

CONFIDENTIAL MEMO
TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

To: John Nestor

From: Bishop Peter Ingham, in the presence of Fr Bryan Jones VG

Date: 24 January 2009

Place: From Bishop's Office, Catholic Church Offices, Wollongong

1. JGN telephoned the Bishop's House to say that he was unable to keep the appointment with PWI and BJ due to problems with his car. The call was received by Fr Ron Peters who contacted PWI who was at the Bishop's Office.
2. PWI telephoned JGN. In the course of that brief conversation JGN asked to be told the "bottom line" of what PWI wanted to meet with him about.
3. PWI replied that the Holy Father had dismissed JGN from the clerical state. JGN was obviously taken aback but did not say much by way of response.
4. The telephone conversation ended.
5. Because of the difficulty PWI had experienced in trying to arrange a meeting with JGN, PWI decided to telephone JGN again and read him the decree, together with a letter that PWI had written to accompany the decree.
6. PWI telephoned JGN again. JGN refused to allow the telephone to be switched to speaker so that BJ could participate in the conversation also.
7. PWI told him that BJ would remain with PWI in the room.
8. PWI read the salient points from an English translation of the decree to JGN.
9. JGN was, understandably, distressed and became angry. He made comments such that "It was all just a beat up" ... "I know what I did and didn't do" ... "the evidence doesn't support it" ... "The Congregation for the Clergy cleared me" . When told that the investigation report had been sent to the CDF, JGN stated that "That's illegal".
10. JGN made very negative comments about PWI (to him) and about the Australian Bishops in general. He also made negative comments about members of the Bishop's office who managed the case administratively and about Centacare.
11. When PWI stated that he did not intend to make a public statement about the matter, JGN replied, "I wish you would". He also asked whether PWI had investigated the "good work" JGN had done in USA.
12. JGN also spoke of the damage done to his family by the process and that he himself had not been given natural justice.

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