

CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: 24th November, 1986.

INTRA - OFFICE MEMO

REF. NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMO TO: FATHER DOYLE (COPY TO MR. P. ANNETT)

FROM: N. LALOR

RE: DOVETON

*Patry,*  
*The version we have is*  
*G. Sleeman. He admitted to*  
*Allan Dooley what had happened.*  
*Fr. Searson indicated that he*  
*was upset, but wouldn't discuss*  
*the incident.*  
*Norm*

Allan Dooley has alerted us to a situation that occurred at Doveton on Friday.

Fr. Searson visited the school to see the secretary. He apparently walked past G. Sleeman who was talking to another person. G. Sleeman interpreted Fr. Searson's actions as ignoring him as principal of the school. G. Sleeman finished his conversation and went up to Fr. Searson in the school yard and asked Fr. Searson "is there some problem whereby you can't talk to me?". Words were exchanged whereby Fr. Searson said "your resignation has caused my reputation to be pulled down in this community". He also said to G. Sleeman that he was seeing him (Fr. Searson) through coloured glasses. G. Sleeman replied, saying "if I need dark glasses you will need someone to fix up your face when I re-arrange it".

This situation is worrying because it may indicate the lack of control that G. Sleeman is exercising. There are still 3 weeks to go to the end of the year. Such a threat by G. Sleeman is worrying not only in a physical sense but also in the sense of how Fr. Searson could use it to support his case of not being fairly dealt with. It could also be a case for instant dismissal of an employee.

There is other evidence that G. Sleeman is not acting rationally due to the pressure of the situation. There is some fear that worse could happen - physically.

Would it be better to suggest that Fr. Searson pay G. Sleeman out and that G. Sleeman ends at the school now?

The "other evidence" mentioned above refers to a recent situation outside the school where G. Sleeman did physically lift up a parking officer who was booking G. Sleeman. Also other language that G. Sleeman has used to Fr. Searson - "hypocrite", "liar".

*MR*  
*file*

*Norm*  
*I did discuss this*  
*briefly with Fr. Doyle last evening.*  
*I believe Searson has to be told to*  
*pull his head in. Whilst he is under pressure*  
*that is part of it all and he only jeopardises what he*  
*believes he has achieved by his stand. He could*  
*well be dismissed by the P.P. - in fact if the*  
*above is completely accurate then I wonder...*  
*whose version do you have?*  
*f Annett*  
*24/11/86*

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_