

## MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: LIONEL "LEE" LeBLANC

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], NH

Telephone: [REDACTED]

DATE OF INTERVIEW: Monday, August 26, 2002

INTERVIEWERS: . Detective Kathleen M. Kimball, NH State Police *Kimball*  
Investigator Anthony Fowler, AGO

RE: Paul L. AUBE

On the above date, at approximately 1300 hours, Investigator FOWLER and I met with Lionel "Lee" LeBLANC at his residence in order to follow up on details of the motor vehicle stop he made in 1975 in Nashua involving Paul L. AUBE.

LEBLANC stated again that he and his partner, Dick GAGNON, were working in the narcotics unit and were out patrolling in an unmarked Nashua police cruiser on Ridge Road. He estimated the time of year to be late November/December of that year. He also stated that he believed the contact with AUBE and the young boy in his vehicle was near midnight. He stated that he approached the vehicle on the driver's side and a priest, later identified as AUBE was involved in sexual contact with the boy. When asked what he was doing, AUBE responded that he was "trying to relate to the boy" and that the boy was having some problems that he was trying to help with.

LEBLANC stated that he believes a supervisor was called to respond to the scene and that he was "instructed" by this supervisor to take the boy home. He described the unidentified boy as appearing to be "quiet and scared". He thinks the boy might have been as young as twelve or thirteen years old and as old as possibly sixteen. LEBLANC continued to say that he recalls driving the boy home and his parents meeting them. There was no discussion of the incident and he advised them that a juvenile officer would be in contact with them to do follow up. He stated that he did not know if this was ever done.

LEBLANC said that he remembers returning to the police station and not finding the priest there. When specifically asked if AUBE was taken into custody, LEBLANC said that he did not know. He does not remember a tow truck being called to remove the vehicle so he believes that AUBE was allowed to drive from the scene.

When asked if he had generated a report following the incident, he said, yes. He said that his report would have been done prior to the end of the shift that night.

LEBLANC also told us that he was awakened the next morning by a phone call at his residence from AUBE "begging me not to pursue" the issue. LEBLANC said that he was upset with the priest first for calling him at home and secondly, for his request. He said that his response to AUBE was that the matter would be documented regardless of the request.

LEBLANC stated that after this, he knew that "calls were made" to department officials, that there would be no court action and that AUBE was moved out of the Nashua area.

LEBLANC then advised that he was continuing his search through his old police files for any documentation that he might have of the incident. He said that he had not found anything as of yet.

The interview ended at approximately 1400 hours.

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: [REDACTED]

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Office of the Attorney General  
33 Capitol Street  
Concord, NH

DATE OF INTERVIEW: Wednesday, August 28, 2002

INTERVIEWERS: Detective Kathleen M. Kimball, NH State Police *AKM*  
Investigator Anthony Fowler, AGO

RE: Paul L. AUBE

On the above date, at approximately 1025 hours, Investigator FOWLER and I met with [REDACTED] in a conference room at the Attorney General's Office in order to follow up on a few details regarding the information he disclosed during an interview done in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] E stated that he believes that he was approximately twelve or thirteen years old when the abuse by AUBE began. He said that this would have been around 1979. He also stated that it began with hugging and kissing and escalated to clothing removal of both, ending with oral sex on both. [REDACTED] said that he believes that he was approximately fifteen years old when the contact stopped in Rochester, NH because AUBE left Holy Rosary parish. However, [REDACTED] said that they remained in contact after that and met both at Elliott Hospital in Manchester and at AUBE'S home in Candia, NH where they had sexual contact.

When asked who was the first person that he disclosed information about his sexual contact with AUBE, [REDACTED] said that it was to his former wife [REDACTED]. He said that it was after they were married and she thinks that he was in his early twenties. [REDACTED] repeated that he never disclosed the abuse to anyone at the time it was occurring. And he said that he began the disclosure process in [REDACTED] after seeing AUBE'S name in the newspaper as being accused of sexual misconduct with minors.

[REDACTED] was asked if anyone from the Diocese of Manchester had been in contact with him since his own name was in the newspaper as having been victimized by AUBE. He responded that no one has ever contacted him.

**MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

**PERSON INTERVIEWED: PAUL L. AUBE**

**PLACE OF INTERVIEW:** Office of the Attorney General  
33 Capitol Street  
Concord, NH

**DATE OF INTERVIEW:** Wednesday, August 14, 2002

**INTERVIEWERS:** Detective Kathleen M. Kimball, NH State Police *KMK*  
Investigator Anthony Fowler, AGO

On the above date, at approximately 1000 hours, **Paul L. AUBE** responded to the Attorney General's Office accompanied by his attorney, Robert Mc**DANIEL**, and case manager, Laurie **WOODAMAN** in order to be interviewed regarding sexual abuse allegations against him while he was an active priest in the Diocese of Manchester. Also present in the room during the interview was Assistant Attorney General James **ROSENBERG**.

The entire interview was audio recorded with permission by all parties. Recording ceased at approximately 1258 hours.

At the conclusion of the interview and recording, **AUBE** stated that he wanted to tell us the reason for why he was there talking with investigators. He stated that he looked forward to talking with us just like he had looked forward to talking with Dr. **DESJARDINS**. He continued to state that he knows the pain of being a victim because [REDACTED] And he also wants to be a part of the solution of the Diocese' problem. **AUBE** then stated that he wants to help the Diocese break the cycle of abuse.

Due to an afternoon appointment for Attorney Mc**DANIEL**, this interview was stopped prior to its real conclusion. Arrangements were then made between all parties to meet in the near future to resume the interview process with **AUBE**.

See attached transcript and Possessed Property Report.

End of report.

## PAUL AUBE INTERVIEW

- AF: Okay, um it is August 14, 2002, 1016 a.m. by my watch. This is Investigator Anthony Fowler of the NH Attorney General's Office. As I stated I work as a Criminal Investigator in the Criminal Justice Bureau. We are in a conference room at the NH Attorney General's Office conducting an interview with Father Paul Aube. First off what I'd like to do is go from my left and around the table and have everyone introduce themselves in what their position or capacity is here today.
- KK: I'm Detective Kathleen M. Kimball of the NH State Police currently sitting on a Task Force ah, with the AG'S Office investigating the Diocese of Manchester.
- LW: I'm Laurie Woodaman, legal case manager for the Law Office of Robert E. McDaniel.
- PA: I'm Paul Aube a Priest of the Diocese of Manchester here to offer ah, any evidence or witness that I can share to the case.
- RM: I'm Robert E. McDaniel, counsel to Paul Aube.
- JR: I'm Jim Rosenberg. I'm Assistant Attorney General and currently one of the prosecutors assigned to the Attorney General's Task Force of the investigation of the Manchester Diocese.
- AF: Two things I want to cover before we get started is I would just ask everybody to remember that we are being – first off do you have any problem with this being audio taped, Paul?
- PA: No, I do not.
- AF: And secondly, I would just ask everybody to speak up so that we are able to pick up the voice on the tape. Okay? All right Paul, if we could get started. Would you state your full name please, spelling your last name.
- PA: Sure. My name is Paul, L is middle initial, Aube. A-U-B-as in boy-E.
- AF: And what is your currently address?
- PA: I'm presently living at [REDACTED]
- AF: And phone number, Paul?
- PA: Phone number ah, my cell phone is [REDACTED] My temporary residence is [REDACTED]

AF: And what is your date of birth, sir?

PA: I was born on April 8<sup>th</sup> of the year 1941.

AF: Okay. And what's your current position with the Diocese of Manchester, sir?

PA: According to the paper, I'm suspended.

AF: Okay. Um, and is it true that you have been a Priest for many years assigned to the Diocese of Manchester at your latest assignment, last assignment?

PA: I was ordained a Cleric in ah, as a Deacon in 1969. Ordained a Priest on May the 23<sup>rd</sup> of 1970.

AF: Okay. Well what I would like to do –

JR: If I could just interrupt and I apologize and I might interrupt a number of times so I apologize in advance for all of them. You said something interesting that according to the paper that you're um,

PA: Suspended.

JR: Suspended. Could you just elaborate on that?

PA: Yes. I have never received a, an official letter from the Diocese indicating that I have been suspended.

JR: Okay, so in your mind's eye, what's um, how do you view your current position with the Manchester Diocese?

PA: As suspended.

JR: As suspended? But that's not, is that based on any direct communications with the Diocese?

PA: No, the last communication I had from the Diocese concerning my status with them was back in 1994, when I received a ah, certified letter from ah Bishop O'Neil telling me that he was putting me on administrative leave because I was ah, ah, not complying with his wishes.

JR: Okay.

KK: So as a suspended ah, in a suspended state, what, what are you allowed to do as a priest and what functions are you not allowed to do?

PA: I'm allowed to do nothing.

KK: So none of the sacraments

PA: That's correct.

KK: you are allowed to participate in?

PA: I can participate as a believer. As any other believer in the church can. I cannot officiate in any capacity nor may I

?? Go ahead

PA: Nor may I present myself as a Roman Catholic cleric. Nor may I dress as a ah, Roman Catholic cleric.

AF: Could you give us a little background, synopsis of um, for example where, where you were born. Ah, your educational background leading up to ah, ordination sir?

PA: Sure. As said previously I was born April 8, 1941 ah, on Spruce Street in Berlin, New Hampshire. I was the seventh child of my parents ah, Delfice O. Aube and Rosanna Cherest Aube. Um, I went to ah, St. Regis Academy for my grammar schooling. I went to Notre Dame High School for my high schooling. Ah, I went to ah, after that I went to ah, Queen of Cervite um, college as a prep college in Ottawa, Canada. I subsequently joined the order. It was a – it is a Mendikin order of the Servants of Mary. Ah, was with them until 1965. I was professed with them for four or five years. I don't recall. I left the order ah, because I wanted to pursue being a Diocesan priest as opposed to being a Fryer. Ah, I joined the Diocese in 1965. Ah, while I was with the Fryers, I forgot, when I was with the Fryers I did my under graduate studies at the then University of Ottawa, which has now been changed to University of St. Paul. Ah, subsequent to leaving the Friary, the order, I joined the Diocese in 1965. I was sent to ah, Queen of Peace Seminary in Jaffrey, New Hampshire until its closure. Um, and then I was sent to do my last stage of studies, my last few months of studies at the Washington Theological Coalition in Silver Springs, Maryland. Was ah, was ordained in '69. Um, after my, my semester at the Washington Theological Coalition, I was assigned ah, as a Deacon ah, at ah, Our Lady of the Mountain church in Conway, North Conway, New Hampshire as a Deacon during the summer prior to going to Washington Theological. Ah, then I went to Washington Theological for one semester. Came back here. Was assigned as a Deacon ah, in the spring at St. Aloyious Church in Nashua.

AF: Okay.

- PA: Ah, then I was ordained on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, I was assigned as ah, my first priestly assignment at ah, St. Mary's church in ah, Roch, in ah, Claremont, New Hampshire.
- AF: Okay. If I can stop you. What we'll do is um, we're going to take each assignment.
- PA: Sure.
- AF: Step by step in leading up to your ordination. At this point is fine and then your first assignments and then assignments through, we'll take each one separately, okay?
- PA: That's fine.
- AF: Okay. Um, prior to your ordination
- PA: Yes.
- AF: Of becoming a priest. We noticed that there was some correspondence that ah, some people in the Diocese had some concerns about you and maybe wanting some type of testing done prior to you being ordained.
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: Can you tell me what the purpose of that testing was for, Paul?
- PA: Oh yes. Well I can only share the extent of my knowledge.
- AF: That's, that's all I can ask.
- PA: The um, the Seminary coming from a, a, a religious experience of being in the Monastery for ah, six years, ah, I enjoyed solitude. I enjoyed ah, prayer. I enjoyed ah, being in my room. My cell as we use to call it. Um, in the Seminary, when I joined the Diocese, I still had some of those ah, behavior patterns. And ah, the Seminary that I attended, which was Queen of Peace Seminary in Jaffrey ah, did could not relate to the fact that I could be serious one moment and ah, a clown the next moment. When it was time for recreation I enjoyed myself. That's the way I was trained. When it is time to recreate you'd let it all out and you enjoy yourself. When it's time to study, when it's time to be silent then you're silent and you're quiet and you study.
- AF: Where there any sexual issues surrounding
- PA: Absolutely not.



- AF: Surrounding your ordination. That's what I'm getting at.
- PA: No, absolutely not.
- AF: It is and I wanted to hear it from you. Did the Diocese have any concerns or information
- PA: Oh, no. Not to my knowledge.
- AF: At that time where there maybe some sexual issues that they wanted to find out about.
- PA: There had never been any sexual issues prior to that.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: Dealing with my interaction with, with people.
- AF: Okay.
- KK: I was just going to ask you, did you ever have sexual contact with a minor prior to becoming a priest?
- PA: No.
- AF: So the problem that, that they talk about in some of the documents has to do with ah the issue that you just discussed with me, not, not sexual is that correct?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: Okay. What year was that, sir?
- PA: I believe um, that was in '68.
- AF: '68?
- PA: I believe so.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: And I was sent to Boston to, for, at my request, at the suggestion of Monsignor Hansberry at the time. Um,
- KK: I have it right here.

- PA: Was it ah – was the suggestion of Monsignor Hansberry that I go for a psych eval for them to feel comfortable in my ah, as to whether they wanted to continue ah, considering me as a candidate for priesthood.
- AF: I have a document here just for the record.
- PA: Yes.
- AF: It's ah, dated June 21, 1968, and it says "re: Paul Aube." I'm going to show you this.
- PA: Please.
- AF: See if, if you recognize this and what ah, this document may be talking about and see if you recognize the initials on the bottom on who may have initialed that.
- PA: Ah, that most probably would be Tom Hansberry.
- AF: Tom Hansberry. Do you know what the note is alluding to or what that note might be talking about?
- PA: Yes. I know what it might be talking about.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: But I don't know what it's alluding to.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: I was ah, a member of the staff at Shift Scout Reservation as a Scout Master. Ah, the summer, '66, I believe.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: Or maybe it was '67.
- AF: Yep.
- PA: It may be, it may be '67.
- RM: Was there any sexual contact between you any anybody else while you were working as Scout Master?
- PA: No.

RM: Paul, I want to take, I want to inject something here because this is the right point chronologically. Um, you were one of several children.

PA: That's correct.

RM: And you have um, at least one [redacted] right?

PA: I have two [redacted]

RM: Two older brothers. Um, what was the nature of the treatment [redacted]

PA: [redacted] me.

RM: [redacted] e?

PA: I don't recall when it first started to be honest with you. I, I think it was maybe around ten or eleven.

RM: Until?

PA: Maybe fifteen or sixteen.

RM: Okay. Thanks.

AF: [redacted] and?

PA: [redacted]

AF: [redacted] he?

PA: [redacted] ..

RM: [redacted]

PA: [redacted]

AF: [redacted]

PA: [redacted]

AF: [redacted]

PA: [redacted]

AF: [redacted]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

KK: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]. I'm not sure. Let me see here. Seven or eight years.

KK: Can you describe what his current health or um, what's his health condition at this point? Do you know?

PA: I know at one point he was diagnosed with the beginning of emphysema. Ah, I know he has health issues with um, his legs or ah, back and ah, things like that.

KK: Do you have contact with him?

PA: Oh yes.

KK: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: Okay. The Diocese become aware of this at some point to your knowledge?

PA: I presume they might have, yes.

AF: Okay. Any idea when

PA: They became aware of it?

AF: when they might have become aware of it?

PA: I would think it would be around '81.

AF: 1981?

PA: I would presume so. I have no, I have no way of knowing that.

RM: What makes you think they were aware of it, Paul?

PA: Because ah, the permission I gave my psychologist to share ah, information with the Diocese.

RM: Okay. And what was the name of the psychologist that you authorized to share the information?

PA: His name is ah, Dr. Ernest E. Desjardin in ah, Portsmouth. He's a Forensic Neuropsychologist.

RM: He's somebody who you're still visiting with on a regular basis?

PA: That's correct.

RM: Okay.

AF: Um, I'd like to get into

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: Surely.

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: Ever been discussed?

PA: No, I have no intention of doing so.

AF: If, if I may ask a personal question.

PA: Please.

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: That's an interesting question. Ah, I don't think it, it effected me in my attraction to women, no.

AF: Would you consider yourself bi-sexual now, sir?

PA: No, I wouldn't consider myself bi-sexual. I would consider myself ah, if anything at all, I would consider myself heterosexual and um, maybe because [REDACTED] [REDACTED] homosexual curious, if you want to put it that way.

AF: Okay.

PA: Ah,

RM: I want to make sure as we, as we progress down the path, and I know that you understand the difficulties and are very sensitive to the situation.

AF: Sure.

RM: But um, what I would like to avoid is I'd like to avoid creating issues or difficulties for Paul ah, because he's been very, very successful and his um, sessions with Dr. Desjardin. And um completely incident free from more than two decades and that's something that we're proud of and, and that we want to be very, very careful.

AF: I think it was important to ask.

RM: I think it was too.

AF: [REDACTED] ep, I do.

RM: Yup, I do. I do.

PA: I, I, I agree.

AF: Okay. Lets move on to your first assignment.

PA: Yes.

AF: As a priest.

JR: If, if I could just break in and I apologize, but I wanted to ask a follow-up question.

PA: Please.

JR: Ah, about the Seminary because um, as Tony alluded to, you there was some correspondence back and forth. And I, I have a letter I just wanted to point out. It's August 23, 1968 letter. It's probably that you've never seen that letter before um and I, I took liberties because it was my contact, my copy, of highlighting it. Um, there's a phrase in there that alludes to a concern on the part of certain

Seminarians that you might have had a control issue. Ah, self control issue. Any idea as you sit here today, what that might be referring to?

RM: Go ahead and take all the time you need to.

JR: Yeah.

PA: If I may read it.

JR: Absolutely.

PA: I was trying to listen to what you were saying.

JR: Right and that wasn't fair of me to ah, talk while you were

PA: No, no, no. No, no I was not reading.

AF: That's the way the SCC does things.

JR: That's right. That's how they're successful, ha, ha, ha.

PA: I'd like to take a deference to um, a statement there. Um, "He denies help and becomes disturbed when it is given to him." At that time I had a um, I had voluntarily ah, ah, chosen a spiritual Director by the name of um, Brandon Cumiski. Father Brandon Cumiski, who subsequently became a, a Bishop. Ah, he was originally from Ireland. Ah, when the Seminary was closed he returned to the British Isles and um, I believe it was while in England as I read in the newspapers he became a Bishop. And to the best of my knowledge he ah, this year, this spring, he resigned his position as Bishop ah, because of the way ah, he had mishandled a sexual, a sex abuse case. That's what I saw in the news.

RM: What's the connection to this?

AF: Yeah, what's?

RM: August 23, 1960?

PA: Well, no, I, I was just taking deference to, to that sentence that "He denies help and becomes disturbed when it was given to me" because I was very submissive to ah, my spiritual director.

AF: So you mean to take exception to that statement?

PA: I take exception. Yeah. I'm sorry, I had the wrong word.

RM: Ha, ha, that's why we're here.

KK: That's all right.

RM: Do you, do you know if the um, the reference in this letter to the phrase "I personally fear he is a poor risk" if that has anything to do with any sexual proclivities or activities?

PA: If it was, nobody brought it to my attention and I don't recall having been ah, sexually inappropriate in, in word or action.

RM: Okay. And lastly Paul, have you ever seen this?

PA: I have never seen this. As a matter of fact um, most of the information you have I've been denied to see. I have asked repeatedly to see and I've been denied to see.

RM: By the Diocese?

PA: By the Diocese.

RM: Okay.

JR: And likewise the reference that ah, there was a concern you might have a self-control problem,

PA: I ah,

JR: are, are you aware at all why they might have said that?

PA: Well maybe. I mean I'm speculating here. And this is just speculation. I have always been extremely verbal in my opinion. I've always been very opinionated. Um, I recall incidences where as Mr. McDaniels has eluded. I, I've always been very orthodox as far as living up to the teachings of the church. Some of the professors we had at that Seminary were, were teaching things that were definitely questionable to the teachings of the church. And I remember um, taking objection to it. Ah, quite openly.

AF: Well, well let me ask you this specific question.

PA: Please.

AF: When they talk about the self-control issue in this letter. Would they be referring in any way, shape or form to any type of sexual behavior?

PA: Not to my knowledge.



AF: Not to your knowledge.

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: Okay.

JR: And um, in 1968, you indicated that you went to some sort of evaluation with a psychologist?

PA: Dr. Connors, correct.

JR: With Dr. Connors. And ah, where there any – in um, in speaking with Dr. Connors did um, did he discuss with you any, any sexual concerns or issues of a sexual variety that might have arisen at the Seminary?

PA: No.

AF: Were there any sexual concerns during that evaluation in general that, that came out that um, ah, concerns about ah sexual behavior on your part that ah, possibly the Diocese knew about?

PA: I have no idea. I never saw the report.

AF: Okay. Where – do you recall to the best of your knowledge, your memory?

PA: I'm not sure. Connors

AF: Dr. Connors

PA: Focusing on that?

AF: Correct.

PA: I do not.

AF: Right.

RM: You never saw Connor's report?

PA: I never saw any report.

RM: Okay. Did anybody ever report to you what Connors had reported to them?

PA: Ah, well, not really. I, I was given the opportunity to meet with Dr. Connors after the report had been sent to the Diocese. I never saw a copy of that report. And my follow-up meeting with Dr. Connors ah, the thing that Dr. Connors, as he

went over outline form of the results, I understood the results of the test to be quite positive. And there was only one very surprising dimension to that report for me. And that's the fact that up until that time I thought I was pretty damn stupid. And according to, according to the report I wasn't stupid at all. And ah, I you know, I had a good IQ. And um, that really ah, had affected me because I felt I you know, that's, that's all I know the report.

JR: And um, when you were at the seminary,

PA: Yes.

JR: um, if um, superiors of your, yours communicated to the Diocese a concern or vice versa the Diocese communicated to the folks at the seminary a concern that you had had a frustrating experience um, with the Servites in Canada?

PA: Servites.

JR: Servites. And I apologize for my mispronunciation.

PA: No, no, no problem.

JR: But if they referred to the fact that you had a frustrating experience in Canada,

PA: Huh, huh.

JR: prior to being at the seminary in Jaffrey,

PA: Huh, huh.

JR: Do you know what they might have been referring to there?

PA: The only thing that I can think of is the fact that the, and that was right at the end of Vatican II. And during Vatican II, one of the things that I had been decided, was that their going to implement an old tradition of having permanent Deacons. And I was approached by my Provincial to ah, to become a permanent Deacon as opposed to becoming a priest. And I objected to that. And that became very frustrating to me. And I left the order. Ah, that was one of the main reasons I left the order.

RM: Other than that Paul, was there a sexual element

PA: No.

RM: to your leaving the order?

PA: No.

- RM: Was there a sexual element to your life at the order?
- PA: No.
- AF: Paul, if we may I'd like to start with your first assignment.
- PA: Please.
- AF: Um, can you, can you explain ah, to us what your first assignment was as a priest? Or where that was?
- PA: Yes. That was in Claremont, New Hampshire at St. Mary's church.
- AF: Okay. And who were the other priests that were there?
- PA: When I first got there, Father um, Provost was the ah, P-R-O-V-O-S-T was the pastor. Ah, there was a Father Cartie. There was a Father Moran. I believe those were the priests that were there.
- AF: What was your, what were your duties there? Or what position did you hold in that first assignment, Paul?
- PA: They turned over the um, youth ministry to me.
- AF: Youth Ministry?
- PA: That's correct.
- RM: Was it Moran or Morin?
- PA: Moran.
- RM: Thank you.
- PA: Yes, I forget. He has a brother that's a priest. I forget the name of the one that was in, in, in ah, Claremont. He died. He was a very serious diabetic and he died and Father Cartie also died there.
- AF: For the record, what year were you assigned to Claremont?
- PA: I was assigned to Claremont ah, from June 3<sup>rd</sup> of 1970 until the fall of '73.
- AF: '73.
- PA: I believe. I don't recall. I believe that's what the date was.

AF: During that time, Paul, did you have any problems as far as any type of sexual encounters with minors?

PA: Yes. I did.

AF: Okay. In your best um, estimation ah, how many encounters did you have?

PA: There?

AF: Yes. Approximately, sir.

PA: Maybe three.

AF: Okay. Approximate age group?

PA: One was eighteen. I think the other one was, at the time that we had the contact, was eighteen. And ah, the other one was maybe ah, seventeen.

AF: Seventeen? Do you recall who they were sir?

PA: Yes. I do.

AF: Would you mind telling us?

PA: Ah, the first one was a ah, a person by the name of [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: How old sir?

PA: He was eighteen.

AF: Eighteen. Okay.

PA: As a matter of fact, if I recall properly, it was on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

AF: Okay. In ah, where did that occur if you remember sir? That encounter?

PA: I believe it was in Massachusetts.

AF: In Massachusetts?

PA: Yes.

AF: Okay. Ah,

PA: We, I had visited a friend and he had accompanied me. And I believe he was, as I recall it, it was during that night where the sitting quarters were limited and we ended up sleeping together. That's where we had our first encounter.

AF: And ah, the other people, sir?

PA: Ah, one was a, was his brother [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: How old sir?

PA: I believe he was eighteen. I'm, I'm not sure.

AF: Was he younger than his brother?

PA: No, he was. No that was sometime later. It was not at the same time. It was maybe a year later or so.

AF: All right. And where did that occur sir?

PA: That occurred as I went to visit, we went to visit [REDACTED] college and it happened at the motel room.

AF: Did the - what, what municipality?

PA: That was is ah, St. Michael's College outside of Burlington.

AF: Burlington?

PA: That's right.

AF: Burlington, Vermont?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Okay.

JR: Winooski.

PA: Winooski, that's what it is. Yes. Thank you sir. Thank you.

AF: And ah, continue. The third one, sir.

PA: The third one was a friend of [REDACTED]. Ah, that was, if I recall, that was [REDACTED] and I think he was either sixteen or seventeen. I'm not sure.

AF: Okay. And where did that occur, sir?

PA: That occurred at the Rectory.

AF: Okay. And, and the Rectory in Claremont? Okay. I want to back up a little bit.

PA: Please.

AF: And see if we can make -- I want to understand this a little bit. At some particular point obviously, Paul, ah sexual contact started, I guess started in Claremont. Is that accurate?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Or is -- or am I wrong?

PA: No, no you are correct.

AF: Can you, can you tell me when ah, you started having thoughts of ah, homosexual relationships I guess.

PA: Yes.

AF: Was that, was that post ordination?

PA: Oh, yes.

AF: Or pre-ordination?

PA: Oh, yeah, oh yeah, no, post.

AF: Post-ordination?

PA: That's correct.

AF: And what, in your own words, can you tell me how that, how that developed?  
How that

PA: Sure.

AF: I know its difficult.

PA: No. This one is not difficult.

AF: Okay.

PA: Emotional, but not difficult.

AF: Sure.

PA: I had been at the parish only a few days when [REDACTED], came to see me. Ah, we sat in the office. I was behind a desk. He was sitting behind the desk like about the same distance that you and I are presently. And um I, I'm trying to be careful because I don't want to break any confidences um, that [REDACTED] shared with me that he um, had been molested. And that he had been involved in homosexual activities. I became extremely, extremely uptight at that point because that's when what happened with my brother really hit me. And I didn't know if I wanted to jump over the table and choke him because I hated homosexuals. Or whether I wanted to run away. I didn't know which one. I didn't know which one to do.

RM: It would be fair to say Paul, that there was a certain amount of psychological confusion that you were suffering from at this time in your life.

PA: Up until that point I was not aware I was.

RM: Yep. Okay.

PA: From that point on I knew I was.

RM: Okay.

AF: In a general since ah, Paul, did anyone – who, who found out about the encounters with these three people? Did, did anybody find out? Or who knew about it other than you and me and the ah, the other guys?

PA: To the best of my knowledge, only the guys do.

AF: Okay.

PA: I, I did, I must, I must be candid with you and say that as the relationship with [REDACTED] continued, I became increasingly disturbed and upset about it and concerned about it and I went to see my pastor, who was not Father Provost anymore. It was a Father Hector Lamontange.

AF: Lamontange?

PA: Correct.

AF: Okay.

PA: He is since deceased. I went to see him and I shared with him the fact that I was affectionately or emotionally attracted to this young man and it was disturbing me.

AF: That's, and that's a great point. I guess what I, Hector Lamontange, just for the record, was the pastor at the church?

PA: Pastor. At the time, correct.

AF: And during your conversation with the pastor ah, did the pastor become aware of,

PA: He did.

AF: of encounters with this person?

PA: He did.

AF: He did. Okay.

PA: That was my purpose to go see him.

AF: Sure. And what was the pastor's response, Paul to you ah, trying to be up front with him?

PA: If you don't mind my being a little dramatic. 'Well, Paul, we're all human you know. We all have weaknesses.'

RM: Paul, did he tell you what he was going to

PA: No. He did not. He told me

RM: Let me, let me, let me finish my question.

PA: Sorry.

RM: Okay. Did he tell you he was going to report this to the Diocese?

PA: No.

RM: That he was going to take it up the chain of command?



PA: No, he did not.

RM: That he was going to recommend that you have some kind of counseling?

PA: No, he did not.

RM: That you change, that he was going to recommend that you change the position where you were serving the church, be reassigned?

PA: He never told me any of that.

AF: At any point, to your recollection, did the Diocese ever find out about the conversation that you had with Father Lamontange?

PA: Not that I'm aware of. Not to my knowledge.

AF: Do you know, to the best of your recollection, whether Father Lamontange ever documented that conversation?

PA: I have no idea.

AF: Okay.

PA: You know his recommendation is that I pray and trust in the Lord and things will, would fall in place.

AF: Did he ever recommend counseling or psychological testing?

PA: No, he did not.

AF: Did he ever give you any type of um, solution or right step, other than pray and explain that we all have weaknesses?

PA: No. No the topic never came up again.

AF: Okay.

RM: Do you know if he spoke with um, the [REDACTED] boy or any of the other boys?

PA: I have no knowledge of that.

JR: Do you know whether any of these three boys ah, made any reports to either the local parish or the Diocese about their contact with you during those years?

PA: I have no knowledge of that.

JR: Um, did you ever seek, whether at the suggestion of the Diocese or on your own accord, counseling um, around this time or as a consequence of your relationship with these, with [REDACTED] or the others?

PA: I tried.

JR: And could you just describe those efforts for us.

PA: I would try to find reasons to ah, be alone with my Bishop. Because I wanted to share it. I was very upset with myself.

AF: Who was the Bishop?

PA: At the time it was Bishop Ernest Premeau.

AF: Okay.

PA: And every time I -- I find myself in such a position, I don't know if it's my pride or whether it was or whatever it was I just, I just couldn't do it.

AF: Did you ever at any point, ever get to discuss this with Bishop Premeau or anyone in the church other than Father Lamontange?

PA: No.

JR: Um, in, in the fall of 1973, did you ever see a Doctor Myra?

PA: Yeah, he was my, he was my primary physician. Miara, Miara. Dr. Miara.

JR: Okay. So did you see him um because of physical concerns or because of emotional concerns?

PA: No, physical concerns. I had, I had ah, ulcers.

JR: Okay. And did you discuss with Dr. Miara at all um, what might be causing those ulcers? Whether they could be anxiety related?

PA: I don't recall having discussed that, no.

JR: Okay.

RM: Is it possible that you might have discussed it?

PA: I doubt, I doubt that I would have. He was a very perceptive man maybe he picked up on something. Um, I don't know. I, he never confronted me about anything.

AF: Is there anyone other than Father Lamontange, and I think you said Paul, he's deceased now?

PA: He is.

AF: Is there anyone other than Father Lamontange, that you confided this information to, at any point?

RM: At any point.

AF: At any point..

PA: At any point?

AF: Any point other than Father Lemontange. Maybe down, maybe, you know, a few years later, I, I think I might have, shared that with [REDACTED]

KK: But in, in, while you were in Claremont, let's keep it in

PA: Not to my knowledge.

KK: Okay.

PA: Not to my recollection.

KK: Can, can I back up just a little bit. Um, you told us that ah, you had ah, an encounter with [REDACTED] ah, Massachusetts.

PA: That's correct.

KK: Are you, can --

PA: On his eighteenth birthday.

KK: Can you be more specific on where?

PA: It was a fondling.

KK: Where in Massachusetts?

PA: Gardner, I think.

KK: Gardner. All right. And that leads me to my next question of, can you describe in general terms the extent of the sexual contact that you had with [REDACTED]

PA: I believe at the time it was only fondling.

KK: And was it one occurrence or more than once?

PA: At that time?

KK: Any time with [REDACTED]

PA: Oh, no, no. That was a, that was a long relationship.

KK: All right. And did it occur other places than, other than Gardner, Mass?

PA: Oh yes.

KK: All right. In New Hampshire as well?

PA: It happened, it happened in New Hampshire, Vermont, I mean, Vermont and once in Massachusetts.

KK: Okay. Ah, how long a period of time would you estimate your rela--

PA: My relationship with [REDACTED]

KK: Yes. Lasted.

PA: As far as our encounters, ah, physical encounters?

KK: Yes. Yeah.

PA: Um, two or three years.

KK: And did it extend beyond the time that you were in Claremont?

PA: Ah, for a short while, yes.

KK: Okay. With ah [REDACTED] et's take [REDACTED] ext.

PA: I believe that was only once.

KK: One time.

PA: I believe so.

KK: In Winooski, Vermont.

PA: I believe so.

KK: And you said he was about eighteen years old?

PA: I believe he was, yes.

KK: And how, what kind of reference do you use as for his age?

PA: Because I think it was only about a year difference between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. And ah, [REDACTED] was in college and it was least a, a good year later, if not more, after [REDACTED] was eighteen that ah, I had gone up to Winooski with [REDACTED] visit [REDACTED].

KK: All right. Um, [REDACTED].

PA: Yes.

KK: Is that correct?

PA: That's correct.

KK: Is his last name?

PA: That is correct.

KK: Ah, and how old was he when?

PA: Either sixteen or seventeen. I'm not sure.

KK: Okay. And actually how many times would you estimate that you had sexual contact with [REDACTED].

PA: [REDACTED] would be the one initiating them. Ah,

KK: Why do you say that?

PA: He would come and ask.

KK: And how did he know that you would be receptive to that?

PA: He was a friend of [REDACTED] and

KK: Okay.

PA: I, I believe that [REDACTED] had told him about the experience with me.

KK: All right. And can you describe the um, the extent of the sexual contact?

PA: With?

KK: With [REDACTED]

PA: With [REDACTED]

KK: I'm sorry. I didn't complete dealing with him. With [REDACTED]

PA: I believe it was fondling. I, I don't think it was there was a mutual masturbation experience. I, I don't recall to be honest with you.

KK: Okay. With [REDACTED]

PA: With [REDACTED] ah, there was an interesting situation. As I said he, he wouldn't most of the time he's the one that would initiate it. He would come at the Rectory and embrace me very affectionately and ask me if he could ah, um, get turned on by me and we would lie down. Most of the time clothed and ah, he would ah, um, what's the expression I want to use. As you know he would pump.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: Ah, over me and ah, apparently ah, it turned him on and ah, he was able to, to relieve himself ah, in that way. I, I do think they were maybe a few times where we were naked. But most of the time we were clothed. And ah, I would say that ah, mostly it was initiated by him.

KK: And to what extent did that sexual contact progress to?

PA: I don't recall clearly. And ah the most I ever, the most that's ever occurred ah, with [REDACTED] was ah, mutual masturbation, I believe, at the time when we were naked together.

KK: All right.

PA: But I'm, I'm not even sure of that. Ah, I think the ah, it might not have been mutual masturbation. It might have been more ah, because that's what [REDACTED] was always requesting. Ah, lying on top of each other and I think I might have ejaculated and, and, and ah, reached orgasm just by ah, ah, embracing each other very affectionately naked. I don't recall the mutual masturbation with [REDACTED]

KK: Did it ever progress to the point of oral sex?

PA: Not to my knowledge.

KK: Okay.

PA: I don't recall any of that, no.

KK: Is it possible that there are any other young men that you had, that were minors, that you had sexual contact with in Claremont other than the three that you've mentioned?

RM: Take a deep breath Paul. Take two of them.

PA: As far as actual sexual contact, no, I cannot think of any other. I can think of one incident as I'm reflecting here of ah, having gone to a New England basketball tournament because the team I had put together at the parish the CYO New England Tournament ah, had won the New Hampshire ah tournament. And ah, we had gone to Boston. And ah, I was sleeping in bed with a certain young man by the name of [REDACTED]. He had red hair. I forget his last name. And ah, I had asked him if I could ah, touch him. He had said no and it never went any further.

KK: And how old was [REDACTED]

PA: Maybe seventeen. I'm not sure.

KK: And this was while you were in Claremont?

PA: That is correct.

KK: Okay.

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: Now there was a [REDACTED] as I was thinking that ah was good friends with [REDACTED]. Um, but never, nothing had ever happened. He knew about [REDACTED] past and apparently had been involved in [REDACTED] past, but nothing ever happened between us.

AF: Paul, during, could you, and I think you already answered this question, but what were the years that you were assigned?

PA: '70 to '73, I believe.

AF: And during that time period,

PA: Yes.

AF: did the Diocese, other than Father Lamontange, did anyone become aware or lodge a complaint against you of a sexual uh,

PA: If they did, I was not put aware of that.

AF: So what you're telling me is you never heard anything from the Diocese about a complaint against you lodged by a victim or families or another boy or anything like that? Is that correct?

PA: That is correct.

AF: Okay. And the only person within the church that you confided in at that particular time was Pastor Lamontange?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Okay. Um, '70 to '73 Claremont.

PA: Yes.

#### TAPE ONE - SIDE B

AF: Okay, we're back on tape. The reason that we stopped was because Side A of the first tape ran out. We had to flip the tape over. Ah, this Anthony Fowler of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. We are conducting an interview with ah, Father Paul Aube. The same people are present in the interview room as they were when we started the interview and the time by my watch right now is 11:05 a.m. We're going to continue on and I will ask you again Paul, do you mind if we continue taping the interview?

PA: No. I do not.

AF: Okay. Before we ah, before Side A ran out um, I had asked you a question about your next assignment. We're going to get to that, but I thought of a couple of other questions during the time we were flipping the tape. After you had spoke to Father Lamontange about your, your sexual issues pertaining to what you had discussed with us. Ah, did Father Lamontange or anybody, any official in that church ever in any way after that based on their knowledge restrict your movements or restrict you in any way to try and get you to stop, stop contact let's say with teenage boys?

PA: Absolutely not.

AF: Okay. At, at any point did they, did anybody at the church try to or, or take action against you to keep you away from ah, from ah, teenage boys or boys in general in particularly in youth ministries?

PA: Absolutely not.



AF: Nothing changed, is that what you're telling me?

PA: That is correct.

AF: Okay.

KK: I have one more question relating to Claremont.

PA: Please.

KK: Can you estimate how long a period of time went by between the time you confided in ah, Father Lamontange and the time that you were then transferred to your next assignment?

PA: I would say um, at least nine, ten months, if not a year.

KK: So it was a substantial period of time?

PA: Oh yes. Oh yes. Oh yes.

KK: Did you have more than one conversation about this topic with Father Lamontange?

PA: No. I did not.

KK: Just that one.

PA: No. Just that one and it never was brought up again.

AF: Where was your next ah, assignment?

PA: My next assignment was ah, as I had started to say, was ah, in Berlin, New Hampshire.

AF: As, as

PA: As an Associate Pastor.

AF: At what church?

PA: Guardian Angle Parish.

AF: Okay. Did your transf--

PA: Against, against my wishes. I did not want to go back to my, my home town.

AF: Did you, did, and we'll talk about that. Did the transfer from Claremont to Berlin have anything to do with um, any of the prior sexual encounters or because of ah, your sexual behavior in any way, shape or form?

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: All right. Why were you transferred, Paul?

PA: Because I was told that priests get transferred on a ah, regular basis. That it was a domino effect when they had to move someone and you know, other people were affected. I, I was given no specific reason to, for the change.

AF: And to the best of your knowledge, or to your knowledge to this day, the transfer at least as far as you're concerned had nothing to do with ah any, any of the ah, sexual encounters in Claremont.

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: Okay. Um, who were the other --ah let's talk about Berlin.

PA: Yes.

AF: That's your home town?

PA: That is.

AF: Can you tell me why you did not want to serve in your home town?

PA: Well, the scripture says a property is never accepted in his own country. Number one. Secondly, the pastor to ah with whom I was asked to go and minister ah, I didn't respect.

AF: Okay. And for the record who else was assigned to this parish?

PA: Just the pastor and myself.

AF: And who was, who was the pastor, sir?

PA: Father Simard.

AF: Simard. What's his first name?

PA: Robert.

AF: Robert Simard.

PA: He is late, he is, he's since deceased.

AF: And why did, why was it that you did not respect this pastor?

PA: He was ah, extremely boisterous ah, demeaning. Ah, publicly demeaning of people he didn't like. Um, verbally abusive ah, to people.

AF: What were your duties there, Paul?

PA: My duties was to organize youth ministry.

AF: Youth ministry?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Okay. Was Father Simard, to your knowledge, aware of the issues, sexual issues, that had occurred in Claremont as it pertained to you, Paul?

PA: I have no indication that he had any, any knowledge of it.

AF: Okay. He never brought it up or it never came up?

PA: No. No not that. He had

AF: Okay. Go ahead. I'm sorry. I don't want to interrupt you.

PA: Continue. I won't forget what I want to say.

AF: Okay.

PA: Just we were talking chronology.

AF: Did, did -- at the time you were assigned -- what were the years you were assigned to Berlin, sir?

PA: The fall of '93 -- '73 I believe, until, I was there I think a year and a half.

AF: Okay.

PA: Ah, I'm not sure.

JR: If it was a year and a half, spring of '75?

PA: Maybe it was the summer of '75.

AF: Okay. During that assignment sir,

PA: Yes.

AF: did you have ah, sexual contact with any ah, minors in Berlin?

PA: Yes. I did.

AF: Okay. How, how many would you approximate, Paul?

PA: Sexual contact?

AF: Yeah.

PA: It was [REDACTED] I think that was the only one as far as sexual contact. It was inappropriate behavior.

AF: Explain inappropriate behavior, Paul.

PA: Ah,

AF: What you perceive that to be?

PA: Okay. What I perceive that to be is ah, ah maybe being naked with somebody ah, but not touching. Ah, I consider that inappropriate behavior. Ah, ah, maybe kissing somebody passionately on the cheek or maybe even on the lip. Ah, I consider that inappropriate behavior. At the time I didn't see it that way at the time.

AF: How many, how many boys or how many minors did you have sexual contact with?

PA: The actual sexual contact

AF: Actual sexual contact?

PA: . As far as touching their genitals?

KK: Being naked with them. In that category or what you perceive inappropriate behavior to be.

PA: Okay, your question I think is more precise. Ah, I should say more precise in my mind at the time.

KK: Okay.

PA: Ah, I made the distinction in my mind I guess.

AF: Not a problem.

PA: Um, seven maybe.

KK: Do you know them by name?

PA: No...

KK: I know its

PA: I have to juggle my mind, but there was [REDACTED]. There was um, [REDACTED] and two others, [REDACTED] something or other, [REDACTED] and his cousin. I don't remember his cousin's name. I cannot recall his cousin's name.

AF: Okay. How old were these boys at the time, sir?

PA: I would say they were maybe seventeen. Sixteen, seventeen, maybe closer to eighteen. They were ah, maybe seniors in high school.

AF: Ah, can you, can you describe the inappropriate behavior that occurred with each of these boys as well as sexual contact? In a general way.

PA: As I said they, with some it would be more affectionate touching, rubbing of the back. Ah, ah, hugging, ah, kissing on the cheek. There were, there was a one time ah, that I recall that we had gone camping and ah, we were ah, at one point or another all of us at one point or another were naked as we were taking showers or whatever it was.

AF: Where did you go camping?

PA: It was a in Unity, New Hampshire at my friend's camp.

AF: And do you remember who went?

PA: I think it was those people that I just mentioned.

AF: Those boys?

PA: Yes. I believe so. I know there was one more and I forget what his name was and ah, there was nothing that ever happened with him to the best of my knowledge. Not even anything inappropriate with him. The only reason it rings my cause it just ah, during our experience of camping ah, he had asked to use my car to go get

some cigarettes uptown in Unity and had a, ah, an accident on the way back and totaled the car. That's how I remember.

AF: What was the extent of the contact on that camping trip, Paul? What would you...

PA: Well there was ah, at the most was ah, ah, being naked ah, either dressing or undressing.

AF: [REDACTED] um,

PA: Yes.

AF: what was the extent of contact, sexual contact, with [REDACTED] during your time there?

PA: [REDACTED] continued beyond my time there.

AF: Can you describe the contact?

PA: Oh yes. Um, it started off ah, in ah, I believe it was ah, giving him a rub down I think. I think that's how it started and then it progressed from there to ah, fondling.

AF: Fondling of the?

PA: The genitals, yes. And then it, it from there it went to mutual masturbation and I believe once or twice to oral sex.

AF: Okay. Oral sex, I know this sounds like a ridiculous question, but I have to ask.

PA: Please.

AF: Ah, oral sex, when you talk about oral sex,

PA: A blow job.

AF: Okay. Was that um,

RM: A very precise definition.

AF: It is. Cuts through the chase. A blow job occurring ah, [REDACTED] committing that act on you?

PA: Both.

AF: Both ways.

PA: Correct.

AF: Okay. And how old was [REDACTED] at the time?

PA: Nineteen, twenty.

AF: Okay. Did those type – and I'll use your term, that blow jobs or any type of mutual masturbation or anything like that occur with any other boys besides [REDACTED] [REDACTED] during your time in Berlin?

PA: I can't recall that it did. I can't recall that it did. I, I've been trying to rack my brain as we're talking here.

RM: Can you say for sure that it did not?

PA: No, I can't.

AF: Were you ever – um, did anyone ever confront you or was it or did anybody complain or find out about this type of ah, behavior, with these boys, while you were in Berlin?

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: Ah, at any point during your assignment in Berlin, sir, did Father Simard become aware of any of this behavior as it pertained to you and these boys?

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: Okay. Did he ever ask you about it? Did that ever come up in conversation?

PA: No it did not come up.

AF: Okay. Um, did you ever buy a gift or give a gift to a boy or a minor?

PA: Oh, many times.

AF: For sexual favors?

PA: No. No. Definitely not.

AF: Were there – why don't you tell me what you recall for gifts that you might have given in Berlin? Lets say Berlin, to boys.

PA: I use to give half of my pay to people.

AF: To boys?

PA: I give them stereos. Ah, give them a couple I gave cameras because they wanted cameras.

AF: Did you ever give crosses, Paul?

PA: Yes, yes, yes, yes.

AF: While you were in Berlin?

PA: Oh, give that in every parish I was at.

AF: Did you give crosses to these boys?

PA: I'm sure I did, yes.

AF: Okay. The crosses have any significance or any relation to the contact that you were having with any of these boys? Was there any--

PA: No. No, no, no, no. No, no, no the crosses were always related to Christ. To, my aim was to get them closer to Christ and to get committed to Christ and the cross was, was my conscious intention was to bring that Christ dimension in.

KK: Did you ever give a cross to a girl, a young girl?

PA: Oh, I'm sure I did. I was indiscriminate as to whether it was boys or girls. I've given hundreds of crosses away.

KK: Did um, any of these boys' families ever come to you and discuss the amount of time you were spending with their sons, or have any concerns about that?

PA: I don't recall that, no, but I'm not saying they didn't. I'm saying I don't recall that at the moment.

JR: Ah, during the period of time, Berlin, you know obviously with [REDACTED]

PA: Yes.

JR: And the others um, you were aware that those contacts were taking place. Did it ever cause concern to you that

PA: Oh, yes.

JR: Or the Diocese or



PA: I'm sorry. That I should report it to?

JR: That you did report to the Diocese.

PA: Oh, no, no I had no problems that I reported to the Diocese, correct.

JR: Ah, did you ever seek counseling at this time during this juncture um, other with or without the knowledge of the Diocese to address the issues you were having sexually with these young men?

PA: No. It was still, I was still struggling with ah, I was still create – trying to create situations to meet with my Bishop, who at that time had become Bishop Gendron, while I was in Berlin. Ah, and I had tried to create several locations with Bishop Gendron to, to approach the situation because I never was comfortable with that.

JR: And when you say create the situation, what do you mean by that?

PA: If he were to come for a ceremony of sorts I would say um, or if he were alone, I would try to approach him. To try to get his attention.

RM: You mean to try and get an audience with him?

PA: To try and get an audience or put him aside so I could speak with him and at one time I did succeed in doing that.

JR: Okay.

AF: While in Berlin, Paul?

PA: I don't recall that.

AF: Okay.

PA: It was before '76 I know that.

RM: Part of this, part of this process Paul, is finding an opportunity when you can meet with the Bishop. Is that correct?

PA: That's correct.

RM: And part of this process is mustering the inner gumption

PA: That was the biggest obstacle.

- RM: The biggest obstacle, was your willingness to go in and have a candid conversation with the Bishop about
- PA: There's nothing that I wanted more then for him to know.
- RM: But it was impossible for you to do.
- PA: I, as I said mostly was my pride or my shame. I don't know which.
- RM: Nonetheless, eventually you did have such a meeting with the Bishop.
- PA: That was after the incident in, in Nashua, but we're not there yet, chronologically.
- RM: I understand that.
- PA: But I do want to get back to, do you have any more questions about Berlin? I do have a statement before we leave Berlin.
- KK: I, I do. Did you have a motor home when you were in Berlin?
- PA: Yes, I did.
- KK: Did you ever take um,
- PA: Yes, I did.
- RM: Wait and let her
- KK: I haven't finished my question.
- PA: I'm sorry.
- KK: Did you ever take any of the boys that you were having sexual contact with um, in that motor home on trips?
- PA: I, I did. Yes, I did.
- KK: Can you tell me about those? Did it happen more than once?
- PA: Yes, it did.
- KK: All right.
- PA: It happened twice to my knowledge. Or to my recollection. Ah, once was with these boys. It was in the middle of winter I believe it was. Ah, we had gone again to Unity, New Hampshire ah, with all these boys I just named. Ah, minus

the one who wrecked the car. Um, and once I had gone to ah, a half trip around the country with [REDACTED]

KK: Okay.

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: Correct. That's correct. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

KK: And when you were on these trips, did sexual contact

PA: [REDACTED]

KK: Occur? [REDACTED] All right. With any of the others?

PA: Rather than changing in front of each other, other than being naked in front of each other um, I don't recall any, anything else in that. I'm not saying there wasn't. At the moment, I do not recall. If you confront me with something and it jogs my memory I'll have no problem admitting to it.

KK: Do you um, well I want you to talk to us about what you recall

PA: Yes.

KK: And you know. I don't want you to admit to something just because I bring it up.

PA: Oh, don't worry I won't.

KK: Okay. All right. Um, can you tell us those trips where during the time line of you being in Berlin did they occur?

PA: One was in the winter so it had to be, it had to be in the winter of '73, '74.

KK: Okay.

PA: And the other one was at the time I was transferred from Berlin in between assignments.

KK: All right.

PA: That was the trip around, half way around the country.

KK: And do you - what was the destination or was there a destination?

- PA: The destination was leaving Berlin. Ah, the destination was to ride around. Ah, there was no specific destination other than what ah, [REDACTED] had expressed a desire to go to um, um, what's that place in Wheeling, West Virginia. Not Wheeling, West Virginia. The country place
- AF: In where, [REDACTED]
- PA: You know the country-western meca back in the '70's.
- AF: Memphis?
- KK: Nashville?
- PA: Nashville. Nashville.
- KK: Okay.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: We had gone to Kentucky. We had gone to the, I believe we had gone to Kentucky. I know we left Berlin, went through Canada, came down Niagara Falls and made ourselves down to ah, ah, Memphis. Went to Nashville and we went to a place next to, in Virginia ah, on the way back. Stopped in Washington, DC.
- KK: How long were you gone roughly?
- PA: Maybe a week.
- KK: And did you request special permission from parents?
- PA: Yes, I did. Yes, yes. As a matter of fact, it was one of the parents, [REDACTED] mother, that asked me if I would take [REDACTED] with me. And before leaving, because we were leaving the next day, or scheduled leave the next day, I took [REDACTED] aside and I remember ah, forewarning him that there might be some nudity and if he wasn't comfortable with that to, you know, to let me know now or not to come. I remember that, that conversation very distinctly. I had gotten into my car and we had gone to the big wood piles in Berlin and ah, on the east side, and that's where I had talked to him about that. And he said he had no problems with that, but I, I don't believe ever having had a relationship with him.
- AF: During your tenure in Berlin,
- PA: Yes.
- AF: To the best of your knowledge did the Diocese or any other official in the church become aware of, of this

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: contact with these boys?

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: Okay. Your next assignment after Berlin.

PA: Before we leave Berlin.

AF: Yes.

PA: I don't know.

RM: Paul, um we can talk about that when we take a break. We can go back to the Berlin issue you want to, but I think that it's real important to – we've got a lot of ground to cover and want these folks to

PA: Okay.

RM: ask their questions. I do want to, I do want to remind you that there was one point in discussions that you and I had where you describe the tenure in Berlin is between 1973 and 1974. So think about that maybe, because you went back to Nashua in 1974.

PA: That's correct. I thought it was a year and a half. I, I don't recall the dates specifically at the moment.

RM: Okay.

PA: I stand, I stand to be corrected.

AF: While we're on to Berlin, is I mean should we cover this now, Bob? What he needs to say about Berlin or what he feels is ah, pertinent to Berlin?

RM: Sure if it's factual, Paul.

AF: Yeah.

PA: The thing that's factual about it is um, in January of I think it was '74. If I got there in the fall of '73, the pastor was ah, had been chosen to go to Rome for a recycling program.

AF: Yes.

PA: And ah, he had ah, had requested an extension after the program to do some ah, visitation, an extended vacation while he was there to go to the Holy Land as part of a study group and so on and so forth. I was put Administrator of the church at the time. Ah, while I was Administrator, I was able to discover that the pastor had been embezzling funds. And um, was able to ah, get the parish out of debt and put it back into ah, a, a cash flow by the time the pastor came six months later. And when he became aware of my discovery, he became very violent and very abusive. Even from the pulpit. And the reason I bring it up is because of a statement or a question that you had. From the pulpit he had accused me of making out with the ah, with the widows of the parish and accused me of breaking up marriages. He had accused me of making out with the young girls in the, in the Youth Group, of maybe being homosexual. Ah, and I had reported that to Father, to ah, to ah, Bishop Gendron at the time. And ah, Bishop Gendron had a talk with him and ah, that was during Lent and ah, he confronted him about it and he was subsequently transferred because of that.

AF: Did Bishop Gendron ever talk to you Paul about whether or not these allegations by Father Simard

PA: Huh, huh.

AF: were accurate or not? So he only spoke to ah,

PA: I contacted Bishop Gendron.

AF: You contacted Gendron?

PA: Correct, by phone.

AF: And then Gendron contacted Simard?

PA: Correct.

AF: But you never were

PA: I was never questioned about it. Correct.

AF: Did you ever confide at that point with the Bishop?

PA: No. I did not.

AF: About what was going on?

PA: No. I did not.

AF: Or did the Bishop become aware?

PA: I don't know.

AF: Okay.

PA: I don't know if he became aware at that time or not. I just know that I ah, had made him aware of what was taking place from the pulpit.

AF: Okay. Next assignment, sir, after ah,

PA: Was back again to St. Aloysius in Nashua.

AF: In Nashua.

PA: This time as a priest.

AF: As ah, the parish priest?

PA: No, as an associate pastor.

AF: As an associate pastor?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Um, when were you assigned there, Paul?

PA: I believe I left Berlin in August or September. I'm not sure.

AF: Of?

PA: I think it was '74.

AF: Okay. What was the reason for reassignment, Paul?

PA: Oh, that's, what was told to me and, and when Pastor Simard, when Father Simard was transferred in April of '94 from the parish, a new pastor was assigned to the parish ah, by the name of Father um, Charles Desruissieux.

KK: The last name again?

PA: Desruissieux. D E S R U I S S I E U X. He's at St. Anthony's parish in, in Manchester presently.

AF: Desruissieux?

PA: From the time Father Desrissieux arrived in the parish, Father started to get threats on his life because he had taken the place of his of the old pastor.

AF: Wasn't well liked or well received. I guess would be.

PA: By whom?

AF: You tell me. You said there were threats.

PA: Yes, against Father Charles.

AF: What was that?

PA: I, I he wasn't coping with that very well. And I called Bishop Gendron again and I told him about what was happening that calls were coming in the middle of the night and you know, with um, we'll get rid of you. Ah, you know you're not going to be here long. We hate you. Ah, you know all kinds of stupidities like that ah and he wasn't coping very well so I called Father, I mean, Bishop Gendron and ah, told him about it. And suggested that ah, Father Charles be given a vacation because he wasn't coping with us. And that he might want to consider reassigning him somewhere else, which he did. When Father came back from his vacation ah, we were both reassigned at that time because

AF: Nashua.

PA: And I went to Nashua, correct.

AF: Okay.

PA: And that's the reason I went to Nashua because of the uproar at the loss of the pastor and the parish had become very divided.

AF: Okay. Who are the other priests ah, that you

PA: In Nashua?

AF: In Nashua. St. Aloysius right?

PA: That's correct. The pastor was ah, can't think of his first name.

AF: That's okay.

PA: Father Desjardin. Not George. His uncle. Ah, Ray, Raymond Desjardin.

AF: Okay.



PA: He was the pastor. The associate pastor was Father ah, Leo Frechette and Farther Morris Legue, they were the other priests that were there.

AF: What were your duties there, Paul?

PA: Youth ministry.

AF: Youth ministry. Um, during the time that you were in Nashua, well let me ask you this first. How long were you, do you recall being assigned to St. Aloysius at that particular time?

PA: A little more than a year.

AF: Okay. And during the time you were in Nashua, sir, um did you have any sexual contact with minors there?

PA: Yes, I did.

AF: Okay. Can you approximate, give me an approximate number?

PA: Three.

AF: Three in Nashua? At that time?

PA: For the moment I'll say three, yeah.

AF: Okay.

PA: That's what I can recall is three.

AF: Sure. If you remember just let us know.

PA: Please.

AF: Who were they, sir?

PA: There was [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED]

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: Okay.

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: How old, sir?

PA: I believe [REDACTED] was seventeen or eighteen.

AF: Okay.

PA: There was a ah, [REDACTED] But I think, I'm not sure if that was while I was there or might have been at the last time that I was there or after I left. I'm not sure.

AF: All right. How old sir?

PA: [REDACTED] must have been sixteen or seventeen. I'm not sure.

AF: Okay. And the third?

PA: The third was [REDACTED] That's the one you make mention of identified victim in Nashua incident.

AF: Okay. What, what's his name, sir?

PA: [REDACTED] t.

AF: Could you spell the last name?

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: Okay. And how old was he at the time, sir?

PA: I believe he was eighteen or nineteen.

AF: I want to talk about that Nashua incident.

PA: Please.

AF: Separately, but I want to go through some of the questions about your parish assignment for us and then we have some questions to ask you about the Nashua incident.

PA: That's fine.

AF: Nashua incident I guess how category.

PA: But there was no arrest so.

AF: We'll talk about that. What was the extent of sexual contact that you were having ah, with these, these boys?

PA: Ah, with [REDACTED] again it started with um, giving him rub downs and then it went to fondling of the genitals. It led to mutual masturbation and it lead to blow jobs, mutual blow jobs.

AF: Okay.

RM: Let's use the term oral sex.

PA: Oral sex, okay.

RM: It's, I have, I was brought up by puritans. So with the other two, did the sexual contact reach the same level?

PA: No, no.

AF: Why don't you describe.

PA: With ah, with [REDACTED], it was rub downs and I think was fondling of the genital area. Ah, mutual fondling of genital area.

AF: Yep.

PA: And I think it was only, then I lost contact with [REDACTED] And then he contacted me a few years later. Ah, I think it was after he came out of the service. He was a [REDACTED] in the Army, I believe. And ah, I think it was at that time that we re-established communication and ah, I believe there was a one way masturbation at the time.

AF: Which way?

PA: He masturbated himself in my presence.

AF: Um,

RM: And [REDACTED] how far did that go?

PA: Oh, that was a very brief fondling. Ah,

AF: This was the arrest if I may.

RM: There wasn't an arrest

PA: The incident.

RM: The police contact.

PA: The police contact, correct.

AF: We want to talk about that.

PA: That was a very, very brief encounter, that one time.

AF: Okay. At the point that you're at St. Aloysius,

PA: Yes.

AF: Did it ever come to your attention or did you ever learn that there had been any complaints made against you by any parents or by anyone as to sexual contact with these boys?

PA: No.

AF: Okay. Were you ever confronted at any time about any sexual contact with these boys by anyone? We'll talk about the arrest separately. I am sorry. Incident.

RM: We'll teach you how to do that.

PA: At one point, um, [REDACTED] from the Claremont time ah, we were still keeping in touch. He was a Seminarian and he eventually became a priest and has since left the priesthood and he is not married to the best of my knowledge. Um, at one point, he did confront me about what had happened between us. And ah, ah the, the relationship you know, was just ah, telephone or letter communication from that point on. Until the time where he was ordained as a priest where he invited me to, to go to his ordination and he invited me to the part of his first Mass celebration.

AF: I see. To the best of your knowledge, and the time you were in Nashua had the Diocese become aware of any of these sexual encounters at that point?

PA: Not until, not until [REDACTED]

AF: Okay. Um,

PA: Not to my knowledge.

AF: Okay. Let's, let's talk about the incident.

PA: Okay.

AF: Ah, how did you – first off, let's talk about, you're at St. Aloysius. Is that correct?

PA: That's correct. That's correct.

AF: Where did this ah, where did this encounter occur, Paul?

PA: It occurred not far from the parish boy scout camp.

AF: Okay.

PA: Ah, out in south Nashua, I believe.

AF: Right. Did you know and for the record again, who was this

PA: [REDACTED]

AF: And how old was he at the time?

PA: I believe he was eighteen. I'm not sure.

AF: Okay. And

JR: Could he have been younger?

PA: He could have been seventeen. But certainly not younger than seventeen.

JR: Okay. Was he in college do you know?

PA: No, no he wasn't. I think he was a senior in high school. I'm not sure though.

AF: Had you known this, this

PA: Oh, yes. He was in the youth group.

AF: He was in your youth group?

PA: That's correct.

AF: Okay. Um, did you know the family?

PA: Yes. I did.

AF: Okay. And how did this encounter occur? How did you and this, this boy um, get together that night? Or that, I'm assuming at night or that day?

- PA: Yeah, it was that night, correct.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: Um, to the best of my recollection, we had had some sort of gathering or I had met up with him and some of his friends and in the church yard or wherever. And um, he wanted to have a haircut and I offered to give him the, the haircut. And ah, so that night we met at his home. I did not know the parents were not going to be there. Ah, we met there for him, for me to cut his hair. Ah, subsequent to cutting his hair, during the cutting of the hair, we got involved to discussing in different conversations and ah, ah then we decided to go for a ride. Um, we drove around for, for a while. And um, ah at one point we stopped ah, on the side of the road and ah I, I started fondling him and he
- AF: Fondling, ah genitals, Paul?
- PA: That's right. That's correct. That's correct.
- AF: Okay. Under the clothes or over the clothes? Do you recall?
- PA: Oh, we just unzipped.
- AF: Unzipped?
- PA: Unzipped our pants. That was it.
- AF: I just kind of want to make sure I have this straight. He's in your youth group?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: And you believe still in high school possibly, a senior?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: Okay. Um, so continue. There's fondling occurring?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: All right. What happens next?
- PA: We're parked on the side of the car. I had the, I had the park lights on. And ah, there's, I notice a car approaching ah, which was not the first car that had approached. But this one was slowing down and went into the side of the road and came in back of us. And once they were parked in back of us, put their blue lights on.

AF: Did they introduce themselves to you, sir?

PA: Well [REDACTED] was driving my car.

AF: Okay.

PA: And um, they did come to the driver's window.

AF: One policemen or two, sir?

PA: There were two police. Two detectives in plain, plain clothes.

AF: Plain clothes.

PA: That's correct. And there they came and they did introduce themselves. I do not recall

AF: Do you remember their names?

PA: I do not recall his name, their names.

AF: What did they say, sir, or what was said?

PA: They said what are you doing? And I said we're just talking and ah, they didn't believe that.

AF: Did they know you were a priest, sir?

PA: Well I was dressed as a priest.

AF: You were?

PA: Yes.

AF: Okay. And they didn't believe that. I'm sorry to interrupt you, but continue.

PA: That's fine. They certainly doubted that. They didn't say they didn't believe it. They certainly doubted that.

KK: What, what was it about their demeanor or what they said to you that-

PA: No. They asked [REDACTED] to come out of the car.

KK: Okay.

- PA: Okay. And [REDACTED] came out of the car and he evidently had to tie his pants. Um, I think anyhow. I'm not sure of that and they brought him to the back of the car and where the two of them talked with him. I was not privy to the conversation. After they finished speaking with him, they asked me to come out of the car. I came out of the car and they asked me if I had any weapons in the car. I said, no, I did not believe in weapons. And no, I did not have any weapons in the car. I said if you want to go through the car, you know you have my full permission to go through the car if you want.
- AF: Yep.
- PA: They asked me what was going on and I told them what was going on.
- AF: What did you tell them?
- PA: That ah,
- RM: Exact words. If you – I know it's twenty-five or twenty-seven years ago, but try to remember as close as you can, Paul, the actual conversation.
- PA: I, I believe they asked me what was going on. I told them that I, my exact words as I believe them to be at the moment,
- RM: Okay.
- PA: was, I was trying to show [REDACTED] that he was not homosexual.
- AF: And what did they
- PA: Doesn't make any damn bit of sense, I know.
- AF: What was their response
- PA: There was
- AF: to that?
- PA: non-verbal communication was, the non-verbal communication was right, you know.
- RM: They didn't believe that.
- PA: I don't believe that, that's how they came across to me.
- AF: Did you, did you end up telling



- PA: They said they were disgusted to see that a priest would be engaged in such a thing.
- AF: Was there a conversation with the police officers about the specific acts that were taking place in the car?
- PA: I think I volunteered the fact that there was fondling between [REDACTED] and I.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: Of touching, of touching each other genital.
- AF: And their response was what, Paul?
- PA: Ah, something to the fact that, in referring to the fact that I'm a priest and, you know, what was I doing. You know. Didn't I know any better than that or something to that affect.
- AF: Based on that information, swap of information with the detectives or the police officers, what, what occurred after that exchange?
- PA: They asked for my name. My address. Where I lived. They asked for [REDACTED] name and address and where he lived and um, they went their way and we went our way.
- AF: They let [REDACTED] continue to be in your company?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: And drove off?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: That's why I believe he was at least eighteen.
- AF: So if I may, and I don't want to assume anything.
- PA: Please don't.
- AF: You were not placed under arrest?
- PA: Oh, no. No.
- AF: At any time?

- PA: No.
- AF: Pertaining to this incident?
- PA: That's correct.
- RM: Did they tell you that they were going to make an incident report?
- PA: They said they wanted to think about how they were going to handle this. They had to talk about how they wanted to handle this.
- AF: Once you left, once the police left,
- PA: Yes.
- AF: what was your conversation if you recall, if any, with [REDACTED] about what just occurred?
- PA: I apologized. And ah, I asked him to keep it between ourselves.
- AF: That was my next question. Did you ask him to keep that between you and he?
- PA: Yes. I did.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: I drove him home.
- AF: And what was his response to you after that request?
- PA: He said yes. But I think that was a nervous yes.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: I think he was traumatized by the experience.
- AF: At some point after this incident, um, did you have any further contact with the police?
- PA: I did.
- AF: Can you explain that?
- PA: I ah, tried to get, I remembered the name of one of the detectives. Called the ah, station ah, to speak with him.

- AF: How long after, sir?
- PA: That was the next morning.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: Um, if I recall I had early mass the next day. And it was uh, quite early in the morning and they said he was gone home. And ah, I was able to find his home phone number and called him at home.
- RM: Do you remember his name?
- PA: I do not remember his name.
- AF: What was that conversation?
- PA: Conversation was um, I, I asked him not to make an incident report on it. I didn't that I recognized that what I did was wrong and that I was going to look into the help that I would need to ah, face this problem and over come it.
- AF: What was the ah, detective's or the police officer's response to that, Paul?
- PA: He would think about it.
- AF: Think about it?
- PA: Huh, huh.
- AF: Do you know whether or not an incident was ever generated on this matter?
- PA: To the best of my knowledge it was.
- AF: It was.
- PA: Let me tell you why I say that. I have no actual proof that it was, but I, I presume there was.
- KK: Why do you presume that?
- PA: Thank you for asking the question.
- RM: We were going to get there anyway Paul.
- PA: That following morning, which was a Sunday,

END OF TAPE ONE, SIDE B

TAPE TWO, SIDE A

KK: Testing, one, two, three

AF: Okay, we're back on tape. We're second tape, side A. This is Investigator Anthony Fowler, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. We're still conducting an interview with Father Paul Aube. Same people are present in the interview. It's ah, 11:56 by my watch and Paul, I'm going to ask you again, do you mind if we continue audio taping this interview?

PA: No, I do not.

AF: Okay. We were talking about the incident of '75, I believe, with the Nashua Police. And you had discussed, we were right in the middle of discussing whether or not you knew or had any information about ah, an incident report being generated pertaining to your contact with [REDACTED]

RM: [REDACTED]

AF: [REDACTED] Okay. Do you know whether or not an incident report and I'll ask the question again whether or not an incident report was ever generated by the Nashua Police Department pertaining to the sexual encounter that you had with Robert?

PA: I do not know for a fact that there was.

RM: Now, Paul,

PA: Okay

RM: You do know. You do have evidence that it was generated.

PA: Well, it was indicated to me it was.

RM: But it wasn't indicated who it was.

PA: Yes, yes, yes.

RM: inaudible

PA: But I've never seen the report.

RM: Okay, so the answer to Tony's question would be yes, or I believe so.

- PA: I believe so.
- RM: Just go ahead and explain
- PA: Okay.
- RM: why you believe that there was such a report.
- PA: Okay. The morning after the incident, I went to see my pastor and told him about it.
- AF: For the record who was your pastor?
- PA: Father Raymond Desjardin.
- AF: Raymond Desjardin. And is Father Desjardin
- PA: He was a pastor of the parish and he is still alive, retired, living in the Dover area to the best of my knowledge.
- AF: Okay. And what did you tell Father about, Father Desjardin, about what.
- PA: I told him exactly what happened about the police, about ah, my contacting the, the detective. Subsequently, I told him that I felt we needed to contact the Bishop as soon as possible and put him aware of the situation. And that I was planning to do that first thing Monday morning and he encouraged me to do so.
- AF: Okay. Did Father Desjardin at that time, become aware of who the other person was that you were with that night?
- PA: I believe he did.
- AF: Did Father Desjardin become aware at that time, that [REDACTED] was in your youth group?
- PA: Oh, yes.
- AF: Okay. What was Father Desjardin's response to you telling him what happened, and what you think needed to happen?
- PA: He just agreed with me that, yes, we need to contact the Bishop as soon as possible.
- AF: All right. And who did that?
- PA: I did that.

- AF: You did that.
- PA: I did that Monday morning.
- AF: Okay.
- JR: Before we get to this. This is really important, but we got to this conversation with Father Desjardin because he said um, you felt there was a report.
- PA: No, no, no, no.
- RM: He's going to
- PA: I'm leading to that.
- RM: He'll get there.
- JR: Sorry for interrupting.
- PA: No, no, no, we're trying to keep things running in proper order, okay. So Monday I called the Bishop and
- AF: Bishop who, for the record?
- PA: Odore Gendron.
- AF: Okay.
- PA: Okay? And I told him I needed to see him as soon as possible. He accommodated me and saw me that day.
- AF: That day?
- PA: Yes. To the best of my knowledge.
- AF: Did Father Desjardin go with you, sir?
- PA: No. He did not.
- AF: Okay.
- JR: In what um, do you recall that date, you said it was Monday?
- PA: It was a Monday. I do not recall the date.

- JR: Well, do you recall the date of the incident with [REDACTED]
- PA: No. I do not.
- JR: Okay. Do you recall the approximate date of the incident with [REDACTED]
- PA: No. I don't.
- RM: What month was it?
- PA: I believe it was summer months. I believe it was. I'm not sure. I honestly don't - I don't know if it was early spring or whether it was summer. I do not recall.
- JR: Of 1975?
- PA: It would have to be '75, yes.
- AF: Okay. You met with the Bishop.
- PA: I met with the Bishop and told him exactly what had happened.
- AF: Everything?
- PA: Everything.
- RM: Including the sexual contact?
- PA: Exactly.
- AF: Include--and also did you, did you explain who this, who this boy was?
- PA: Yes. I did.
- AF: Did he know that he was in a youth group?
- PA: That's correct.
- AF: Okay. Um,
- KK: Can I ask one more question about that conversation with ah, the Bishop? When you said you told him everything, did you tell him about your prior contacts with other boys?
- PA: No. I did not. I did not at the time.
- KK: All right. Did you tell him at some other point?

- PA: Yes.
- KK: Okay, we'll get to that then.
- PA: Yes.
- RM: What did you say to the Bishop?
- AF: What, what did you tell the Bishop?
- PA: I told him about the incident. I told him ah, what I had been involved with. I told him about the policeman stopping, telling him about the conversation I had with the policeman. Told him about the fact that I tried to contact the police the next morning and, and, and tried to, and asked him not to make an incident report. Ah, that I promised him I would address the situation and get the help that I needed.
- AF: Did, did you tell the Bishop at that time that you, you felt that you needed
- PA: Yes.
- AF: needed help?
- PA: Oh, yes.
- AF: And that you had, you thought you had a problem?
- PA: Oh, yes. Very clearly. I personally asked the Bishop at that time to refer me, to make an appointment, because I did not remember the name of the doctor who had given me my pre-ordination evaluation. I asked Bishop Gendron, could you look in the file to find the name of the doctor that I had evaluated me prior to ordination and could his office make an appointment to meet, for me to meet with that doctor. Because I wanted to make sure that if there's anything that needed to be done, that it was done.
- AF: What was the Bishop's response to that?
- PA: He said he would do that.
- AF: He said he would do that?
- PA: He said he would do that and I, I...
- JR: I, I just want to stop because you said a lot and I want to break it down some more of what you said.



- PA: Please.
- JR: Um, did you tell Bishop Gendron the name, the young man that
- PA: I believe I did.
- JR: you had sexual contact with.
- PA: I believe I did. I don't recall, but I believe I did.
- JR: And did you talk to Bishop Gendron about the fact that that young man was a parishioner at St. Aloysius in Nashua?
- PA: Oh, yes. Oh, yes.
- JR: And did you talk to Bishop Gendron about the fact that that young man had been in one of the youth groups that you supervised at St. Aloysius in Nashua?
- PA: That's correct. That's correct.
- JR: And how did Bishop Gendron react when he learned that you had a sexual encounter with one of the young man, young men in your youth group?
- PA: I don't recall any specific reaction. He was a good listener. Ah, I was, I had more of the diarrhea of the mouth and he was letting me ah, speak. And ah, my, to the best of my recollection, the only comment to the situation was, ah, this is most unfortunate. Ah, I will make, I will ask Father Christian to look in the file to see who the doctor was and set up an appointment you know that you request.
- JR: Okay. And you said that you'd explained ah, to Father Christian - I'm sorry
- PA: No
- JR: uh, to Bishop Gendron, the nature of the contact. Did you explain to him
- PA: It was fondling.
- JR: That it was fondling?
- PA: Yes.
- JR: And did you explain to Father, Bishop Gendron that you had fondled [REDACTED]
- PA: I believe I did.
- JR: And did you explain to Father Gendron that [REDACTED]

PA: Bishop.

JR: That Bishop Gendron, I'm sorry, thank you, that he had also fondled you?

PA: I believe so.

JR: Um, and you also stated that you described the nature of the Nashua Police Department contact with you to Bishop Gendron.

PA: I believe so, yes.

JR: And um, you explained to us a moment ago that you also talked to Bishop Gendron about the fact that you made a call to the detective and made a specific request that the detective not generate a police report.

PA: I believe I said that.

JR: And how did Bishop um, ah, Gendron react when you explained you'd intervened with the police process and request that Nashua not generate a report?

PA: There was no reaction.

JR: There was no reaction.

PA: Not at that time.

JR: Okay.

RM: Was there a reaction later?

PA: Oh yes, yes, yes, yes.

RM: How much later?

PA: Well, it was a few weeks later. Bishop Gendron called me in and ah, I did not know. I mean I was told that he had communication, I, I during this time I had met with Dr. Connors a few times. He was semi-retired. Lived in Lexington, Massachusetts and I had gone down to Lexington, Massachusetts to meet with him in his semi-retired office.

AF: How did you get to the point of saying?

RM: We've got a pending question here.

AF: Well, go ahead.

- RM: And the pending question is you said later Gendron did.
- PA: Yes. After my visitations with Dr. Connors, sometime after I was terminated or finished with our, our, our few or several meetings, I recall them to be few, ah, he had told me in my last meeting, Dr. Connors had, that he would get in touch with the Bishop and give him his recommendation.
- KK: Can I back up to your conversation?
- RM: You subsequently.
- PA: I subsequently met with Bishop Gendron. He had told me he had heard from Dr. Connors. As a matter, he said oh by the way I contacted the police chief in Nashua and I asked him to do me a favor and make sure there was no record of this in the files and he assured me that, you know, that would be taken care of.
- JR: Okay, let me make sure I understand everything about that communication and then we'll back track to make sure we, we understand how he got to the psychologist. Um, you had a subsequent meeting approximately three weeks after your original disclosure to Bishop Gendron that this encounter
- PA: It was probably longer than that.
- JR: And um, where did that meeting occur?
- PA: In the Bishop's office.
- JR: And who was present at that meeting?
- PA: The Bishop and I only.
- JR: Okay. And what exactly did the Bishop tell you, to the best of your recollection as we sit here today, about what he had, about his contact with the Nashua Police Department?
- PA: What he, what I recall his telling me was a matter of oh, by the way. Quote by the way, I contacted the police chief in Nashua, asked him to make sure there would be no ah, no record on file of this incident and he told me that he would ah, make sure that happens.
- JR: And did you um, so the police chief conveys to the Bishop that he would
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: make sure there's no report of the incident.

- PA: That's, that's what was told to me by Bishop Gendron.
- JR: Okay. And to your knowledge thereafter, was there anymore police investigation of the incident with [REDACTED]
- PA: Never heard, never heard of it again.
- JR: Okay. Great. Now I want to turn it back over to these folks so they can rewind and talk about how you ever ended up with um, Dr. Connors.
- RM: There's another issue here.
- JR: Okay.
- RM: Um, Paul, did you make any specific requests of Bishop Gendron as a result of this incident?
- PA: Yes. I did.
- RM: What were they?
- PA: I asked him ah, to give me permission to go back to studies to get a Doctorate in Scripture because I didn't want, want to do parish work.
- RM: You didn't want to do what?
- PA: Parish work.
- RM: That's okay, we'll take a minute?
- JR: Yeah, take your time.
- AF: Sure.
- RM: Tell you what,
- PA: I was very successful in my ministry. My main work was working with troubled youth, especially those who had trouble with um, co-dependency. I had an over 50% success rate in my work. I was proud of my work. I was more concerned about my problem at that point. I couldn't cope with my problem anymore. Any ways, most difficult for me to consider leaving my work, I made the decision to do so. And this is why I asked my Bishop not to return me to parish work, but to return me to formal study to get a Doctorate in Scripture. Because in my mind, that would be the way to go to make sure I did not have any contact with youth

anymore. That with my expertise in scripture, I would be in the directive management part of education and not in direct contact.

JR: Did you explain to the Bishop when you made the request that the reason you wanted to return to academics was because you were concerned about your continued contact with youth?

PA: I'm not, I'm not sure if it was at that same meeting, but there was at a point. I don't know if it was the same meeting or the meeting after. I believe it was a subsequent meeting when I was asked to be transferred. I mean, when I was told I was going to be transferred again, that I asked the Bishop not to return me to youth work. That I knew I was good at what I did. But I did not want to go to youth work and would he respect that.

RM: Did you tell him why you didn't want to go to youth work?

PA: I didn't want the same thing to happen again.

JR: And did you convey that to the Bishop that you were concerned that there could be a re-occurrence of the same type of conduct?

PA: I believe I did. I can't swear to it, but I believe I did.

JR: Okay.

PA: I was so concerned about it.

JR: And to put it in context at the very least, this conversation, take your time.

PA: No, please go ahead.

JR: Um, this conversation with the Bishop occurred on the heels of the event with [REDACTED] in Nashua.

PA: Oh, yes it was all, all in conjunction with that.

JR: And to put that in further context, contact of this occurring somewhere in the, the, the spring, summer, fall, winter

PA: It was in the summer.

JR: of 1975?

PA: The summer.

JR: Okay.

- PA: In summer because I was, I was assigned to, to my next parish ah, the beginning of the school year, if I recall.
- RM: What did Bishop Gendron say to you in response to your request not to be put back in the youth ministry?
- PA: He said that they um, didn't need a scripture scholar in this Diocese. The Diocese wasn't big enough to need a scripture scholar. But that he wanted me to use my talents in the best way I could.
- KK: With that being said, I'd like to re-wind to
- PA: Please.
- KK: to that initial ah, visit between you and the Bishop on that Monday morning.
- PA: Yes.
- KK: And you have ah, told the Bishop some very serious things.
- PA: I did indeed.
- KK: And, did the Bishop ever tell you not to discuss this matter with anyone outside of that office?
- PA: No.
- KK: Did you in fact confide in anyone else about your visit with the Bishop?
- PA: Yes. I did.
- KK: And the reason for it?
- PA: Yes. I did.
- KK: And who did you confide in?
- PA: That was [REDACTED].
- KK: And why did you, so that is one of the individuals, young men from Berlin?
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: And why did you go to him?

PA: I developed, developed a very, very close friendship with [REDACTED] I felt bad for the abuse he had gone through.

KK: At your hands?

PA: No.

KK: All right. So you confided in [REDACTED] Did you confide in anyone else?

PA: Maybe some of or the others from Berlin. Maybe I had confided that to, to most of those boys.

KK: So you were keeping in touch with them after your

PA: Oh, yes.

KK: reassignment to Nashua.

PA: Yes. I was. Yes. I was.

KK: Can you describe the nature of that communication?

PA: With the boys other than [REDACTED] it was only occasional when I'd go up and visit my parents and we'd go out for a pizza or a ride. Ah, pizza and a ride. That was about the extent of that. With Paul, there ah, was much more intense relationship.

KK: Okay. Physically?

PA: Yes. Also. No, no not only, but also.

KK: All right. So those are the only ones that you would have confided this incident about Nashua?

PA: That's my knowledge, yes.

KK: All right.

PA: No, no that's not true. That's not true. I did, I did confide that to [REDACTED]

KK: All right. So they were all of the people that you attended to confide in were the young men that you were

PA: That's correct.

KK: involved with?

- PA: That's correct.
- KK: All right. Still in that meeting with the Bishop. He hasn't asked you not to tell anyone else about--
- PA: Not to my recollection.
- KK: All right. What did he advise you to do when you left his office?
- PA: To cooperate with Dr. Connors.
- KK: And were
- PA: At, at my request.
- KK: and were you to continue in your
- PA: Yes. I did continue.
- KK: normal duties?
- PA: I did continue in my normal duties. There was no mention of
- AF: No restriction in that?
- PA: No restriction at all. That is correct.
- KK: And did he indicate to you that he was going to discuss the situation with your pastor in Nashua?
- PA: I don't recall him saying that. I recall him saying that he, you know, he would necessarily have to talk it over with Father Christian.
- KK: And what was his position at that point?
- PA: He was the Bishop's personal secretary.
- KK: Okay. All right.
- PA: And as the Bishop's personal secretary, ah, would have access to ah, files at the Bishop's ah, ah, bidding, ah, personal file. Father Christian, ah, ever since, shortly after he was ordained ah, became a member of the staff of the Chancery and has been there since and has always dealt with personnel.
- KK: Okay.



- RM: Did Gendron or Arseneault direct you to submit to psychological counseling as a result of your report?
- PA: Oh, Arseneault doesn't, not even ordained yet.
- RM: Okay. Did Gendron suggest that you should go into psychological counseling?
- PA: No, I ah. No, no, not at that time. Not in '75. I'm the one who asked to go see Connors in '75 because I wanted to know where I stood if there was a problem with me and what needed to be done about that problem.
- AF: So the reason you went to Connors was at, because
- PA: I requested it.
- AF: you requested it.
- PA: Oh yes, yes.
- AF: Not because the Bishop
- PA: No.
- AF: ordered you to go.
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: And were you, you actually um, criticized for making requests in your behalf to go to seek counseling?
- PA: No. I don't recall, I don't recall Bishop Gendron ah, reprimanding me for that. No. I don't recall that.
- JR: How about the Vice Chancellor, George Ham?
- PA: You know, if it did it certainly didn't bother me. Because I don't recall it.
- AF: Were you ever advised by anyone in the church or the Diocese, on the proper procedure on how a priest, for example, would be referred to any type of psychological testing or counseling?
- PA: Absolutely not.
- RM: I want to take a break.
- AF: Sure.

- RM: I want you to go outside and get some fresh air, okay.
- PA: You just want to have a cigarette.
- KK: Can I ask one question
- PA: Please.
- KK: prior? Is there anything else about this Nashua incident before we move on?
- RM: Yes. There is.
- KK: All right. Then we'll take our break.
- AF: All right. We're going to go off tape. It is -- this is Tony Fowler. It's August 14, 2002 at 12:14 a.m. by my watch, ah, p.m. I'm sorry. We're going to take a break.
- RM: Take ten minutes.
- JR: Sure. We can talk -- it's also noontime and do you want to break for a bite to eat?
- AF: Okay, we're back on tape. Ah, this is Investigator Anthony Fowler, New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. August 14, 2002. The time by my watch is 12:31 p.m. We are continuing the interview with ah, Father Paul Aube. Same people are present and Father, I will ask you again, do you mind if we continue audio taping this interview?
- PA: I do not.
- AF: Okay. Let's, let's, let's get back into ah, where we left off and talk about -- you mentioned to us that you had gone to the Bishop concerning the, the ah incident with the police in Nashua with [REDACTED]
- PA: [REDACTED]
- AF: [REDACTED] And ah, the Bishop ah, you explained that conversation. And I want to talk a little bit so we can back track, but get started again ah, about your request to the Bishop ah, to see someone because you realized that your problem needed to be addressed. Can you explain that again briefly and the conversation that you had with the Bishop?
- PA: After sharing with the Bishop the incidents of two days prior, I asked him if he could contact the doctor that I had giving me my physic eval prior to my ordination, because I wanted to find out if there was anything wrong with me that needed to be addressed. He said he would do that and his office would get back

to me once they had found the name of the person and if that person was still available then an appointment would be made for me. I did receive a subsequent that received a phone call. I believe it was, I'm not sure if he was from the Bishop directly or whether it was Father Christian at the time, ah, but I did receive a phone call telling me that there was an appointment made with Dr. Connors at his home in Lexington for a specific date at a specific time.

AF: Lexington where?

PA: Massachusetts.

AF: Okay. And during the time that you were waiting to see someone,

PA: Yes.

AF: were your priestly duties ever restricted in anyway by the Bishop?

PA: No, no.

AF: Inclusive of youth ministry?

PA: No sir.

AF: Was there any restriction placed on you sir, for not having any contact with

PA: No sir.

AF:

PA: No sir.

AF: Did the Bishop or anybody in the church, to your knowledge during this timeframe, ever attempt to contact or contacted

PA: I have no knowledge of that.

AF: Okay.

KK: Do you know whether family ever learned of the ah, contact with the, you folks and the police department?

PA: I do not know.

KK: Did you ever have contact with his family regarding the incident?

PA: No. I did not.

AF: And the important issue here is that you asked for help.

PA: That's correct.

AF: It was not – you were not ordered to go is that correct?

PA: That's correct.

AF: All right. And you went to see a Mr. Connors, is that correct?

PA: A Doctor Connors.

AF: Dr. Connors.

PA: Yes.

AF: And,

PA: Doctor in, doctor in education.

AF: what was ah – how many times did you go to see him?

PA: Ah, a few to several. I do not recall and to the best of my knowledge, is was maybe three or four times.

AF: And what was the, what were the discussions with Dr. Connors about? What were they, what were they pertaining to? In a wide range, I guess.

PA: My views on things. My views on life. Ah, ah, my expectations in life. My, ah, how I reacted to things.

AF: Did you discuss the particular

PA: Oh, yes.

AF: issue of [REDACTED] and your sexual behavior?

PA: Oh, yes.

AF: Okay.

PA: And I, I believe I did mention to him about other incidents, but I don't.

- AF: That was my next question. Did you discuss with Dr. Connors prior incidents of contact with boys in the various assignments that you had had up to this point?
- PA: Specifically, I don't think so. But I think it was mentioned in general that it had happened previously.
- AF: Previously?
- PA: Correct. I don't think there were any specifics.
- AF: Was there discussions with Dr. Connors that would have led him to believe that the prior contact with boys was occurring during your ministry? If you recall?
- PA: Yes.
- AF: Okay.
- RM: Or another way to say it Paul, in connection with your official religious duties.
- PA: That part of the issue for me.
- RM: Okay.
- KK: Did ah, you give Dr. Connors permission to share information with the Diocese?
- PA: Yes.
- KK: And would you have um, assumed that Dr. Connors shared the fact that you had confided a previous contact with boys in a sexual manner?
- PA: If he thought it to be appropriate, yes.
- KK: If he thought it was appropriate?
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: Do you know whether in fact he did or did not?
- PA: I do not know that. All the thing I know, is I saw a report that he sent to Bishop Gendron. What was it two or three weeks ago it was the first time I became aware there was a written report. I have always been denied to look at my personnel file.
- KK: All right.
- JR: How did, how did you see that report?

PA: In my

RM: I gave it to him.

PA: My attorney's office.

KK: All right. So you're not sure whether for sure Dr. Connors relayed the information that you had previous sexual contact with other boys in your other assignments.

PA: No. I do not.

AF: Did you up until this time? Or during your talks with the Bishop or anybody in the church, sir, tell him that you had, this was not the first time that you had contact with, with young men?

PA: I believe I mentioned that to Bishop Gendron when I met with him that Monday morning. But I, I'm I would not swear to that.

AF: Do you recall whether Bishop Gendron questioned you further about that?

PA: Oh, as I said previously there was no reaction.

AF: No reaction. Um,

KK: How long would you estimate that meeting with the Bishop lasted?

PA: Half an hour.

RM: Up until this time in your career Paul, had you ever heard of other priests in the Diocese of Manchester having inappropriate sexual contact with ah, boys and having action taken with respect to their ministries?

PA: No. I had heard rumors among, among the Brotherhood about ah, this one being gay or this one being ah, you know, gay, I guess was the general rumor. Ah, I had not personally encountered anyone or knew personally of anyone. As a matter of fact, I was quite, I was, I, I, I was sort of left to believe that I was quite an odd ball to the matter. You know I was really an odd ball here. I was an exception to the rule, by a long shot.

KK: Were you, at any point, paired with say, a mentor amongst the, the other priests who could help you through this particular situation?

PA: No.

- AF: Did, and I know you said this before, but I want to make sure that we understand this. During your meeting, one of your meetings with Bishop Gendron, you asked him not to assign you to parish ministry?
- PA: I had asked to be assigned to, to ah go back to school, go back to getting a Doctorate in Scripture ah, because I didn't want to go back to parish ministry.
- AF: Did you tell him why?
- PA: I don't know if I was direct in telling him why. I thought that within the context it would be clear as to why.
- KK: Between that first meeting on the Monday morning, the Bishop says he's going to get back to you,
- PA: Yes.
- KK: you have uh, another meeting several weeks later.
- PA: That's correct. After a meeting with Dr. Connors.
- KK: All right. A meeting with Dr. Connors.
- PA: Oh no, meetings with Dr. Connors.
- KK: That's the three or four you had in the interim.
- PA: Three or four, that's correct.
- KK: All right. And then you have the second meeting with the Bishop.
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: On this issue. Tell us about that meeting. That's when he tells you about his contact with the Chief of Police of Nashua.
- PA: That's correct. That's correct.
- KK: What other issues were discussed during that second meeting?
- PA: That he had, he had communication with Dr. Connors. And that ah, ah I should ah, make an effort to control myself. Ah, that I should make sure that I never do that again. Something to the effect.
- KK: What else did you talk about?

- PA: I believe it was at that meeting where I requested to, the first request, to go back to studies.
- KK: All right. Was ah, your transfer from Nashua brought about at that time or was it later?
- PA: Maybe, maybe a few weeks later.
- KK: Did he tell you that you were going to be transferred out of Nashua during that meeting?
- PA: I don't know if he brought it up at that meeting. He was not sure. It was shortly after that that he did.
- KK: All right. Um, as a result of either one of those meetings, did the Bishop draft any kind of communication to you in writing about -
- PA: The incident?
- KK: Anything about your contact with him? Did he write you letters? Any kind of documentation generated to your knowledge?
- PA: The only think that was generated to my knowledge was getting a letter of reassignment after negotiation of that assignment.
- KK: And who negotiates that?
- PA: That was between the Bishop and myself and the pastor where I was going to be going.
- KK: And who was the pastor?
- PA: Was ah, Monsignor Gil Simard.
- KK: Okay.
- PA: I did not want to go there.
- KK: Why not?
- PA: Monsignor Simard was known to be a very difficult pastor. Ah, the young, I was fairly young in the ministry at the time, and um, Bishop Primeau had made me aware back in '73 that his first choice was to send me to Rochester when I left Claremont. And that Bishop Primeau had told me at the time that the pastor there had a very bad experience with a rebellious young priest and ah, was not open to having another young priest in his parish so I was sent to Berlin. Ah, so that was



at the back of my head when Bishop Gendron asked me to go to Holy Rosary to work with him. And I told him about what Bishop Primeau had told me. And I said that for that reason I would prefer not to go. And he says Paul, he is a very fine man. I think you're very, very, you're being very judgmental of him. I had tremendous respect for Bishop Gendron as a spiritual man.

KK: Okay. Well,

PA: And I suggested to Bishop Gendron, I asked him permission, because it wasn't part of the procedures, standard procedure, that before any decision was made on his part, would he give me permission to go and have a face to face, tete-a-tete talk with Monsignor Simard. He said he would talk to Monsignor Simard and get back to me as to whether he'd be open to that. He told me that Monsignor Simard was open to that and I made an appointment to go see Monsignor Simard. And I had a very open and frank discussion about what I expected as a priest there. That I didn't want to be treated as an alter boy or as a servant or I wanted to have ah, you know to be equal in status in ministry and ah, we both agreed to that.

KK: Okay.

PA: And the assignment was then given.

KK: All right. And I know we're going to get to Rochester later. But I, I need to ask you, during that um, initial contact with Monsignor, is it Monsignor Simard?

PA: That's correct.

KK: That ah, did he know about what had just occurred with-

PA: I have no idea.

KK: So it was not openly discussed?

PA: Definitely not.

KK: In your presence anyway?

PA: Not in my presence. It was never brought back up to my attention.

KK: Okay.

JR: Um, I just wanted to back track for a little bit um, to the original meeting with Bishop Gendron.

PA: Yes.

- JR: When you asked to go see the ah, Dr. Connors. Why did you specifically ask to see Dr. Connors?
- PA: Because he was the one who gave me my original evaluation. He would know my background. He would have records on me already and he would be able to see if my present behavior was you know, was indicated in any of the evaluations. I wanted to know what was going on with me. And the best way and the shortest way to get to point A to point B was going to the person who had given me the eval first.
- JR: Was the Bishop receptive to your request to seeing Dr. Connors as opposed to any other?
- PA: He didn't seem to object to that. He said he didn't know if the person was still alive, but he would ask Father Christian to go in the records to see who it was. Cause I didn't know who it was. I just asked the doctor who gave me my pre-ordination eval. I didn't remember the name of the doctor.
- JR: Okay. And it sounds like you had um, several sessions with Dr. Connors and a follow-up meeting with the Bishop, is that right?
- PA: I had, yeah, concerning this issue, yes.
- JR: Yeah. And in a follow-up meeting you said before we took our break, that um, you requested if you could return to study scripture.
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: Um, and that that request was denied.
- PA: That's correct.
- JR: Could you explain to us to the best of your knowledge what Bishop, the Bishop said to you about your requests?
- PA: The Diocese was too small. They did not need a scripture ah, expert ah, and my talents were too needed here.
- JR: And when you said your talents are too needed here, did he expand on that? What specifically did he want you to attend to in parish work?
- PA: Oh, youth work.
- JR: So did, did
- PA: But, but that wasn't at that meeting.

- JR: Okay. When did he tell you that your talents would be best served and continue in youth work rather than-
- PA: That was when the assignment to Rochester came, which was a subsequent meeting.
- JR: Okay. Let's talk about that meeting.
- RM: When did it occur?
- PA: Four to six weeks later.
- AF: Is this when you discussed the transfer?
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: So this is the third meeting now. You had the Monday morning one.
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: Then several weeks later.
- PA: After the
- KK: And then this is a third meeting.
- PA: That is correct. That's the transfer meeting.
- KK: Okay.
- PA: That's the beginning of the transfer meetings.
- JR: And who is present?
- PA: Just the Bishop.
- JR: And where did this meeting take place?
- PA: In his office.
- JR: Okay. And could you just narrate for us what the ah, substance of the meeting was?
- PA: Ah, I hate to have to admit this. At every meeting I've ever had with any of my ordinaries, any of my Bishops, I'm the one that had to initiate, I'm the one that

had to request for us to pray before we started the meeting. That was always depressing to me. I felt they are the ones who should initiate it, not me.

KK: Huh, huh.

PA: Unlike the other ordinaries, Bishop Gendron was very open to it and would participate. He asked me to lead it. But then he would participate and add a few words. He was the only one who ever did that. It pains me to say that. Because I would die for the church. I would die for the priesthood.

AF: During that meeting, Paul,

PA: I'm getting to that, sir. The Bishop told me that under the present circumstances he thought it would be best if I were to be transferred. During my short stay in, in ah, Nashua and I believe either May or June, I believe it was the Monday after Pentecost of that year, you say why do you remember that. I'll tell you why I remember that. I use to be a very charismatic speaker. Having great influence by suddenly evangelicals, their way of preaching, as I was babysitting my brother's and sister's children as a child was a teenager and would listen to WWVA, Wheeling West Virginia, have you can be saved brother? That sort of impressed me, but it affected my preaching style, if you want to put it that way. And on Pentecost Sunday, I remember very clearly, as clearly as I know I'm here, saying let us pray to the Holy Spirit that he will send his fire to consume this church. And we bring it to revival what that night the church burned down. Caught on fire. Ah, it was two kids that broke in and stole the money from the um, um

RM: So this isn't something that you think you caused by (inaudible)

PA: No, no.

RM: inaudible

PA: No, no. Why do I remember it was Pentecost Sunday?

RM: But I want to get to that meeting Paul and get to um the conversation between Gendron and yourself concerning your reassignment.

PA: Yes. I, I thought it was an interesting thing to know that I was the one there who was working with the kids, to clean up the mess after the fire. I had been given that duty to do that and continue with that duty until that was done and it was after that was done that I was reassigned, okay. But I was continuously, even after the incident, working with the teenagers to clean up this mess. Okay, to help clean up this mess of the church. I'm just bringing that up because I think it's an important detail based on your area of focus as to whether

RM: Paul, the meeting.

PA: Yes.

RM: I want to know what Bishop Gendron said to you and what you said to him about your reassignment.

PA: Yes, I said um, he asked me to go back to parish work. I said I did not want to go back to parish work. I really didn't want to do anymore youth work.

RM: Was the issue of why you didn't want to do more youth work on the table.

PA: I don't believe it was explicitly on the table. I think it was implied based, based on what he said in view of the circumstances.

KK: What did he say?

PA: In view of the circumstances, I think it would be good for you to be transferred.

KK: All right.

PA: Okay.

RM: That's when you said I don't want to do youth work?

PA: That's correct. And I asked for the second time now, no, that was the third time. The first time I asked to go to studies was when I was in Berlin. Ah, second time ah, that was shortly after he became Bishop. Second time was

KK: The second meeting.

PA: The second meeting went to Bishop. Third time was in my meeting for reassignment from Nashua and ah, again he said no, no, no, no get that out of your head. Um,

AF: Where did he tell you he was sending you, Paul?

PA: Rochester.

AF: Okay.

PA: And I objected to it for the reasons I gave you.

AF: And did he tell you

PA: Yes.

AF: Why he was sending you to Rochester?

PA: Yes. Sending me there because my talents were needed there. There were two reasons why I was being sent there. To establish a good religious education program ah, because it was one of my fortes, and because the youth were in disarray and needed to, to ah the youth ministry needed to be addressed.

AF: The Bishop wanted you to continue in youth ministries, youth

PA: Yes. Very, very clearly.

AF: group and religious education.

PA: That is very clear. Yes.

AF: And this is the third meeting after the incident

PA: That's correct.

AF: in, with the boy in ah,

PA: That's correct.

RM: Are you sure he had received a report from Connors? From Dr. Connors?

PA: He told me he had been in communication with him at the second meeting. He never shared the, the content of the communication, nor did he tell me that there had been a written report about it. I was totally unaware of that until you brought it to my attention.

KK: And it, was it during that meeting regarding your reassignment that he um, made those comments to you about you're going to have to control yourself?

PA: No. I think that was the second meeting.

KK: The second meeting.

PA: I believe that was the second meeting.

AF: When you were assigned, when you learned you were going to Rochester,

PA: Yes.

AF: to continue in the work you've been doing,

- PA: Yes.
- AF: did Bishop Gendron place any restrictions
- PA: He didn't.
- AF: at all on you?
- PA: No. As a matter of fact he was assigning me there for to do youth work.
- AF: And did Bishop Gendron counsel you or tell you anything during that meeting about how you should behave? Or what
- PA: No. That never came up.
- AF: Never came up.
- KK: Did Bishop Gendron ever ask you not to return to a community because of your contact with any of these young men?
- PA: Matter of fact ah, no, not he. Ah, the then Father Christian, and we're getting ahead of ourselves here. Ah, back in '81 asked me not to return to Rochester.
- KK: All right. But no one up until that point have ever asked you not to return
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: to Nashua or to Berlin
- PA: That's correct.
- KK: or to Claremont?
- PA: That's correct.
- RM: Were there
- AF: Jim, anything.
- JR: I'm fine.
- RM: It's hard work too, so I think it would be a great thing if we broke. I don't know what our availability is.
- KK: How about if we stop our tape first and we can talk about that.

AF: We're going to go off tape. It's ah, August 14, 2002. This is ah, the end of the interview, part one, with Father Paul Aube. It is 12:5—ah, 12:58 by my watch. We will end the interview.

END OF TAPE TWO, SIDE A  
193294