or four weeks of that date. It wasn't

1 a long time. I think he was only about 12 and he'd been  
2 sent to the school, apparently, because his father  
3 wanted to toughen him up.

4 Q. Is that something the boy had told you himself?

5 A. Yes. His father thought that he was too soft and that  
6 he needed toughening up and that's why he was sent to  
7 the school. He just couldn't hack it.

8 Q. What you mentioned about a certain monk having found  
9 him, is that something that you were told at the time?

10 A. Yes, I think I must have been told at the time, yes. It  
11 was common knowledge as well, but I think -- yes.

12 Q. I think you've mentioned this was after the summer break  
13 in 1962.

14 A. Yes. I feel a bit guilty about it because I always  
15 think, you know, if I'd done more, then it wouldn't have  
16 happened. That's why I remembered it, you remember it  
17 all your life, something like that. So sad.

18 Q. You've told me about what the boy said to you about  
19 what was happening to him. Did you see him being  
20 bullied?

21 A. No. No, because if we had, we'd have intervened there  
22 and then.

23 Q. And the room you describe that you understand he was  
24 found in, is that the assembly room?

25 A. There's a main, big assembly room there which was in the



1 new block, the Calder wing if you like. It's where we  
2 put on stage performances, and the stage was probably as  
3 high as the desk you've got there, and the doors opened  
4 and it went down underneath and that's where it  
5 happened.

6 Q. If I were to put a photograph on the screen for you of  
7 that room, would that be all right?

8 A. Yes, perfectly all right, yes.

9 Q. It's at BEN.001.003.5155. You can tell me if this is  
10 the correct room or not.

11 A. Yes, that's it, yes.

12 Q. Thank you.

13 Do you remember if there was a funeral held for the  
14 boy?

15 A. No. Nothing at all. That was just -- gone, finished.

16 Q. And do you think there was any police involvement?

17 A. No. There were certainly no boys questioned and there  
18 was no evidence of any police there because you can  
19 understand in a school like that, if a police car  
20 arrives, everybody will say, "What's the police car  
21 for?" But no, not to my knowledge.

22 Q. Something else you tell us about is a fire --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- that happened at the school while you were there.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. First of all, when was that?

2 A. It was in the -- coming back after Christmas, the start  
3 of the January term.

4 Q. Which year?

5 A. Let me think.

6 Q. Was it --

7 A. I'd have been 15, so it's 1962 -- no, wait a minute,  
8 1963, February 1963.

9 Q. Can you tell me then what happened around that?

10 A. Well, I can tell you exactly what happened. Basically,  
11 what happened, a certain boy, [REDACTED] came to me  
12 and asked me if I could give him a box of matches, so  
13 I said yes. I assumed he was one of the covert smokers,  
14 so I assumed he was going to go and have a smoke, so  
15 I gave him a box of matches. He said, oh no, I'm going  
16 to burn the school down. I said, fine, great, and  
17 I didn't think any more of it.

18 Q. So did you think he was actually going to burn the  
19 school down?

20 A. God no. I thought it was a joke. I can't even remember  
21 what time that was. It must have been late afternoon,  
22 early evening. Then we'd all gone up to our dormitories  
23 and we were going to bed -- and I think we had just  
24 about got into bed and the fire alarms went off, the  
25 dormitories were filling with smoke. So there was

1 a full evacuation of the building went on.

2 Apparently, the library was on fire. I think it was  
3 probably quite fortunate in as much that in the doors  
4 where the library was in the Calder Wing, the doors had  
5 a little glass panel in them and my understanding was  
6 Father **MRQ** was walking past and saw the flames  
7 through the window.

8 We used to keep our own fire engine at Fort Augustus  
9 because the nearest fire engines were either at  
10 Inverness or Fort William, so we had an old-fashioned  
11 fire engine, but it was on full standby. And Father  
12 **MRQ** used to drive this fire engine, so he was  
13 obviously trained in fire safety inasmuch as people were  
14 in those days. My understanding was he rushed in and  
15 put the fire out and it was newspapers that had been set  
16 alight by the bookshelves and the papers that were  
17 alight had created an awful amount of smoke and he  
18 managed to stop it before the books caught fire.

19 Q. Was this in the library in the new part of the school?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So what's the next thing you remember? You were  
22 evacuated and what's the next thing?

23 A. We were all evacuated and then obviously the smoke  
24 cleared and we went back. Then over the course of,  
25 I suppose, the next couple of weeks, every boy in the

1 school was interviewed, one at a time, and we were all  
2 interviewed and asked about it and didn't think any more  
3 of it. Nobody said anything?

4 Q. Was anyone injured in the fire?

5 A. No, thank God.

6 Q. So you were all interviewed: who carried out the  
7 interviewing?

8 A. As far as I was concerned, they were all conducted by

9 Father [REDACTED] MFE and Father [REDACTED] MFF, the

10 [REDACTED]

11 Q. And it's your understanding that every boy was  
12 interviewed?

13 A. Yes, every single boy was interviewed and I believe  
14 every single boy -- I don't know whether it was every  
15 single boy at least twice, but certainly for our year,  
16 there may have been some that were not, but the majority  
17 of boys were interviewed twice.

18 Q. Individually?

19 A. Individually, yes.

20 Q. Can you tell me about your own first interview with  
21 those two monks?

22 A. In my own first interview they sort of asked me if  
23 I knew anything about it, which I said, no, I didn't  
24 know anything about it, didn't say anything, couldn't  
25 help them at all with their enquiries.

1 Q. Where was the interview conducted? In which part of the  
2 school?

3 A. In [REDACTED] office. All the interviews were in  
4 Father [REDACTED] MFF [REDACTED] office.

5 Q. Did anybody take notes?

6 A. I have a feeling that Father [REDACTED] MFF [REDACTED] was taking  
7 notes, yes.

8 Q. Were you then brought back for a second interview?

9 A. Yes. I was brought back -- I suspect what they were  
10 trying to do was to narrow it down and they probably  
11 started with 150 boys and then they probably, the second  
12 tranche was probably was, well, who's most likely, these  
13 60 or so boys, and we all went through a second series  
14 of interviews, virtually the same as before. The  
15 initial interviews probably didn't last more than about  
16 half an hour, I suppose, 20 minutes, half an hour.

17 Q. Were you then brought back for a third interview?

18 A. Yes, I was. I was brought back for a third interview  
19 and it was a bit of a heavier interview. I think they  
20 were sort of playing, if you like, good cop/bad cop with  
21 Father [REDACTED] MFE [REDACTED] and Father [REDACTED] MFF [REDACTED] The interview went on  
22 for some time and I still wasn't saying anything,  
23 because I learnt all the way through boarding school  
24 that you just don't tell tales on anybody. Nobody had  
25 been hurt so I just didn't -- well, I just didn't snitch

1           anyway. Well, I thought, they'll just find out on their  
2           own who it is.

3           Q. Was that an evening interview?

4           A. Yes, I think it probably was, that one. I had several  
5           interviews. I had one interview at 2 o'clock in the  
6           morning.

7           Q. We'll come on to that one.

8           A. But this interview was a bit heavier and in the end they  
9           said to me, "Well, we have somebody that said that you  
10          did it and they've got a witness". So I said, "Well,  
11          I don't think so. I've probably got witnesses to say  
12          where I was", "No, we've definitely got somebody saying  
13          it's you". So I said, "Well, okay, I've now got to come  
14          clean because I'm in a bit of a fix". So I said, "Well,  
15          I'll tell you who it was. It was [REDACTED]  
16          I gave him the matches because he was going to have  
17          a smoke and he told me he was going to burn the school  
18          down and I thought it was a joke, that's who it is".

19                 So they then said, "He's said it's you", I said,  
20                 "Oh", "And he's got a witness". I said, "Oh well,  
21                 it isn't". So I think the interview then ended, but  
22                 when you think about it, this guy's named me, hang on,  
23                 how much of a coincidence, when I'm really under  
24                 pressure, that I'm going to name him out of 140 boys?

25          Q. So did you get taken somewhere after that interview?

1 A. Yes. I then -- they decided that they would lock me up  
2 for my own safety. So they put me in one of the  
3 studies -- I think it was probably the study next to the  
4 library, I'm not quite sure whose study it was, but it  
5 was either the head boy's or somebody's study.

6 Q. Was this Father MFF and Father MFE

7 A. Father MFF and Father MFE They locked me in  
8 there for my own safety. I'm not quite sure why I had  
9 to be made safe. I'm not sure. I was not allowed to  
10 see my brother, I was not allowed any of my things,  
11 I was not allowed to see any of my friends. I was not  
12 allowed to do anything.

13 Q. How long were you in that room?

14 A. I was there for two or three days. I was interviewed  
15 periodically again on those situations. At one point it  
16 was at 2 o'clock in the morning.

17 Q. Were these interviews done again by Father MFE and  
18 Father MFF

19 A. Father MFE and Father MFF every single time.

20 Q. What was in the room you were locked in? What did  
21 you have there in terms of facilities?

22 A. A bed, desk, chair, there was a loo there, a washing  
23 basin.

24 Q. Did you miss classes while you were in there?

25 A. Oh yes, yes.

- 1 Q. What about food?
- 2 A. Father [REDACTED] MFE [REDACTED] would bring me a plate of food.  
3 So they fed me all right, I wasn't starved, but  
4 I couldn't even go and see my younger brother, to see if  
5 he was all right, tell him what was going on, it was  
6 ridiculous.
- 7 Q. During those days you were locked in the room, how many  
8 times do you think you were taken out and interviewed?
- 9 A. Probably an extra two, three, four times.
- 10 Q. What was being said to you in the course of those  
11 interviews?
- 12 A. It was exactly the same: you must have done it, this guy  
13 says you have done it, we've got a witness. I can't  
14 remember the witness's name. I think probably [REDACTED]  
15 but I'm not sure. He was obviously an oppo of [REDACTED]  
16 It was totally fabricated. I just believed it would all  
17 come out in the wash and in the end I was so frustrated  
18 with it, I said, "Why don't you just get the police in?  
19 Please call the police in. I'm quite happy. Let's get  
20 it sorted out".
- 21 Q. Did they call the police?
- 22 A. No, they refused to.
- 23 Q. What happened?
- 24 A. What happened? They called me up in the end at some  
25 ridiculous hour in the morning. They said, "Right,



1           you're leaving, you will be going at 8 o'clock in the  
2           morning. Father [REDACTED] MFE will take you to the station,  
3           you're expelled". I said, "Can I get some of my  
4           things?" "No, you can't get any of your things", "Can  
5           I see my brother?" "No". Father [REDACTED] MFE brought me  
6           a case with, I think, a towel and some washing things,  
7           probably a pair of underpants or something, and that was  
8           it.

9           Q. Were you then taken to the station? Was it in Glasgow?

10          A. No, I was taken to the station in Spean Bridge, as it  
11          was in those days. Father [REDACTED] MFE drove me to the  
12          station. He stopped and he actually bought me  
13          a magazine. He put me on the train, turned to me and  
14          said, "You did it, didn't you?" and I said, "No,  
15          I didn't". He said, "Oh". And that was it. And I went  
16          on the train and then the weather wasn't very clever so  
17          we then came down to Glasgow, changed trains, and got  
18          the train to Lancaster and changed trains, then got the  
19          train to Arnside, then walked about a mile home.

20          Q. I think you tell us the journey took up to 10 hours.

21          A. Yes, yes. Not a very good journey because, as you can  
22          imagine, in February, it wasn't -- the weather wasn't  
23          very good and the trains were a bit slow. I think we  
24          stopped at Glen Laroach on the way down through ...  
25          Wherever.

1 Q. And when you eventually got home then, what was the  
2 situation?

3 A. I got home, I was surprised that my parents weren't  
4 there to meet me at the station, so I walked about  
5 a mile home. My mother just looked at me. My father  
6 said, "Take your case upstairs, your mother will give  
7 you some food, then you're going to bed", and it was  
8 very, very hostile.

9 Q. Did you come to understand that the school had been in  
10 contact with your parents?

11 A. Oh yes, yes. I assume so. I came downstairs, I tried  
12 to start a conversation, they didn't want to know, said  
13 we'll talk about it in the morning. So I had something  
14 to eat and went to bed, and next morning I said, "Look,  
15 this is crazy, I've not done this", and all the rest of  
16 it. They certainly didn't appear to believe me. My  
17 father then said -- I said to get the police involved.  
18 My father then said he'd go up and see Father [MFF] so  
19 he drove all the way up to Fort Augustus from Arnside,  
20 just south of the Lake District where we were living  
21 at the time, and he saw Father [MFF] and came back and  
22 said, "No, Father [MFF] is adamant, I believe"  
23 --therefore -- I said, "Can't there be an extension?" as  
24 I was due to take my Scottish Lowers in a few weeks'  
25 time. It was an absolute joke.

1 I left with no qualifications, no chance, and they  
2 said, no, no, you're finished there and, as far as I'm  
3 concerned, you're finished with us, you can join the  
4 army or something. So I said I've got to get  
5 a qualification of something, I've got nothing. They  
6 said okay. So he got on to Lancaster College and said,  
7 is there anything that they could do. And they said,  
8 well, we can manage to get him to sit three exams.  
9 That's the only ones we can just about get him in in  
10 time to sit them if you want.

11 So they agreed that I could do that. So I went and  
12 I sat in those days they were called ULCIs, the Union of  
13 Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes exams. They were  
14 like a school leaving certificate. So I took maths,  
15 English literature and English language. I got  
16 a distinction in maths, a distinction in English  
17 language and high grade pass in literature. Those are  
18 the only qualifications I have in my life.

19 Q. Did you go on then shortly thereafter to join the army?

20 A. I went on and sought to join the army and I joined the  
21 army on my 16th birthday in Preston recruiting office.

22 Q. Did your health at that time intervene with that?

23 A. When I went in the Army, it was a bit tough to start  
24 with as you can imagine going in at 16 with a public  
25 school accent. It was a bit hit first and ask questions

1 afterwards. But because I'd been used to being bullied  
2 most of my life, I could stand up for myself.  
3 Initially, I did very well -- in fact, while I was in  
4 the army I held the army record for the mile in running,  
5 only for a short time, but I did hold it. I led the  
6 army searchlight tattoo on television for the junior  
7 leaders' regiment. I was recommended to be forwarded to  
8 go on to Welbeck for officer training. So my start  
9 in the Army was quite good. I wasn't a idiot and I'm  
10 a fighter.

11 Sadly, the vast amounts of drill that we had to do  
12 and route marches, probably contributed -- and obviously  
13 I must have had [REDACTED] partly in my life.  
14 I was fit enough. I passed my medical to get in the  
15 army, [REDACTED]  
16 and I couldn't do anything. They sent me to the army  
17 hospital in Chester and they assessed me and said, we  
18 could operate, but we doubt you'd be much use to the  
19 army afterwards. He said, to be honest, you'll probably  
20 be better being discharged and having any operations  
21 done in civilian life, so that's what happened. So  
22 unfortunately, a bit of another blow, so back to square  
23 one again!

24 Q. I think you tell us that you went on to work at  
25 [REDACTED] and progressed within that?

1 A. Yes, I did.

2 Q. And that you and your wife ran a pub for a time?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And you have children and grandchildren, you tell us.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. If I can just -- I think you tell us that during your  
7 time at Fort Augustus, did you report the treatment you  
8 were getting to anybody at the school?

9 A. No. No, I didn't. But this is something that -- I know  
10 this is a bit of an aside, but I've been thinking about  
11 it, it may be of no use to the inquiry or whatever, but  
12 I spoke earlier about the two small monks,

13 Brother Adrian and Brother MNS that [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED] Brother MNS was [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]

16 In those days you would have called him simple;  
17 nowadays you'd say he was [REDACTED] He was very  
18 devoted. He was absolutely fantastic with all the new  
19 boys and things like that. He would walk past a new boy  
20 that was a bit homesick and suddenly an orange would  
21 roll out of his cassock and that sort of thing. He was  
22 the most marvellous mimic and he could impersonate  
23 Winston Churchill and people like that. He was  
24 absolutely brilliant. The old boys would come back and  
25 they would take him out to lunch at the

1           Inchnacardoch Hotel, so there was a lot of love and care  
2           for him.

3           **MNS** occasionally would come and have a holiday and  
4           come and spend some time with my parents. On one  
5           particular occasion, he came down when my parents were  
6           living not far from Downside Abbey. And he actually  
7           came down because he wanted to see the Abbot of Downside  
8           because he was very concerned about what was going on at  
9           Fort Augustus. He would never say what was going on at  
10          Fort Augustus, but he was concerned.

11          So he went and had interviews with the Abbot of  
12          Downside. He then went on to see the Pope in Rome.  
13          Whether he actually got an audience, I don't know.

14          Q. Do you know when this was, James?

15          A. I would have thought ... I joined the army in Preston,  
16          my parents then moved down to Somerset, where  
17          Downside Abbey is. I would probably be ... Probably  
18          ... about 1964, about 1964. Imagine this little man,  
19          he's going round the world with a little leather case  
20          and his black habit, and he was **[REDACTED]** but  
21          he was just such a sincere person, and he was concerned  
22          about problems at the abbey, but I don't know what it  
23          was.

24          Q. Did he discuss with you what his concerns with?

25          A. No, no. He wouldn't have. **MNS** was very private

1 in that respect: it was for grown-ups and senior people.

2 Q. And he worked [REDACTED] --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- at the school?

5 A. Yes, he was very ... [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED] and MNS obviously helped him. In the  
7 summer MNS would then wangle a job [REDACTED] so  
8 he could [REDACTED] while the weather was fine, but  
9 the minute it got cold and wet, back in [REDACTED]  
10 He's buried in Fort Augustus as well.

11 Q. Towards the end of your statement, James, you tell us  
12 about the impact that you think your time at the three  
13 schools, but in particular Fort Augustus, has had on  
14 you. How would you summarise the impact that  
15 Fort Augustus in particular has had on your life?

16 A. I think in fairness, Fort Augustus has made me very,  
17 very bitter. I think the cumulative effect of all three  
18 schools has made me lock myself away as an individual.  
19 It's one of those things where you -- I'm not an insular  
20 sort of person, but I don't show affection very easily.  
21 I don't trust many people. I'm very fortunate: my wife  
22 has stood by me and my children stand by me. I try and  
23 be a better father all the time, but it has made me very  
24 difficult like that.

25 I've always been resentful and hateful about what

1 happened at Fort Augustus because, to me, it was the  
2 greatest injustice. I've hated [REDACTED] all his  
3 life. I know the Christian religion tells you you  
4 should forgive everybody, but I haven't been able to so  
5 far. But in the last few years, I have thought, well,  
6 this guy, why would he have done that? He comes from  
7 a very well-off family in Glasgow. His elder brother  
8 was a hero at the school, [REDACTED] I think he was  
9 head boy. But he was good at sports, he was really  
10 respected, so the [REDACTED] family is something great.

11 Then I think, hang on, he can't get out of this  
12 situation because his family holds the abbey and the  
13 school and the monastery in high esteem, perhaps he's  
14 actually being abused. So the only way he can get out  
15 of that situation is to actually burn the school down.

16 Then you think, well, hang on, maybe I do understand  
17 why that guy acted -- I don't know, but I can't think of  
18 any other reason that he may have done it. So I think  
19 that. So I think maybe that guy was, if you like,  
20 between a rock and a hard place, and the only sad factor  
21 is that I was the bloke on the end of the -- we'll blame  
22 him, you know.

23 Q. And in terms of the impact of being expelled and leaving  
24 the school at that age has had on your life, I think you  
25 tell us that you felt your private life was totally



1 destroyed.

2 A. Oh in terms of my parents, finished, and brothers.

3 I don't even have a photograph of when I was a child.

4 They got rid of all my possessions, everything.

5 I then grew up without a single qualification, so

6 I worked my clogs off. I ended up as a director for

7 [REDACTED] but when I had to change

8 jobs again, oh, you haven't got a degree, you haven't

9 got this, you haven't got that. If I went for a lower

10 paid job, I was overqualified: you have been running

11 such a big business, how can you do this?

12 Q. I think you say you did feel trapped --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- because you didn't have a degree in particular?

15 A. Yes, very trapped. Then if you stay too long with one  
16 company, you just become institutionalised.

17 Q. You've requested some files, I think you tell us, or  
18 records from the Benedictine order; is that right?

19 A. Yes, I have, because I wanted -- I thought you can't get

20 expelled from a school without my parents having some

21 communication with the school. And I want to know --

22 and they must have had a record of the investigation.

23 I wanted to see, although I understood that the police

24 weren't involved, because I was certainly never

25 interviewed by anybody -- I wanted to just check.

1 I contacted them first and then they said they were  
2 unable to. Then they put me on to their solicitors, and  
3 then the solicitors came back and said, "No, there  
4 aren't any records, we can't find any". I think they  
5 sent me one or two slips of paper that said I attended  
6 a certain class. It was a joke.

7 Q. So you weren't able to recover anything in terms of  
8 being expelled?

9 A. No, nothing whatsoever. The trouble is, it's a bit like  
10 a Pandora's box: you lock everything away in your life  
11 and you deal with it and it's hidden, but you can't open  
12 and close a Pandora's box. Once you open that lid, you  
13 open it, and I now have to deal with it and see it  
14 through, because I'm not going to get anything out of  
15 this, but if I can help at all other people having to  
16 suffer the way I have suffered -- and what makes me  
17 cross is that it's all a covering up, and the shunting  
18 round the world of these people that are not good  
19 people. That's the disaster and the denying it all  
20 happened, and we'll do this and we'll do that, and they  
21 don't do anything. If I can doing anything to break  
22 that mould, then I will try and do it.

23 Q. In terms of lessons to be learned, you set this out  
24 at the very end of your statement at paragraph 138.  
25 I think what you say is that:

1           "I think there could be a lay role, like a team  
2 leader, who isn't part of the establishment."

3           And that may have helped?

4       A. Yes. If you look at a new institution, it's set up with  
5 monks, masters, prefects and so on. All of those people  
6 are extremely establishment, so whatever one says, the  
7 other one says at the other end. It's a complete  
8 sausage pipeline.

9           What I operated in business was we would take half  
10 a dozen people from totally different disciplines and  
11 every so often they would meet and they would bring one  
12 problem that they had with their business to the table.  
13 And it would be discussed by everybody else, because  
14 very often you can't see the wood for the trees. And  
15 very often you'd come up with a solution for that guy  
16 and say, have you tried this, have you tried that.

17           It's a very similar sort of thing. If you had a set  
18 of half a dozen people from different backgrounds and  
19 they met once every four, six weeks, they discussed any  
20 of the issues that people had within the school, so they  
21 could then discuss them and come back with feedback and  
22 say, right, we now have a reporting system that we can  
23 go to the headmaster or to whoever and say, look, this  
24 sort of thing is happening in a school.

25           You then can't bury issues of everything from

1 bullying to sadism to, you know, child abuse, and these  
2 sort of things.

3 Q. Was there anybody at Fort Augustus who you could speak  
4 to about concerns that you had?

5 A. No. Sadly, I think if ever I had done, the joke was  
6 it would have been MEV, because at that  
7 period of time he was probably one of the only people  
8 I thought I could trust there. I obviously couldn't,  
9 but ...

10 MS MACLEOD: Thank you, James. That completes what I have  
11 to ask you today.

12 My Lady, I'm not aware of any other questions for  
13 James.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

15 Are there any outstanding applications for  
16 questions? No.

17 James, those are all the questions. Thank you very  
18 much for engaging with us as you have done, both by  
19 providing your written statement and coming here today  
20 to tell us more in your own words and for us to meet you  
21 and hear from you in person. It's been enormously  
22 helpful, I'm very grateful to you, and I'm now able to  
23 let you go. Thank you.

24 A. Thank you very much, my Lady.

25 (The witness withdrew)

1 LADY SMITH: A quick reminder again, because we heard quite  
2 a lot of children's names during that witness's  
3 evidence: they're all protected by my general  
4 restriction order and can't be repeated outwith the  
5 hearing room.

6 What is going to happen now is that the next witness  
7 is joining us by a video link, so I'm going to rise  
8 briefly, for about five minutes or so, and we can check  
9 that it's all up and running -- we think it's all right  
10 at the other end -- and that will give us the chance to  
11 do that and then we'll move on to the next bit of  
12 evidence.

13 (2.35 pm)

14 (A short break)

15 (2.50 pm)

16 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

17 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, the next witness wants to remain  
18 anonymous and wants to use the name "Joseph" in giving  
19 evidence.

20 LADY SMITH: Good afternoon, Joseph. Can you hear me all  
21 right?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, I can hear you very well.

23 LADY SMITH: And can you see me?

24 THE WITNESS: I can see you.

25 LADY SMITH: I'm Lady Smith and I chair the inquiry here in

1           Edinburgh. What I would like to do is begin by putting  
2           you on oath.

3                               "JOSEPH" (sworn)

4                               (The witness appeared via video link)

5       LADY SMITH: If you're ready, Joseph, what I will do is  
6           I will hand back to Mr MacAulay and he'll explain to you  
7           what happens next; is that all right?

8       A. That's fine, thank you.

9                               Questions from MR MacAULAY

10      MR MacAULAY: Good afternoon, Joseph.

11      A. Good afternoon.

12      Q. You have in front of you the statement that you provided  
13           to the inquiry. I will provide the reference for that  
14           statement to the stenographers for the transcript:  
15           BEN.001.004.4296. Could I ask you to turn to the last  
16           page of the statement?

17      A. Which I have signed.

18      Q. And you've confirmed you've signed the statement?

19      A. Yes, that's my signature.

20      Q. Do you say in the last paragraph, paragraph 29, that  
21           you have no objection to your witness statement being  
22           published as part of the evidence to the inquiry?

23      A. That's perfectly correct.

24      Q. Do you go on to say that:

25                               "[You] believe the facts stated in the witness

- 1 statement are true"?
- 2 A. That's also correct, although I will say I'm getting old  
3 and some of my memory is not of the best.
- 4 Q. That prompts me to say if I ask you a question and it's  
5 something you can't remember, just say, "I can't  
6 remember".
- 7 A. It seems like in the statement I think I mention years  
8 when I was there and years when I wasn't, whatever, and  
9 sometimes I might be a year out or something, but there  
10 we go.
- 11 Q. We'll take account of that, Joseph, don't worry about  
12 that. Can I just ask you -- I don't want the date of  
13 your birth because you want to remain anonymous, but can  
14 I confirm with you that you were born in the year 1947?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. I think this statement was a statement that was prepared  
17 through the solicitors Clyde & Co, in conjunction with  
18 the Benedictine Order; is that correct?
- 19 A. It was with Clyde & Co, not in connection with the  
20 order. It was just a telephone conversation between  
21 myself and Clyde & Co.
- 22 Q. And you begin by telling us in paragraph 2 of the  
23 statement that you attended Carlekemp Priory from 1954  
24 to 1961; do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. If I pick the date 1954 and relate that to your date of  
2 birth in 1947, that would suggest to me that you were 6  
3 or 7 when you went to Carlekemp.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. So you were very young?

6 A. My birthday is [REDACTED]. I don't mind you knowing then.  
7 [REDACTED], that is basically correct. I was 6 and a half  
8 or 7. That's where I was meaning about memory, the  
9 exact ... I can't be totally exact if I was 6 and  
10 a half or 7 or 6 and three-quarters.

11 Q. In any event, you were very young when you went to  
12 Carlekemp.

13 A. Exactly.

14 Q. And you remained there until about 1961; is that right?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. And in 1961, you tell us that you went to Fort Augustus  
17 School.

18 A. That's right.

19 Q. I think at least we have recovered a record to suggest  
20 that you may have left Fort Augustus in 1965. At that  
21 time you'd be --

22 A. I thought it was ... I kind of did my sums and I kind  
23 of worked it out that it was perhaps 1966.

24 Q. It matters not.

25 A. Everything's within about six months to a year.



1 Q. Do you tell us in your statement that you have and had  
2 a strong family connection with Carlekemp and  
3 Fort Augustus?

4 A. Correct. My father and uncles, et cetera, all went to  
5 Fort Augustus. Myself and my brothers all went to  
6 Carlekemp and Fort Augustus.

7 Q. Just looking at your brothers, can you give me an idea  
8 as to where you are agewise in connection with your  
9 brothers?

10 A. I'm the youngest in the family. There's only two  
11 survivors now. My eldest brother was about 9 or  
12 10 years older than me. My next brother was about four  
13 years -- he actually died in a car crash when he was 18.

14 Q. So you had two brothers then who went --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- to Fort Augustus?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Just to confirm, we're speaking to you from Edinburgh  
19 and you're speaking to us from Jersey; is that correct?

20 A. That's correct, yes.

21 Q. What you tell us early on in your statement, Joseph,  
22 is that you would describe your times at both schools as  
23 fairly happy times.

24 A. Yes. I would say so, partly, I suppose, down to the  
25 fact that my father was at school there. Some of the

1 monks were actually in school with him, so we go way  
2 back, and actually, probably, Fort Augustus was founded  
3 in about 1850, and I think my family had connections  
4 from that date -- in fact, the abbot and community,  
5 I think, were at my grandfather's funeral, so it was  
6 quite a family connection.

7 Q. That is a point you make in the second last paragraph of  
8 your statement. If you go to your statement at  
9 paragraph 28, you say in the last sentence of that  
10 paragraph:

11 "It is possible that my family's connections with  
12 ... the monks were protective of me and that's why  
13 I never experienced any abuse."

14 A. Well, I base that on the fact that because I was --  
15 myself and my family were well-known there, if there had  
16 been any abuse and it was found out, I think there would  
17 have been, excuse my language, all hell to pay.

18 Q. Can I just look briefly at your time at Carlekemp,  
19 Joseph. Can you remember the names of the monks who  
20 were there during your time there?

21 A. The [REDACTED] was a Father [REDACTED] MEX [REDACTED], who  
22 actually died when I was there, he went into hospital in  
23 Edinburgh and had a brain tumour or something.

24 The one who I suppose would be the paedophile,  
25 Aidan Duggan, was there, and I think he arrived there

1 about the same time as me.

2 Let's think. Father [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED], who funnily  
3 enough was born in Jersey --

4 Q. If I can just stop you there: how sure are you that  
5 Father [REDACTED] MEW [REDACTED] was at Carlekemp as opposed to  
6 Fort Augustus?

7 A. He was at both. He taught me [REDACTED]

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. I've been told my [REDACTED] is rather good because of  
10 his -- he was a Jersey-born [REDACTED]

11 Q. And do you remember who [REDACTED] Father [REDACTED] MEX [REDACTED] when  
12 he died? Do you remember the name of Father [REDACTED] MFD [REDACTED]

13 A. Yes. I didn't particularly like him. That's all I can  
14 say. I don't think he was abusive to me in the sense  
15 of, you know, punishment, he might have been a bit, but  
16 it's just I didn't like his character.

17 Q. In your statement at paragraph 10, you touch upon  
18 inspection and you do have a recollection of  
19 a government inspector coming to observe classes;  
20 is that right?

21 A. That's right. I don't know. I might have given the  
22 impression it was every term. It might have been once  
23 a year. That's where memory kind of ... But I know  
24 we were inspected -- probably more at Carlekemp than at  
25 Fort Augustus, because it was a junior school.

1 Q. Just staying with Carlekemp for the moment, can you tell  
2 me a little bit about the discipline? How was  
3 discipline managed at Carlekemp?

4 A. Right. Aidan Duggan was a bit sort of a nasty man,  
5 apart from being an abuser, both sexually and  
6 physically. I don't think I suffered ... You see,  
7 I think I got a leave pass in the sense of who I was, to  
8 a point, if that makes sense. But you do observe these  
9 things.

10 There were other monks -- I'd need to see the  
11 list --

12 Q. If we stick with Aidan Duggan, did you see him doing  
13 anything physically to other boys?

14 A. Well, I was witness to some sexual --

15 Q. I'll come to the sexual thing. But physically?

16 A. I think he was a bit cruel with some boys in class.

17 Q. Can you develop that for me?

18 A. I think he used to wield a ruler and you'd get a clunk  
19 across the head or something like that. We're talking  
20 now, oh ... 65-plus years ago, so memory ... but I seem  
21 to remember that his classes weren't that pleasant.

22 Q. You went on, just a few moments ago, Joseph, to mention  
23 sexual abuse. What sexual abuse did you witness?

24 A. This is where this photograph that I've sent comes in,  
25 because it makes it easier for me to give a physical

1 description of where it was in the building. What  
2 happened was, Aidan Duggan used to come in at boys'  
3 bedtime, and in a sense it sounds very nice, he used to  
4 read us stories to get us off to sleep. The dormitory  
5 would have about 12, 13 boys in it --

6 Q. Can I just stop you there: what age of boys are we  
7 talking about here?

8 A. This is at the very beginning, in other words 6 and  
9 a half, 7. From my reading of it, he was more into what  
10 I would call the younger boy.

11 Q. Carry on, I interrupted your description.

12 A. All I remember was he was reading these stories, some of  
13 them were ghost stories or whatever, which sounds all  
14 very nice, but particularly one boy I think he was  
15 attracted to, he would slip his hands under the bed  
16 covers and I suppose play with him.

17 Q. Did you see that happen?

18 A. I wasn't a witness to any sexual abuse like penetration  
19 or anything like that, I wouldn't know, and boys of that  
20 age probably were embarrassed to talk about it.

21 Q. But did you see Aidan Duggan putting his hand under the  
22 covers?

23 A. Certainly, yes.

24 Q. And on how many occasions did you witness that?

25 A. Well, I suppose he had one favourite in a sense. It was

1 a boy who's no longer alive, [REDACTED] Funnily  
2 enough, his brother, from what I've been told has since  
3 died, had Alzheimer's, but the lady he was married to  
4 suggested that it was to him, but I think she's jumping  
5 on the bandwagon on behalf of her late brother-in-law,  
6 if I can put it that way. Sometimes that happens.

7 Q. How often then did you see this sort of behaviour on the  
8 part of Aidan Duggan?

9 A. Oh, I don't know, half a dozen. I can't ... Numbers,  
10 dates, that's where my memory does go. I am not sure if  
11 he was the only one who was abused, but I can't say for  
12 certain he wasn't the only one.

13 Q. Do I take it from that that this did not happen to you?

14 A. Not as far as I can remember. I'm not a person who  
15 blocks out what I would call bad memories. It might  
16 have, but we're talking now when I was 6 and a half, 7,  
17 and I'm now 72. You know what I mean? It's difficult  
18 to express that. Possibly it did happen to me. That's  
19 all I can say.

20 Q. Just you have no recollection of it now?

21 A. No, not particularly, no.

22 Q. The photograph that you mentioned a little while ago,  
23 Joseph, I think it's just recently been sent through to  
24 the inquiry and we will clearly have a look at it. What  
25 are you wanting to point out in the photograph?

1       A. Well, it is a photograph as it is today now that --  
2       Carlekemp was divided into luxury flats after it closed  
3       as a school. But the room in question was what we  
4       called the study hall. Now it's a very gracious room,  
5       all wood-lined and whatever, with a balcony. In those  
6       days, it was rows of desks and that was our study hall.  
7       But it's a photograph, I suppose, taken from the south  
8       facing north, and it kind of gives an idea of where the  
9       dormitory was, where the abuse would have happened,  
10      because you go up the stairs from that room and at the  
11      top of the stairs it's on the right.

12      Q. I see.

13      A. So it kind of gives a physical description of where the  
14      events would have taken -- well, did take place.

15      Q. Insofar as witnessing Father Duggan's hand going under  
16      the covers, did he make any efforts to hide what he was  
17      doing?

18      A. I honestly couldn't tell you. I don't think he showed  
19      any shame, put it that way.

20      Q. Was it perfectly obvious --

21      A. And it is possible, from memory -- this is where my  
22      memory is a bit defective -- he might have done similar  
23      to other boys, but this lad in particular was his main  
24      target, if I can put it that way, and it was of that age  
25      group, you know, maybe up to about 9 or something like

1           that. I can definitely confirm it took place.

2           Q. Can I then move on, Joseph, to look at your time in  
3           Fort Augustus. I think earlier, you mentioned that you  
4           thought that you went to Fort Augustus in about 1961.

5           A. Thereabouts, yes. You corrected me there. Yes,  
6           it would be about 1961.

7           Q. And you'd be 13 or 14 at that time?

8           A. That's correct.

9           Q. What I want to ask you about Fort Augustus is this: can  
10          you tell me how discipline was managed at Fort Augustus?

11          A. I suppose slightly -- I mean, Carlekemp was a prep  
12          school, junior boys and whatever, so possibly  
13          Fort Augustus being older boys, it was possibly more  
14          strictly controlled. Aidan Duggan, funnily enough, was  
15          there when I was there. He kind of moved up at  
16          a similar time to me. Then I was introduced to two  
17          others, who I believe have been accused of paedophilia  
18          at Fort Augustus: [REDACTED] MEY [REDACTED], and at the moment  
19          there's also [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED], who I think there's  
20          a [REDACTED] I knew both of them, but  
21          I was unaware of them as abusers when I was there.

22          Q. Can I just --

23          A. That doesn't mean to say it didn't happen.

24          Q. Perhaps before I ask you about discipline, I should ask  
25          you about the other monks that were there during your



1 time. Who was [REDACTED]

2 A. The first [REDACTED] -- there were [REDACTED] in my

3 time there, [REDACTED]. There was

4 [REDACTED] MFF and ... Golly, that's terrible ...

5 Um ...

6 Q. Was there a Father --

7 A. [REDACTED] MKT

8 Q. Let's then look at discipline --

9 A. I don't think there were any others who were

10 [REDACTED] so far as I remember.

11 Q. Were you divided into houses at Fort Augustus?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you remember which house you were in?

14 A. I was in Vaughan.

15 Q. Was there a particular brother who was the housemaster

16 for your house?

17 A. My housemaster was Father [REDACTED] MFG who

18 I got on very well with. He was choirmaster. In

19 fact -- all I would say is I got on very well with him.

20 Q. If I can look at discipline, can you tell me how

21 discipline was managed at Fort Augustus, from your

22 perspective?

23 A. Well, the bulk of it -- well, my brother ... from my

24 perspective, my brother -- I should mention this first

25 and then we'll get on to myself. My brothers, I think,

1           suffered quite a bit under [REDACTED] MFF and it was  
2           mainly for academics. My brother wasn't particularly  
3           academic. He was a great sportsman -- in fact he played  
4           for Scotland in hockey -- but he wasn't particularly  
5           academic. You ended up getting the birch from

6           [REDACTED] MFF -- I think I only had the birch once but  
7           for my brother I think it was a weekly event. So he was  
8           a wee bit birch happy, I think is the word to use.

9           Q. Can I just get some understanding then as to what the  
10          set-up would be if Father [REDACTED] MFF was to give you the  
11          birch. Let's take your own experience first of all.  
12          What is your recollection of what happened in your case?

13         A. Well, he kept, I suppose -- rather like when you have an  
14          umbrella stand, and it was full of birch sticks. He  
15          would select one and do that (indicating) and then,  
16          boom. And it was usually -- the maximum in my day was  
17          six.

18         Q. Did you go to his room for that to be carried out?

19         A. Yes, you went to his room. The other thing, it was  
20          mainly, I suppose in my situation -- it was scholastic  
21          as well. I was a bit more intelligent that way than my  
22          brother was, if I can put it that way.

23                 The other part of the punishment would be with the  
24          housemasters, where you --

25         Q. I'll come to that, but let's remain with

1           Father [MFF]           Were you birched by Father [MFF]  
2           more than once?

3           A.   Possibly a couple of times.   Two or three times.

4           Q.   Can you tell me what happened?

5           A.   Well, you went in and you presumably ... I think you  
6           actually went to him, he called you in, whereas with the  
7           housemasters you were usually sent by a teacher, if that  
8           makes sense. You went in and I think you bent over  
9           a desk, and the next thing is bang.

10          Q.   Was that over your clothing?

11          A.   With myself, it always was, but I know of instances  
12          where it was on the bare backside. But part of the  
13          reason for that, at least my understanding of the reason  
14          for that is sometimes boys would put books and things  
15          down to protect themselves. So perhaps -- you see where  
16          I'm going?

17          Q.   Yes, I understand that.

18          A.   So the books were hidden and so the effect of the birch  
19          wasn't as much. But whether that was just the only  
20          reason, I couldn't tell you, because I wasn't being  
21          done.

22          Q.   Do you know if your brother was birched on his bare  
23          backside?

24          A.   He wouldn't -- he was a modest fella. He wouldn't  
25          probably tell you. I think I knew about him going in

1 from other boys. His name was [REDACTED] and another boy would  
2 say, "I see [REDACTED] been called up again today", that kind  
3 of way. So he wasn't the type of person who clipped on  
4 his punishment, if I can put it that way.

5 Q. What you tell us, and I think this is what you're  
6 saying, is your brother, because of his academic  
7 failings, was birched on a fairly regular basis by  
8 [REDACTED] MFF is that the position?

9 A. Yes, I think so.

10 Q. Another thing you say in your statement -- this is at  
11 paragraph 24, Joseph -- is that when some boys were  
12 birched by Father [REDACTED] MFF they would come back from  
13 the birching bleeding.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. How do you know that?

16 A. Well, if you're in a dormitory and dressing and  
17 undressing, sometimes you'd see, through the underpants,  
18 you know, seeping through. You might have even seen it  
19 because -- well, you strip off in a dormitory, boys, you  
20 know. Possibly I did see the bare backside, if I can  
21 put it that way, with some blood. But it could also  
22 have been it was soaking through.

23 Q. You also mention in your statement the [REDACTED] teacher,  
24 Father [REDACTED] MEZ

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do you remember him?

2 A. He taught me [REDACTED] and he was at Carlekemp and  
3 Fort Augustus.

4 Q. Did he teach you [REDACTED]

5 A. Yes, he taught me [REDACTED] He gave me up. This is where  
6 any abuse I got from him was if I [REDACTED]

7 Q. What would happen then?

8 A. He had a ruler and he cracked you over the fingers with  
9 it.

10 Q. Did he have any other means of punishing you if you made  
11 a mistake?

12 A. Not that I remember. He might have sent me to the  
13 housemaster or something like that, but no.

14 Q. If I take you to your statement then, Joseph --

15 A. He was very intolerant of you [REDACTED] or of maybe  
16 making a mistake, put it that way.

17 Q. If you look at your statement again, Joseph, at  
18 paragraph 18, it's the last sentence where you're  
19 talking about Father [REDACTED] MEZ  
20 "You taught me [REDACTED] He would slam the  
21 [REDACTED] down on your fingers if you [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]

23 Do you remember that happening?

24 A. I do remember. Sorry, I forgot about that. That did  
25 happen, but not as much as maybe the ruler. But I seem

1 to remember getting my fingers bruised by him. He had  
2 a very short fuse when it came to [REDACTED]. He was  
3 a very [REDACTED], by the way. In fact, he was  
4 internationally recognised [REDACTED] on television --  
5 not television, on the BBC and whatever, but he was very  
6 intolerant.

7 Q. And when he would, as you put it, slam the [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED] are you saying that that would cause  
9 bruising on your hands?

10 A. Yes. On your knuckles. I can't remember bleeding as  
11 such, but it might have been. You know what I mean?  
12 I can't remember. Almost certainly there was bruising  
13 and maybe scuffing.

14 Q. The other monk you mention in connection with  
15 Fort Augustus is, I think, Father [REDACTED] MEW who I think  
16 may have taught [REDACTED]

17 A. Yes. His nickname was [REDACTED] MEW. Yes, he taught  
18 [REDACTED]

19 Q. What about how he dealt with the boys? Can you help?  
20 How did he deal with them?

21 A. He was -- I seem to remember he was a bit intolerant and  
22 perhaps he could come along and, if you got something  
23 wrong or whatever, maybe in your exercise book or  
24 something, he might come along and say something  
25 slightly nasty to you and maybe rap you over the head

1 with his knuckles, that kind of thing. It wasn't  
2 anything much more than that.

3 Q. Were you rapped over the head with his knuckles?

4 A. I think so. It was minor compared to other things, so,  
5 you know what I mean, it's water under the bridge.

6 Q. What are you comparing it with then if you say it's  
7 minor? What would you compare it with that's not so  
8 minor?

9 A. Well, obviously, the birch, but the other thing -- well,  
10 if you were sent to a housemaster, you got it on the  
11 hand, so many. So that was worse.

12 Q. On that then, insofar as being sent to the housemaster,  
13 that was also a method of children being punished;  
14 is that right?

15 A. That's right. That's correct.

16 Q. Did that happen to you?

17 A. Yes, oh yes.

18 Q. I think you told us you got --

19 A. That was probably more regular than anything. It was  
20 anything between one on each hand up to six on each  
21 hand -- no, it was a leather tawse -- it could have been  
22 a stick, but it was a leather tawse. Sorry.

23 Q. You tell us at paragraph 26 of your statement, Joseph,  
24 about an incident in the dark room with someone who,  
25 I think it may have been a nickname, with a name

1 [REDACTED] MQH

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Can you help me with that? What happened there?

4 A. Basically, this was at Fort Augustus, I was more senior  
5 by then, and I was, I suppose, elected, because the boys  
6 did a few different societies in school for this, that  
7 and whatever. This was the photographic society and we  
8 developed films and printed photographs, all that kind  
9 of stuff. I was [REDACTED] of that and I was in  
10 charge of the dark room. Basically, I wasn't interfered  
11 with by him or anything, but I do remember a younger boy  
12 maybe reporting to me, being in charge of that side of  
13 things, that he was being interfered with or at least  
14 his rear end was being dealt with or patted and all that  
15 kind of stuff, which I then reported to  
16 Father [REDACTED] MFG, the housemaster.

17 As a result of that, this [REDACTED] MQH, he wasn't  
18 a real [REDACTED] -- a lot of the nicknames were because of  
19 the physical looks or something. But we called him  
20 [REDACTED] MQH. But he only lasted a term or maybe  
21 a couple of terms because that was dealt with.

22 Q. So as I understand it then, when this younger boy told  
23 you about this interference, you told the housemaster  
24 and [REDACTED] MQH essentially was made to leave; is that  
25 the essence of it?



1 A. That's right, within a term, anyway. What would have  
2 happened would have been maybe enquiries were made and,  
3 as I say, Father [REDACTED] MFG [REDACTED] who I reported it  
4 to, was my housemaster. I would think he was a very  
5 good man, put it that way, so he pursued it and dealt  
6 with it.

7 Q. I think you mentioned earlier, Joseph, that Aidan Duggan  
8 and [REDACTED] MEY [REDACTED], and indeed [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED], were  
9 present at Fort Augustus over the period that you were  
10 there; is that correct?

11 A. Well, Aidan Duggan, I was there both Carlekemp and  
12 Fort Augustus for Aidan Duggan. I'm not sure if he  
13 moved up at exactly the same time as me, but  
14 approximately. [REDACTED] MEY [REDACTED] I only got to know at  
15 Fort Augustus. I think he was ordained as a priest when  
16 I was there. He was just a brother, you know,  
17 in the novitiate. I think the same with [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED]

18 So I knew who they were, but I can't remember being  
19 taught by them. [REDACTED] MEV [REDACTED] was master of ceremonies  
20 when they had ceremonies, that kind of stuff.

21 Q. [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 A. [REDACTED]

24 Q. [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

1 A. There's a monastery in Western Australia called  
2 [REDACTED] and it has had its own inquiry, like this  
3 one, by the Australian authorities. Actually, I looked  
4 at it yesterday again on the internet and it was one of  
5 the worst for abuse in Australia.

6 From my understanding of it, but I haven't got the  
7 facts -- you could maybe find out the facts far better  
8 than me -- but I think Aidan Duggan was novice master  
9 there at this [REDACTED] He came, I think -- actually,  
10 this [REDACTED] was a Spanish foundation, it was Spanish  
11 monks that founded it in Australia, if I can put it that  
12 way.

13 Before Aidan Duggan came to Carlekemp, I think he  
14 was in a monastery maybe for a year, I don't think much  
15 more than that, in Spain. Perhaps to learn the ways --  
16 I don't know. And then he came to Carlekemp. [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED]  
20 [REDACTED] kind of mention,  
21 you know, that [REDACTED] sent back to Australia without  
22 telling the Australians, but I have a feeling [REDACTED]  
23 chucked out of Australia originally because of [REDACTED]  
24 behaviour. I don't know. I can't prove any of that.  
25 It's just putting two and two together -- it sounds as

1           if that could have been the situation -- and the pattern  
2           of ██████ movements, if I can put it that way.

3           Basically, that's more surmise than anything, but it  
4           kind of stands up quite well, my theory, if I can put it  
5           that way.

6           Q. Well, thank you for sharing that theory with us, Joseph,  
7           and also can I thank you for sending on the photographs  
8           that you've uncovered.

9           A. It was just the one I sent on. The others I think you  
10          lot obtained, which is the internal one.

11         MR MacAULAY: Can I also thank you for giving your evidence  
12          in this manner today so clearly. I don't have any  
13          questions that have been put to me on behalf of any  
14          other parties.

15         LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for  
16          questions?

17          Joseph, that does complete all the questions we have  
18          for you this afternoon. Can I just thank you, both for  
19          providing the written statement, which we obtained, and  
20          for engaging with us over the video link today. It's  
21          been very helpful to hear you in person to elaborate on  
22          what's outlined there. I'm very grateful to you for  
23          that and I am now able to let you go, and we'll close  
24          the link if you're ready for that.

25         A. That's fine. Just to say if there is anything else, I'm

1           here: pick up the phone or do whatever if you have any  
2           further questions.

3           LADY SMITH: That's very helpful. I'm very grateful to you  
4           for that. Thank you.

5                                 (The video link was terminated)

6           MR MacAULAY: I think we are off air.

7                                 My Lady, the final piece of evidence for today would  
8           be a read-in, and my learned junior, Ms MacLeod, is  
9           ready to do that.

10          LADY SMITH: Let's move to that stage now.

11                                 Witness statement of CHRISTOPHER WALLS (read)

12          MS MACLEOD: This is a statement from an applicant who is  
13          now deceased. It is the statement of Christopher Walls.  
14          It can be found at WIT.001.001.0122.

15                                 Christopher passed away on [REDACTED] 2018.

16          I don't propose to put it on the screen, but his death  
17          certificate is available to the inquiry at  
18          WIT.003.002.2705.

19          LADY SMITH: Am I right in thinking he is the brother of the  
20          second witness we heard from yesterday?

21          MS MACLEOD: David Walls, yes, he is my Lady:

22                                 "My full name is Christopher Walls. I was born on  
23          [REDACTED] 1947. My contact details are known to the  
24          inquiry.

25                                 "I am the brother of David Walls [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED] David and I are former pupils of  
2 Carlekemp School, North Berwick, [REDACTED]

3 [REDACTED]  
4 [REDACTED] David has also provided a statement to this  
5 inquiry. [REDACTED]

6 "I had a very normal upbringing at home. My father  
7 was a Church of Scotland minister who converted to  
8 Catholicism and became a Catholic priest. When my  
9 mother was killed in a car crash in 1974, my father had  
10 some sort of salary package with the organisation he was  
11 working for, which meant that his children could be  
12 educated at Carlekemp and Fort Augustus, which were the  
13 principal Catholic boarding schools in Scotland.

14 "The school I attended was Carlekemp, situated in  
15 North Berwick, East Lothian. It was a fee-paying  
16 boarding school. Carlekemp was the preparatory school  
17 for the main school at Fort Augustus, Inverness-shire.  
18 The school was run by the Benedictine Order. It was  
19 primarily for practising Catholics.

20 "My first memories of the day I arrived at the  
21 school are not altogether clear. I remember being  
22 greeted by Father Aidan Duggan and shown round by him.  
23 I recall thinking that he was very friendly to both  
24 David and me. I can't remember my parents being there,  
25 so I assume that they left when I was being shown round.

1           "The year was 1955 and I would have been 8 years old  
2 and one of the youngest pupils at the school. I was put  
3 into the pups dormitory, which was next to matron's  
4 room. This dormitory was for the youngest pupils at the  
5 school.

6           "I settled in very quickly and made some good  
7 friends. I recall that the name of the pupil who shared  
8 the bed next to me. I was the tallest boy in the class  
9 and so I did not suffer any of the bullying that my  
10 brother David was subjected to by other pupils. I don't  
11 remember the other boys very well.

12           "We were wakened by a buzzer which went off at 7 or  
13 7.30 in the morning. I recall we were usually awake and  
14 were keen to get up and out of bed. You would then have  
15 to turn over your bedclothes to air them. It was then  
16 off to the washroom to clean up before Mass.

17           "Mass was to be said in the morning every day, then  
18 you would go for breakfast. This was always held in the  
19 refectory. After breakfast you would return to the  
20 dormitory to make your bed. First lessons would be at 9  
21 and you would every afternoon off for games. The games  
22 were seasonal and were rugby, hockey and cricket.  
23 We would also do athletics and I particularly enjoyed  
24 the high jump. You also had a free run of the school  
25 grounds and I could play in the woods. It was an ideal

1 place to be a young boy.

2 "Every evening after games, you would be showered  
3 before your evening meal. You also had a bath one day  
4 a week and the younger boys were always bathed by  
5 matron.

6 "You had to do prep at night and then it was off to  
7 bed quite early. Prep was compulsory and it was when  
8 your homework was done. It was also supervised. The  
9 whole school attended classes on a Saturday morning and  
10 then it was games in the afternoon. It was a fee-paying  
11 school and parents had expectations on the degree of  
12 education they were paying for.

13 "On a Sunday, there were no classes and most of the  
14 day was given over to playing in the grounds along with  
15 attending Mass. I recall an inspection made of the  
16 school by Father McLennan of the Diocese of St Andrews  
17 and Edinburgh.

18 "We would go home at holiday times and half-term.

19 "The priests had informal roles that they performed.  
20 Father Duggan took us swimming in the sea. We had a lot  
21 of spare time to spend playing in the grounds.  
22 Father **MEW** was like the school handyman and was  
23 able to fix and mend things that were broken.

24 "There was a lot of bullying going on in the school  
25 amongst the pupils. I know that my brother David was

1           subjected to this a lot. I would go to David's defence  
2           and would attack them with my fists and feet. I was  
3           never bullied by other pupils at the school.

4           "Discipline at the school was harsh. There was  
5           a formal discipline which was 'getting the stick'. This  
6           was administered by [REDACTED] Father [REDACTED] MEX  
7           It was a leather strap. You were hit on the hand and  
8           I think that Father [REDACTED] MEX entered the punishment  
9           into a book. You could get two sets of three strikes on  
10          your hand. I don't think that this was probably worse  
11          than any school of its time. I would suggest that it  
12          was very painful but not excessively cruel. I was  
13          subjected to the stick on a number of occasions.

14          "Father [REDACTED] MEW would clump you on the top of your  
15          head with a clenched fist. We were small boys and this  
16          treatment was, in my view, abusive. He hit you hard  
17          enough to see stars. The first time I saw this  
18          happening was to my brother David. It was in the  
19          dining room. David was unable to eat grapefruit and  
20          when he told Father [REDACTED] MEW he started to get angry.  
21          I sat at the same table as matron and she watched as  
22          Father [REDACTED] MEW in front of the whole school, hit  
23          David, who was sitting next to him, on the top of his  
24          head with a clenched fist. There was too much of this  
25          going on and I remember being very angry.



1 "Father MEW once came into our dormitory. It  
2 was in the morning and I recall it was when one of the  
3 pupils called [REDACTED] had his birthday. The rest of the  
4 dormitory had put [REDACTED] into his bed blanket and tossed  
5 him in the air to celebrate his birthday.

6 Father MEW came into the dorm and we all ran back  
7 into bed leaving [REDACTED] on the floor in his blanket.

8 Father MEW took off his belt and laid into [REDACTED] in  
9 front of us all. It was well-known that he went into  
10 the older boys' dormitories to cane them when they were  
11 caught talking.

12 "Father MEZ would hit you on the back of  
13 the hand with a ruler. It could cause your hand to  
14 blister and leak fluid. He would also clunk you on the  
15 head with his open hand, which was also very painful.

16 "Father MFC went through a spell when  
17 he would hit you on your head with a ruler. In later  
18 life, I asked him about this. His mother was in the  
19 same parish as my family in Edinburgh. He told me that  
20 the other monks at Carlekemp had told him that he was  
21 too soft with the pupils and he was losing control of  
22 the classroom. He had a period of about six weeks where  
23 he was hitting pupils but he stopped as he didn't  
24 believe that it was the right thing to do.

25 [REDACTED] MFB was a lay teacher and my main

1           tormentor. If you had committed a misdemeanour during  
2           the day, you would have to report to him in your  
3           pyjamas. He would make you bend over and pull your  
4           pyjamas tight across your buttocks. He would then  
5           administer the cane, which was a whippy piece of wood.  
6           It would often leave welts on your buttocks. He would  
7           usually give you three blows at a time.

8           "The school also had a matron who lived on the  
9           premises. At one stage I sat at her dining table in the  
10          refectory. She used to call David and I 'charity cases'  
11          and when I was at her table she would not let me get  
12          seconds. She also made me polish all my classmates'  
13          school shoes because I was a charity case and they all  
14          paid fees.

15          "I think that being at the school was part of my  
16          father's salary package. Matron did not like us to  
17          forget this and constantly reminded us in front of the  
18          other pupils.

19          "Father Aidan Duggan had it in for me. He was my  
20          main tormentor. He told me that I was a show-off and  
21          a smart Alec. He did his best to physically knock it  
22          out of me. The first time I experienced it was when  
23          I got an answer wrong in class. He descended on me with  
24          a stick, which was a bit longer than a foot long and  
25          about an inch thick. It was like a swagger stick. He

1 hit me all about the body in what I would describe as  
2 being a frenzied attack. He only ever used the stick  
3 when he was in the classroom.

4 "When he came into the classroom, he would lay out  
5 his books, and the last thing he put on his desk was the  
6 stick. I was hit by him a lot as he taught me [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED] and I was in a lot of  
8 his classes.

9 "Although other pupils were attacked I felt that  
10 I was singled out on a daily basis. I remember one day  
11 when I was not attacked and was leaving the classroom,  
12 he told me not to think that I had got away with it and  
13 hit me on the head with the stick. I recall on one  
14 occasion being smacked on the backside by Father Duggan  
15 when we were having a bath.

16 "It was a grown man assaulting a little boy.  
17 I would be covered in bruises all over my body and when  
18 matron bathed you once a week, she must have seen these  
19 bruises but never remarked on them. I was never  
20 hospitalised. I did not draw these injuries to anyone's  
21 attention and I don't know why.

22 "I used to serve the Mass given by Father Duggan.  
23 At the end of the Mass, Father Duggan would make you  
24 kneel in front of him. He would put his hands behind  
25 your head and force your face into his groin. At the

1 time I thought that this was a reaction to the emotion  
2 of the sanctity of the Mass. The Mass was said on  
3 a one-to-one at a private oratory in the basement of the  
4 school. I now, on reflection, consider it to be  
5 a sexual assault. The main Mass was attended by the  
6 rest of the school in the main chapel.

7 "I would serve Mass for Father Duggan for a full  
8 week every two or three weeks. He would continue to  
9 assault me during the day in his classroom, but for some  
10 reason I always went to him to serve at his Mass. The  
11 rota was posted up on the noticeboard and I always hoped  
12 that he might see me in a better light.

13 "When you shared a dining table with Father Duggan,  
14 he would run his hand up the inside of your shorts and  
15 feel your thigh. As you were sitting at the table with  
16 him, you just accepted this as it was well-known that he  
17 did it to everyone.

18 "I used to go to confession with Father Duggan  
19 because outside the classroom he was very personable and  
20 friendly. You could choose who you went to confession  
21 with. He was very lenient.

22 "It was the middle of my last term at the school.  
23 The beatings had stopped. I arrived at the queue for  
24 confession and while I was waiting, some of the boys  
25 were coming out, saying that they had received a big

1 sloppy kiss from Father Duggan. They were laughing and  
2 joking about it. I went into the confessional and  
3 Father Duggan then put his hand inside my trousers and  
4 started to feel round my backside. He moved his hand  
5 round and then put his other hand inside my trousers and  
6 underpants and felt my penis. This had not happened  
7 before and only started when he stopped beating me  
8 in the classroom.

9 "The sexual abuse really started for me in the  
10 summer term of school in 1958. The physical abuse had  
11 stopped. I was now sitting at MFB table  
12 in the refectory. I was at confession and I recall that  
13 Father Duggan gave me a great big sloppy kiss on the  
14 lips. I froze and all I remember was looking at his  
15 habit, which I thought was very old and shiny.

16 "At the time, I recalled my mother saying that when  
17 trousers become shiny, it meant that they were worn and  
18 should be replaced. Bizarrely, at this moment all  
19 I could think about was how often a priest's habit was  
20 issued. I think on this occasion he might have put  
21 a finger inside my anus as I remember my anus  
22 swallowing. On reflection it was similar to medical  
23 examinations in later life where a doctor would insert  
24 his finger inside you.

25 "I never told anyone about this experience at the

1 time. I don't think that I understood what was going on  
2 and I didn't know what words to use to describe what was  
3 happening to me. There was no discussion after the  
4 event with other boys, even though at the time of  
5 confessions we used to joke about it.

6 "I was in the Howe dormitory in the senior wing.  
7 All the dormitories had names. Most of the pupils in  
8 this dormitory were a year older than me, as I was big  
9 for my age. My bed was in the area where the fireplace  
10 was and adjacent to me was another bed with another  
11 pupil in it. I can't remember his name, but he had  
12 thick black hair. His bed was at the window and ran at  
13 90 degrees to mine, although I was not facing it.

14 "I was a poor sleeper and sometimes through the  
15 night I heard someone coming into the dormitory and  
16 going to the bed of the pupil beside me. I could hear  
17 the hushed voices and muttering and mumblings. I recall  
18 on one occasion he shone his torch and saw that I was  
19 awake. I said, 'Good evening, Father Duggan', and he  
20 appeared annoyed that I was awake.

21 "I assumed at the time that the pupil was getting  
22 medication through the night. I later asked the pupil  
23 what Father Duggan wanted, but he evaded the question  
24 and didn't elaborate. Father Duggan was a frequent  
25 visitor to this pupil's bed.

1           "I have thought about this since and suspect that  
2           Father Duggan certainly got on top of the other boy's  
3           bed and I think that there were some sort of sexual  
4           contact.

5           "I saw Father Duggan beating other children when  
6           we were in class. I wanted to keep on the right side of  
7           him and it was one of the reasons I went to his  
8           confession and served at his Mass. In later life I was  
9           told by [REDACTED] that Father Duggan had  
10          previously been at Fort Augustus but was moved to  
11          Carlekemp because he was becoming too friendly and  
12          fiddling with the novice monks there. Father Duggan was  
13          the novice master at Fort Augustus.

14          "Another boy I know who was at Fort Augustus was  
15          raped by Father Duggan when he was at that school.

16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18          "There was a requirement to write a letter home  
19          every week. This letter would be read by the matron  
20          and, if necessary, it would be censored before it was  
21          sent. I managed one day to write a letter to my father  
22          telling him what was going on. I managed to sneak out  
23          after dusk and smuggle the letter into the postbox in  
24          the hall of the school. This ensured that it had not  
25          been read before it was sent.

1            "In the letter I pleaded for him to take me away  
2            from the school. In later life, I learned that my  
3            father responded by phoning [REDACTED]  
4            Father [REDACTED] MEX Father [REDACTED] MEX had told my father  
5            that I was happy as a lintie and that he could see me  
6            playing outside as he was speaking to my father. He  
7            told my father that it was momentary homesickness and  
8            that everything was okay. My father seemed to accept  
9            that. The beatings at school did not stop.

10           "My father took both David and I out of  
11           Carlekemp School in 1958. [REDACTED]

12           [REDACTED] I'm not sure why as my  
13           father would not discuss it with us. He always felt  
14           that it was his fault when things went wrong in the  
15           family.

16           "I went on to St Mary's School, York Lane,  
17           Edinburgh. I always assumed we were back staying at  
18           home because my mother, who had been ill, was now  
19           better. My father never really gave us a reason for  
20           leaving Carlekemp, and neither David, [REDACTED] or myself  
21           wanted to worry him with what had happened as we knew he  
22           would blame himself.

23           "I was at a number of schools after Carlekemp.  
24           I attended St Mary's, York Lane, Edinburgh where  
25           I remained for a year. In 1959 I went to St Mary's



1 College in Blairs, Aberdeenshire, to train to become  
2 a priest. I remained there for two terms and I then  
3 went to Holy Cross School in Edinburgh. I skipped a lot  
4 of school there so I was sent to Scotus Academy, which  
5 was a day school in Edinburgh run by the  
6 Christian Brothers, where I stayed until my last year of  
7 school, when I went to George Heriot's School in  
8 Edinburgh. I think I only went to about eight classes  
9 at George Heriot's and skipped the rest of school.

10 "Interestingly, in my time at St Mary's College in  
11 Blairs near Aberdeen I never saw any form of abuse.  
12 There was a no-touch rule amongst the boys and the  
13 teaching priests. There was there were no incidents  
14 that I can recall and compared to Carlekemp it was  
15 a much more pleasant environment. There was no other  
16 incidents at any of the schools I attended.

17 "I worked at a lot of jobs after school. I joined  
18 the police for a year and then worked as a relief  
19 ambulanceman. I worked on building sites and in bars.  
20 I finally settled down for a while and got a job in  
21 childcare at Donaldson's School for the Deaf in  
22 Edinburgh. I was there from 1970 to 1972. I got  
23 married while I was there.

24 "I was drinking from age 13 and became an alcoholic  
25 at age 17 as I was having to drink in the morning.

1 I did settle down a bit after that and in 1971 took  
2 a better paid job at Redhall Children's Home in  
3 Edinburgh.

4 "I passed my Scottish Highers and was admitted to  
5 university where I obtained a good degree in economics,  
6 economic history and sociology. I completed  
7 a postgraduate diploma in adult education. I did some  
8 tutoring and lecturing at the University of Edinburgh  
9 where I graduated from. I also worked for the gas board  
10 to help pay for my studying period.

11 "I got a job as a lecturer at a college in England  
12 and I started drinking again. It all went to pieces and  
13 I became unemployable. I got divorced when I was  
14 teaching after being married for nine years. I had two  
15 children from that marriage and at the time of the  
16 divorce got custody of them.

17 "In 1995 I became sober again and I started  
18 a business teaching people to use plant machinery. The  
19 business seemed to be good for me and I thoroughly  
20 enjoyed running it.

21 "I remarried my current wife and we now live in the  
22 south of England. She also has two children.

23 "As a result of the abuse I was subjected to by the  
24 priests at Carlekemp, I feel that I was estranged from  
25 my parents. I blamed them for being naive and not being

1 able to see through what had happened at Carlekemp.

2 "I have had recurring difficulties with alcohol,  
3 which I directly attribute to my schooldays at  
4 Carlekemp. I was drinking to be oblivious as to what  
5 had happened to me. With hindsight, I have now been  
6 21 years sober and still reflect on what caused me to  
7 drink. I also struggled to remain at any school and it  
8 was only when I came out of my schooling days that  
9 I studied school exams to grant me access to university.

10 "I have applied for my records from Carlekemp under  
11 the Freedom of Information Act, but the only thing that  
12 arrived was the application that my father filled out  
13 for us to attend the school. Despite my brother David's  
14 and my best efforts, we have been unable to get anything  
15 else from the Benedictine Order.

16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED] As a result of this, David and  
20 I have spoken about what happened on many occasions.

21 "I was also contacted by a lady [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED] She was phoning regarding her father who  
23 had been at Carlekemp. [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]  
25 Her father told her that he knew David and me. The girl

1           phoned me but didn't want it known that she had  
2           contacted me or her father would have been upset.  
3           I tracked down her father on the pretence that I had  
4           done the research to find him and leaving his daughter  
5           out of matters. He told me about the abuse that he had  
6           suffered both at Carlekemp and Fort Augustus. I think  
7           he also reported it to the police.

8           "I also gave evidence to the McLellan inquiry via  
9           Skype. I also provided a lengthy statement to the  
10          police and to the McLellan inquiry. There has been no  
11          action since that I am aware of.

12          "I have never sought help from any of the survivor  
13          groups associated with child abuse in care.

14          "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
15          published as part of the evidence to the inquiry.  
16          I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
17          true."

18          My Lady, the statement was signed by Christopher on  
19          25 February 2017.

20   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

21          So does that take us to the end of evidence for  
22          today, Ms MacLeod?

23   MS MACLEOD: It does, my Lady, and for this week. The next  
24          sitting day will be Wednesday, when we have three oral  
25          witnesses planned.

1 LADY SMITH: Very well. I'll adjourn now until Wednesday  
2 morning at 10 o'clock. Thank you all.

3 (3.50 pm)

4 (The inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am  
5 on Wednesday, 24 July 2019)

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"PATRICK" (affirmed) .....1

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"JAMES" (sworn) .....58

    Questions from MS MacLEOD .....58

"JOSEPH" (sworn) .....110

    Questions from MR MacAULAY .....110

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    WALLS (read)

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