

REGISTER 37

**REPORT OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN AYE [REDACTED]  
AND BERNEICE LOCH, FRIDAY 11/4/1997. [REDACTED] (W), [REDACTED] (H)  
(at home usually from 9.20 pm to 4.30 am) - noted written 18/4/1997**

**[REDACTED]**

AYE [REDACTED] rang me at the office (MHCA) at approx. five pm and the conversation was for about 50 to 60 mins.

His opening words were that he had been trying to get in touch for some time. It was Dave Owens who had finally given him a number. He said he had tried "the range convent last year". I really do not know what number he would have run.

He was at Neerkol from 1939 to 1951. He is now married to a former sister (of St. Joseph) and wanted to assure me he does not hate nuns.

He claims to have been abused by both Fr. Anderson and Fr. Durham but I am not clear on whether he is a witness in the current case. He says he was not good at school and consequently did a lot of work - remembers ironing even the sister's coifs and other starched items. He was with Dave Owens. He says that when he reported his abuse he was flogged, in this case by Sr. Aquinas. He also received several beltings from Sr. Assumpta and described her as a big woman with two different coloured eyes - one green/hazel, the other green/brown.

He also reports that some sister were "fantastic". "Sr. Francis Regis was very nice - taught me sewing and crocheting.

On one occasion he says Sr. Assumpta got Bill Kelly up to flog him with a whip. It was for calling Assumpta a b....b.... (his words). He says he was kept away from the other kids (I think when someone was visiting) below a trap door in the floor of the recreation room. Described the wash room - 2 baths, 3 showers on the right, toilets on the left. One day in the showers one of the boys "tried it on him saying, 'you were a good boy with the Priests'". He managed to get away.

Talked fondly of Patrice as a young sister just out from Ireland. Says she threw a scissors at him one afternoon when he should have been asleep out on the verandah. She was then a "mosquito net sister" which I take to be a postulant. Says the "big girls who minded the babies" could be cruel and belted the little ones for wetting themselves.

Says he is not criticising any nun, they did a fantastic job.

AYE [REDACTED] says he is related to the late Bishop Tynan.

I suggested Sue would get in touch, check this story, get more clarity about his complaint, explain the process etc.

*(for accuracy of my recording)*

↑ This man's trust shaken by 60 mins, need to build on it & act quickly, perhaps through a Brisbane agent.  
B.M. Loch

Karyn Walsh