

1 May 09 v

Committee Secretary,  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee,  
P.O. Box 6100, Parliament House,  
Canberra. A.C.T. 2600.

Robert Vallura

31st May 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the programme of "eloping a submission to the Senate Inquiry on Government Compensation". I was under the impression that no such act was in place in N.S.W. at this stage, <sup>ONLY</sup> but in other states including Queensland. I have been a member of "Glan" of Bankstown since mid of last year '09. Leonie Steady of that organisation has been trying to get my records (with my signed authorisation) of my 15 (fifteen) years as a State Ward (from the time I was 18 months old till 16 years of age (1935 to 1949) she received a response ('09) from D.O.C.'s that it would take at least 8-9 months (still waiting) To-day I received the official pamphlet of Glan the "Glanicor" and within it on Para 1 of Page 5 it came to my notice that I must make a submission to the above mentioned panel. As will be noticed, by the above date, it would be impossible for me to lodge a full submission by the 11th June which is the deadline as shown on the attached excerpt. Leonie Steady should have my full particulars (after all she applied to Docs for my records) so a quick cross check with her will confirm the basic information I will give you of my 15 years as a State Ward under the government a agency of the then Child Welfare Dept. It must be mentioned that in the first instance, I gave to Leonie, for sighting, within her possession of approx for 2 months, a file of basic information including my birth certificate having all my 8 siblings (5 brothers - 3 sisters) on it. Obviously I was the youngest of the nine.

In 1935 a cat came and took my three brothers - namely John, Ernie, Ivo and my youngest sister Dawn, and of course myself at 18 months, to Sydney from Colebrook my birth place (N.S.W). My 3 mentioned brothers were placed in the Child Welfare Boys Home - "Roxleyton" Glebe N.S.W.



my sister Doris (20 or 21 in age) was placed in St Josephs Convent Girls Home at Lane Cove, I was admitted to the Bidura Infants Home (the new, Bidura Childrens Home) obviously being just that. I between intermittent stays in private boarding homes (now referred to as Foster homes) was domiciled within the Child Welfare Dept homes of "Roxleyton" at Glebe, Yarra Bay at Fair Prowse and finally because I had reached the age of 15 going on 16, I was placed within another Child Welfare home; Berry Training Farm and School of Husbandry, at Berry on the South Coast of N.S.W., from which I eventually was released into the care of my mother at Balmain (1949) I do have vivid recollections of my 15 years within the said govt care; obviously, not so much, when I was in the Bidura Infants Home, Glebe. I respectfully ask for support to present a reasonable chronological account of what occurred during those 15 years inside, so as to present a acceptable submission before your panel. The contents of which will of course be of a distressing nature but I want it known, not in a vindictive context, it was the only life I knew, and even to this day, do not like to be reminded of it.

It has had repercussions to my life outside, but since my retirement (I have gone "back into my shell" so to speak) I have had time to reflect, and there is one thing that emerged from the last 15 years, was the fact that the Child Welfare Dept had a policy in place "that all State wards, no matter whether they are within the institutions or are boarded out (fostered) they must attend the church of their creed, every Sunday, and in turn go through the steps of that creed (Baptized? was my mother was a devout Catholic - and a product of a convent) Holy Communion, and finally Confirmation. I was fortunate to have had the privilege to do so and I say without any reservations, that policy, in place, was and still is my strength.

So having given you a short version within this compilation, would you be kind enough to advise me



to as what I should do now,, to have my eventual submission put before the panel for addressment. I do not want it jeopardized.

But I respectfully request again that I be granted support to produce this submission. Emotions, during recollections, have a strong interference, and in tandem with putting pen to paper, is a hard combination to address efficiently.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours Sincerely

addition: With reference to my request for support, I need a capable person to be able to record (by whatever means) my recollections of events however distressing, of what occurred within those 15 years, and my endeavours to fit into life outside. I am proud of how I got through most of those years, <sup>POST-START IS WARD</sup> on most my "Paralloni" so to speak, but there are some aspects that I have never been able to "get my head around" there are too many "whys," that have never been addressed.

If my request is granted, I will have all aspects in relation, ready, all in chronological order, so there will be no time wasting.

It has just occurred to me, I still have not, in my possession the Child Welfare records of my 15 years as their guest, I have a feeling of deep apprehension that some of the contents of those records will be missing, because of the terrible situations and treatments of me, but regardless, God the Holy Father is my witness

If I may respectfully suggest; your department may be able to expedite the obtaining of my 15 years of records from whoever by the utilizing of your resources, or direct me to the agency that can do so. I am a age pensioner, and my resources are limited.