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CONFIDENTIALFILE NOTE : MR. G. SLEEMAN

In early August the Archbishop referred to Fr. Doyle a letter from G. Sleeman to the Archbishop (dated 30th July and a copy of which is on this file). The Archbishop requested that Fr. Doyle speak initially with him. As a result, I interviewed G. Sleeman on 15th September.

Mr. Sleeman wanted to share with me his frustrations as a result of his role as principal of Holy Family School, Doveton. He indicated that there were irreconcilable differences between himself and Fr. Searson, P.P. He believed the parish priest felt the same way. He was concerned about many events he alleged had taken place at Doveton involving the parish priest which he felt unable to handle. Most of these events he acknowledged could not be substantiated.

He then indicated that he felt he must resign from Doveton and seek a principalship in one of the schools currently being advertised. Given the circumstances he asked that consideration be given to him not resigning his present position before applying (he is in his 4th year of first contract). If this wasn't possible could some arrangements be made so that if he resigned and was unsuccessful in principalship application he would receive a principal's salary in 1987. I indicated that neither was a possibility and further suggested that if the position was as he indicated I could not see any advantage in the first proposal anyway.

I did agree that I would discuss the events he outlined with Monsignor Connors and then get back to him. After discussion with Monsignor Connors I was confirmed in my believe that Father Searson was likely to remain at Doveton for the foreseeable future.

On 22nd September I made contact with G. Sleeman by telephone to indicate the tenor of my conversation with Monsignor Connors. I further reiterated that it was not possible to consider an application for other principalships without his prior resignation and that if he was not successful in obtaining a principalship, this Office could not maintain his salary at a principal's level. He indicated that he thought he would resign his position and requested that an application form be sent to him.



(P. Annett)
23rd September, 1986.

P.S.: If G. Sleeman resigns and applies for other positions, need to inform the Archbishop in a brief note.

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