

The Story of the Statue of Mother Theresa in the provinz Berlin and the Region DDR

(Witness [sic]--report by Sister M. Beata Nordhues, then Provincial-Leader)

In the year 1989 the Provinz-Superior, Sister M. Konstancja of Poland, gave us a present of two Statues of our Mother Theresa, made 1989 by a Polish artist; one for the Provinz Berlin (West) and one for the Sisters in the Region DDR.

On 01. May 1989 the Polish Sisters brought both figures to the Sisters in Hubertushohe/DDR with all the necessary papers and the permission for the import to the DDR. As the Polish Sisters themselves did'nt [sic] get the permission for Berlin-West, I drove per car the same day with the permission for one day to Hubertushohe to fetch the figure of Mother Theresa, destined for us. – On the way home in the evening I was examined 2 ½ hours on account [sic] of the figure. I had to prove that the figure was no old work of art and what it represented. All the papers with it were written in Polish and the controllers could not read them. They thought I had stolen the figure from the DDR to bring it to West-Berlin. I protested again and again saying that the figure showed the founder of our Congregation; but it was of no use. I had to let there “Our Mother Theresa”. It was night 24:30 when I arrived at home.-

During 6 weeks I drove car 14-times to the border – without result.

-When on the 16.June they were not willing to give me the statue I said: “next week our founder Mother Theresa will have her birthday, and on this day all sisters of our convent will come with candles and flowers to celebrate her birthday here.” – Now the policeman got nervous and said:

“Come back to morrow-evening [sic] and then you can take the figure with you!” – And it was so; but I should pay 300,- DM money for letting stand the figure. I answerd:[sic] “Money for standing? I don't pay, because I did not put her here; but **you** did it for 6 weeks long!”

-I got the figure – and Mother Theresa could celebrate her 192 birthdy[sic] in the 110. year of Death, with all Sisters in our Chapel of the Motherhouse in Berlin.

(Translated from German to English by Sister M. Feodora Hoflich, 93 years old)

Berlin-Marienfelde, den 08. Juni 2006