FR. ANDREW RONAN
November 24, 1943

Very Reverend and Dear Father,

After much thought I feel that I should bring the following matter to your attention.

In the course of giving spiritual direction I have been told that Fr. Andrew Ronan, while at Bonnberg, manipulated the reproductive organ of a young religious until, in spite of several warnings, the religious arrived at orgasm. The person involved consented to let me do what I found necessary in regards to this information.

I wish to point out, Father, that I’m making no accusation but merely stating a fact. I ask you to keep in mind that the incident occurred some seven or eight years ago. There was no attempt made to do the same thing a second time with the same person and it might seem to an isolated happening better left ignored.

Nevertheless, since I cannot myself look any further into the matter, considering the fact that Fr. Ronan’s way of acting has always struck me as slightly strange, and considering also that he is working in the high-school, I feel that you should be informed so that, if you deem it wise, you can assure the isolation of the fact.

I regret, Father, having to send you a letter like this. God grant that it do no harm to an innocent person.

Respectfully yours,

John M. O’Donnell, O.S.X.
As my term of office draws near to an end, I am reminded by a letter from Fr. Doherty of Louvain, that I must put on record some sad facts about Fr. Roman. I removed him from Denburg because he was accused by a religious there of homosexuality, and admitted same to the Prior who was Fr. Daniel O'Malley. The Prior referred the details to me and Fr. Ronan was removed immediately. Fortunately his removal coincided with a trip to the U. S. A. anyway so no wonderment was caused. It seems from his own admission that this fault goes way back to his early life, and even though he overcame it for many years, it is still deeply rooted within him, and comes out too it would seem when he takes a few drinks. I wanted Fr. Ronan that drastic action would have to be taken if and when it occurs again. In any event I feel that he should never be given an office - I am certain he can never be trusted. Fr. Vincent O'Shea who was socius and Fr. Daniel O'Malley and myself, and now Fr. Doherty (JOHN) are all to my knowledge who know anything specific of his difficulties.

Fr. Louis M. Courtney, O.S.M.
(Prior provincial at the time)

Nov. 29, 1963
Memoranda:

Fr. Andrew M. Ronan was accused by three different priests of homosexual activities with students of St. Philip High School. The accusations were made during the month of December, 1964. The priests are: Frs. Anselm Dennehy, Mark Dennehy, and Brendan LaFave. All were certain of the truth of their accusations, and all approached me independently of each other. On all I imposed secrecy for the good of all concerned.

When I told Fr. Ronan of this, he did not deny. He stated that this has been a long term problem for him and he turned himself in to Fr. O'Malley at Benburb years ago. When he was removed from Benburb, he does not understand why he was assigned to work at a boys' high school in a counsellor's private office, where temptation would be maximized. He anticipated that his homosexual activity would come to light eventually and asked not to be assigned another high school.

Fr. Ronan readily admits his tendencies, thinks he can control them under more favorable circumstances with the help of God, and is resolved to do so. He is grateful to the men who reported him.

In all his future assignments this trait must be taken into consideration.
Feb. 15, 1966

To Whom it may concern:

I have applied to the Holy See, through my Superior General in Rome, to be laicized.

My Provincial, Fr. O'Connor, concurs with this action and has written to Rome urging that the Indult be granted.

Fr. Andrew M. Ronan, S.M.
ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

Receptio denunciationis in re ad peccatum pessimum,

Die septima Ian, 1966 sponte personaliter comparuit coram Nobis infrascriptis delegatis, assistente Ec. Mo ac Rev. mo Eduardo D. Howard Archipresbiculo Portl/ in Oregon necnon infrascripto Notario, specialiter delegato, prout ex litteris sub eodem die huic allegatis, iuuenis 17 annorum natus, filius et civis St. F. Septembris, alumnus in Scola Media sic dicta Grant High School, domicilium habens in via 57, 31th

cui deato Iureirando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis SS. Deb Evengeliis, exposit pro the infra, videlicet: As I told The Archbishop last week, I met Fr. Andrew Ronan of the Order Of the Servant of Mary, (Servite Father) attached to the sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother here in Portland, about 3 months ago. At first time I went to him for counseling. Then one night I had trouble at home with my parents. My mother was gone and Fr. Ronan called at our house while she was gone. Apparently she had told him about the trouble. He said he would meet me at the corner of 53th and Sandy N.E., a point about 30 blvd from the sanctuary. I went there and got into his car. I had a broken hand at the time. And he said he would get a bandage for it as I had just broken that night. We stop at the pharmacy and he got the bandage. We returned to the car and he drove me to the office building of the sanctuary. We went into the kitchen of the office. He put the bandage on my hand and then he brought out soft drink. We spent about a hour talking about things in general. Then I said that was the time for to go back to home. Then he started to ask me if I felt any pain elsewhere in my body, particularly in my groan.

PD-HO 0086

NOTARY
Then he said he wants to see for himself. Then he opened my trousers and looked at my private part. Then I told him I must go. Then he said that he wants to feel with his hands which he did taking my private part with his right hand. He said he was doing this to be sure that I was all right. We both started to the kitchen and we got as far as the main office room. Then he said he wants to examine me again and I would not let him. He kind insisted but I said I had to go. Then he drove me home and make a appointment to see me a week later. He called a week later to make sure that I would meet him in the office building. I told my mother that I did not want to go but she said that I should go. I went to the monastery by mistake. Priest from the monastery called Fr. Ronan at the office building and Fr. came out from the monastery down to the building. He said he would show me around the office building. He let down corridor to a guest room which we entered and then he locked the door. He sat down on the couch and I sat down on separate chair, then he told me to come over to sit beside him on the couch. As he insisted I did so. We talked about a half hour in general. Then he began to make advances. He put his arm around me and began to question me again if I had any pain in my private part. I said "No". He insisted upon finding by himself, first touching my private part outside of my trousers, I kept insisting that I was all right. But he said he wants to see for himself. Then he opened my trousers and hand my private part with both his hands. Then he wants to put hands inside his trousers and I said I would not do it. Then he tried to put my hands in his trousers but I said I would not do it. Then he said: Now let see how you take pressure. Then he forced me down about half way twice and got on top of me. He is a big man about 6.2 in height and quite strong. Finally he forced me into prone position and tried to pull my
trousers down. Then I resisted very forcibly. Then he started to pull his trousers down. Then I forced my way and said I had to go. Then he drove me home after Christmas but on the way he asked me if I would like to spend three days in a cabin some where on the beach, I said I would have to reply that later. That night I told my aunt about what did happen and she went out to tell Fr. Joseph Black, one of the Assistants in St. Rose parish. Then Fr. Black called me and I told about it.

Fr. Black told the Archbishop and Archbishop called me to come here today.

Interrogatus: Do you know or have you ever heard that this priest Fr. A. Ronan ever did such thing to any other boy or man?

Respondit: I heard he was going to go to the cabin with a boy whose name is but that is all I know.

Interrogatus: what is the reputation of this priest among others?

Resp. : As far as I know it is very high. Especially nuns think that he is a wonderful priest.

Interrogatus: Have you made this statement because you have any hatred for Fr. Ronan?

Resp. : No. Actually I liked him very much before this happened, he was a trusted counselor until this time.

Quibus omnibus absolutis ............

PD-HO 0088
ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. 04-66

IN THE CASE OF

Andrew Ronan

PETITIONER

RESPONDENT

[Signatures]

[Handwritten Notes]

PD-HO 0089

[Notary Stamp]
Recitio denunciationis in re ad peccatum maximum o pecante.

Die septima Ian. 1966 suente personaliter conoruit coram Nobis infrascritis deleratis, stante Dr. No ac Revmo Eduardo P. Haward Archiepiscopo Portl/ in Oron non con infrascrinto Notario, especialiter delerato, pro re ex litteris sub eodem die huic allearatis, invenis 17 annorum natus, filius et

civis St. T. Sept-tri., alumnus in Scola Media sic dicta Frant. High School, domicile habens in via 47, 31kh
cui deflato Jureurando de veritate dicenda, quod pro restitution tactis 33. Dei Evangelii, exposit utraque infra, videlicet: As I told The Archbishop last week, I met Fr. Andrew Ronan of the Order of the Servant of Mary, Servite Father, attached to the sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother hee in Portland, ab out 3 months ago. At first time I went to him for counseling. Then one night I had trouble at home with my parents. My mother was gone and Dr.

Ronan called at our house while she was gone. Apparently she had told him about the trouble. He said he would meet me at the corner of 53th and Sandy N.E. About 30 bylvd from the sanctuary. I went there and got into his car. I had a broken hand at the time. And he said he would get a bandage for it as I had just broken that night. We stop at the pharmacy and he got the bandage. We returned to the car and he drove me to the office building of the sanctuary. We went into the kitchen of the office. He put the bandage on my hand and then he brought out soft drink. We spent about an hour talking about thing in general. Then I said that was the time for to go back to home. Then he started to ask me if I felt any pain elsewhere in my body, particularly in my groin.

PD-HO 0090
Then he said he wants to see for himself. Then he opened my trousers and looked at my private part. Then I told him I must go. Then he said that he wants to feel with his hands which he did taking my private part with his right hand.

He said he was doing this to be sure that I was all right, we both started to the kitchen and we got as far as the main office room. Then he said he wants to examine me again, and I would not let him. He kind insisted but I said I had to go. Then he drove me home and make an appointment to see me a week later. He called a week later to make sure that I would meet him in the office building.

I told my mother that I did not want to go but she said that I should go.

I went to the monastery by mistake. Priest from the monastery called Fr. Roman at the office building and Fr. came out from the monastery door to the building. He said he would show me around the office building. He let down corridor to a guest room which we entered and then he locked the door. He sat down at on the chair. I sat down on separate chair, then he told me to come over to sit beside him on the couch. As he insisted I did so. We talked about a half hour in general. Then he began to make advances. He put his arm around me and began to question me again if I had any paint in my organs. I said "No". He insisted upon finding in his own, first touching my private part outside of my trousers, I kept insisting that I was all right. But he said he wants to see for himself. Then he opened my trousers and hand my private part with both his hands. Then he wants to put hands inside his trousers and I said I would not do it. Then he tried to put his hands in his trousers but I said I would not do it. Then he said: Now let see how you take pressure. Then he forced me down about half way twice and got on top of me. He is a big man about 6.2 in height and quite strong. Finally he forced me into prone position and tried to xxt poll my
trousers down. Then I resisted very forcibly. Then he started to pull his
trousers down. Then I forced my way and said I had to go. Then he drove me home
but on the way he asked me if I would like to spend three days in cabin some
place on the beach. I said I would have to really talk about that later. That night I told
my aunt about what did happen and she went out to tell Fr. Joseph Black, one
the assistants in St. Rose parish. Then Fr. Black called me and I told about it.
asked
Fr. Black told the Archbishop and Archbishop called me to come here today.

Interrogatus: Do you know or have you ever heard that this priest Fr.
1. Ronan ever did such thing to any other boy or man?

Respondit: I heard he was going to go to the cabin with a boy whose
name is

Interrogatus: what is the reputation of this priest among others?
Resp.: As far as I know it is very high. Especially men think that he
is a wonderful priest.

Interrogatus: Have you made this statement because you have any hatred
for Fr. Ronan?

Resp.: No. Actually I liked very much before this happened.

Quibus omnibus absolvit

PD-HO 0092
Vocatus personaliter comparuit coram me infrascripto Bertram F. Griffin sistenti in Portlandensi, Archidioecesi Portlandensis in Oregon ad hunc actum tantum a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard specialiter delegate, prout ex Eiusdem literis mihi directis et datis sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 praesenti opositioni alligandis, Rev. Joseph Black qui/quae, delato ei iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis, fuit per me...

1. Do you know son of and living at
   Yes, he is a member of my parish

2. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has. Is good morally but seriously afflicted emotionally. He comes from a broken home. He is rebellious against authority at home and at school. He is intelligent. Said Fr. Roman in October 1965. His mother had made a visit to the school and in November 1965 she had discussed with Fr. Hoarwood about his problems. No one in the parish has questioned him.

3. Do you think that he is worthy of belief? Or do you think that he is capable of lying, of bearing false witness and even of perjuring himself?
Do you know whether there is or ever has been reason for hatred or enmity between him and a Priest?

Tunc, acto testi debite perfecto, delatoque ei iureiurando de secreto servando, quod praestitit ut supra, dimissus fuit, at antequam discederet, in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripsit.

Rev. Joseph Black

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard ad hunc actum tantum specialiter delegatum.

L.S.

PD-HO 0094
Die 17. Mense Januaii Anno 1966

Vigore decreti R.P.D. Eduardi D. Howard dati sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 vocatus personaliter comparuit coram me infirmitate Bertam F. Griffin, sistente in Portlandensi, Archidioecesis Portlandensis in Oregon,

Nomen, Cognomen: Joseph Black
Nomen patris: Henry Black
Patria
Aetas: 35
Conditio: Catholic Priest
Habitatio: St. Rose, and

cui delato iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tectis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis fuit:

1. Do you know or suspect the reason for your summons and the present examination?
   Yes

2. Are you a Catholic? How frequently do you attend Mass? Do you receive the Sacraments? Have you made your Easter duty?
   Catholic priest, assistant at St. Rose rectory

3. Are you personally acquainted with your Pastor or other priests? Have you ever received special counselling from a priest? Have you been well treated?
   PD-HO 0095
4. Do you know or remember that at one time you said or heard that a Priest had not acted toward someone whom he was counselling with propriety and due respect? Have you heard talk against a Priest in this regard?

Yes. About two weeks before Christmas, a woman called me at 12:30 at night. She said that her nephew had accused a priest of homosexuality. She wasn't aware of the precise nature of the accused's remarks. She was afraid of her nephew's illegitimacy. I arranged for the accused to see a psychiatrist. The next day, they both said the case had been resolved. If you are the accuser, the name is

5. Please give the name, age, office, parish or religious house of this Priest.

Rev. R. Lawlor, Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother, Seattle, about 40.
6. Please state seriously, sincerely and clearly, and as discretely as you can what you know or have heard concerning improper relations between this Priest and the person whom he was counselling. From whom did you hear this? When did this occur? How many times? Have you heard that the same thing has occurred with others? After talking to the boy's mother about the boy came over to me. The boy said the priest offered him $10, and asked the boy to teach him. This had been preceded on the previous Tuesday by some yelling. The boy said is the boy claimed that the priest had put his arm around him in two occasions. He had been seeing the priest for six weeks previously. Some one else involved also. Know J. Robinson had damaged doing some work to the house over Christmas.

7. If you know or have heard that the same thing has occurred with others, please state their names and if possible their addresses.
8. What is the reputation of this priest? I mentioned the matter to Fr. Hallaway, the priest's superior. He was surprised & advised me to go to the Archbishop. As far as I know the priest has a good reputation.

9. Have you testified solely out of love for justice and truth or is there also some reason for enmity or hatred between you and the above priest? No. I decided a long time before referring this. I don't want to hurt a fellow priest. But the mere thinking of going to the police and the religious superior administered to the Archbishop.

Quibus habitis et acceptatis dimissis fuit iuratus de secreto servando, iterum tactus Ss. Dei Evangelii, et in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripsit.

L.S. ____________________
Rev. Joseph Black

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin,
Die 17a Mense Januarii Anno 1966

Vocatus personaliter comparuit coram me infrascripto Bertram F. Griffin sistente in Portlandensi, Archidocesi Portlandensis in Oregon ad hunc actum tantum a R.P.D. Eduardo Haward specialiter delegato, prout ex Eiusdem literis mihi directis et datis sub die 17a mense Januarii anno 1966 praesenti positioni alligandis, Rev. Mark Edward Matthews qui/e quae, delato ei iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis, fuit per me.....

1. Do you know Rev. Andrew Ronan of the Order of the Servants of Mary, attached to the Sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother in Portland, Oregon?
   Yes, I know him, but not well.

2. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has with the people. To the best of my knowledge, I know very little about him. I heard him about 13 years ago. As far as I know his reputation is good. I have heard nothing against him.

3. Do you know son of and living at
   Yes

PD-HO 0099
4. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has. 

I have had trouble with him regarding defiling in class. He has never lied to me. I don't think he is capable of false witness or perjury. His mother has no control over him. She never made him do what he didn't want to do. If he could, his mother couldn't make him.

5. Do you think that he is worthy of belief? Or do you think that he is capable of lying, of bearing false witness, and even of perjuring himself?

I know of no reason for hatred or enmity between him and Rev. Andrew Ronan.

Rev. Black told me that he was receiving religious instruction from Rev. Ronan, but he didn't continue his religious instruction in the parish.
Tunc, acto testi debite perfecto delatoque ei iureiurando de secreto servando, quod praestitit ut supra, dimissus fuit, et antequam discederet, in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripsit.

Rev. Marcus C. Goethe

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard ad hunc actum tantum specialiter delegatum.

L.S. Bertram F. Griffin
Vigore decreti R.P.D. Eduardi D. Howard dati sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 vocata personaliter comparuit coram me, infraístripto Bertam F. Griffin, sisteante in Portlandensi, Archidioecesis Portlandensis In Oregon,

**Nomen,** Cognomen

**Nomen patris**

**Patria** USA 0  Aetas 28

**Condicio** housewife

**Habitatio**

_cui delato iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis Ss. Dei Evangeliius fuit:___

1. Do you know or suspect the reason for your summons and the present examination? _Y__E____  _E____

2. Are you a Catholic? How frequently do you attend Mass? Do you receive the Sacraments? Have you made your Easter duty?

_I am a Catholic. I attend Mass on Sundays. I receive the Sacraments. I make my Easter duty._

3. Are you personally acquainted with your Pastor or other priests? Have you ever received special counselling from a priest? Have you been well treated?

_I know Fr. Black very well. He is a marvelous man. I have had more than sufficient counselling._

PD-HO 0102
4. Do you know or remember that at one time you said or heard that a Priest had not acted toward someone whom he was counselling with propriety and due respect? Have you heard talk against a Priest in this regard?

My nephew has told me that Dr. Ronan was

and right with him.

5. Please give the name, age, office, parish or religious house of this Priest.

Rev. Anthony Ronan - at the head of our sorrowful matters. I've never met him myself
6. Please state seriously, sincerely and clearly, and as discretely as you can what you know or have heard concerning improper relations between this Priest and the person whom he was counselling. From whom did you hear this? When did this occur? How many times? Have you heard that the same thing has occurred with others?

Several weeks ago, came up the house—about 10 or 10:30 at night. My husband left for work (he works night). Then turned同志 wanted to talk with me. He said he had a problem. He asked if his mother had ever mentioned F. Ronan. I told him only that she was pleased that he was in the army. Then he said, "F. Ronan is a queer. I don't know how anybody could stand it. I feel awful. I always thought he was such a quiet guy."

I said, "Well, I know very well. I know he wasn't taken. He must, yes. I know very well; I know he wasn't taken. He must, yes."

F. Ronan said, "F. Ronan tried to make sure that I knew what he was saying. Really."

I said, "F. Ronan tried to make sure that he knew what he was saying. Really."

"F. Ronan said to me that I might try with a girl." We then went to his mother. I told her she called F. Black.

7. If you know or have heard that the same thing has occurred with others, please state their names and if possible their addresses.

I haven't heard that the same thing has occurred with others. I have heard that he had to do something. There are a lot of boys who go to F. Ronan for counseling.
8. What is the reputation of this priest?

He was a retreat that was wonderful to experience. He had worked for many years in Chicago with problem people.

9. Have you testified solely out of love for justice and truth or is there also some reason for enmity or hatred between you and the above priest?

We have no enmity. I feel sorry for Fr. Roman. I'm glad the Church is investigating this. I want the police. The Church can help Father.

Quibus habitis et acceptatis dimissis fuit iuratae de secreto servando,
iterum tactis Ss. Dei Evangeliis, et in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripsit.

L.S.

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin,

[Signature]

PD-HO 0105
Die Mense Anno

Vigore decreti R.P.D. Eduardi D. Howard dati sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 vocat personaliter comparuit coram me infrascripto Bertam F. Griffin, sistente in Portlandensi, Archidioecesis Portlandensis in Oregon,

Nomen, Cognomen
Nomen patris
Patria Actas
Conditio
Habitatio

cui delato iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis Ss. Dei Evangelii fuit:

1. Do you know or suspect the reason for your summons and the present examination?
   Yes, I am curious of the situation with Fr. Ann

2. Are you a Catholic? How frequently do you attend Mass? Do you receive the Sacraments? Have you made your Easter duty?
   Yes Catholic, I attend Mass receive the sacrament

3. Are you personally acquainted with your Pastor or other priests? Have you ever received special counselling from a priest? Have you been well treated?
   Yes I am personally acquainted with the priest of St. Paul.
   I have always been well treated. I have been well treated.
4. Do you know or remember that at one time you said or heard that a Priest had not acted toward someone whom he was counselling with propriety and due respect? Have you heard talk against a Priest in this regard?

5. Please give the name, age, office, parish or religious house of this Priest.

Fr. Andrew Roman, Parish of Sacred Heart, age about 40, Semite.
6. Please state seriously, sincerely and clearly, and as discretely as you can what you know or have heard concerning improper relations between this Priest and the person whom he was counselling. From whom did you hear this? When did this occur? How many times? Have you heard that the same thing has occurred with others?

I attended a retreat at the retreat center with Father Roman. I told him that I had experienced some difficult feelings. After the retreat, I saw Father Roman at a counseling center. He was attending a counseling session. This began in October 1965. Father Roman then began taking and giving me advice, counseling me, and offering me new insights. I became more and more dependent on him, and I told him so. About a month later, he took me to a movie with him. I was very upset by his presence. He told me that he had done something to me that I couldn't tell anyone else. Then he wanted to see my sister. I had no knowledge.

7. If you know or have heard that the same thing has occurred with others, please state their names and if possible their addresses.
8. What is the reputation of this priest? I talked to someone else about Fr. Ronan prior to testifying. I don't think he was doing counseling. He was just helping some girls. And his priestly duties aren't well done in school. He needs a great deal. He needs a great deal of help with his duties. I guess I know he has recently been going to daily Mass.

9. Have you testified solely out of love for justice and truth or is there also some reason for enmity or hatred between you and the above priest? No, there is no enmity between me and Fr. Ronan. They just thought I was telling the truth when I told them to pray for him. I had known many priests, I know they can make mistakes. I have several priests that I've known.

Quibus habitis et acceptatis dimissis, fuit iuratus de secreto servando, iterum tectis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis, et in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripserat.

L.S.

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin,
On Tuesday, January 18, 1966, the undersigned Rev. Bertram F. Griffin duly appointed by the Most. Rev. Edward D. Howard, Archbishop of Portland in Oregon to the office of Inquisitor in the case of Paul Valenti vs. Rev. Andrew Ronan made arrangements by telephone to interrogate Mr. counsellor at the Donald Long Juvenile Home.

The undersigned identified himself as representing the Archdiocese and asked for an appointment. Mr. asked the nature of my business. I told him I was interested in a character reference for one of his counselees. After a pause, Mr. stated "Oh, yes. I know about the matter." Appointment was then made for Thursday, January 20.

At 9:30 A.M., Thursday January 20, 1966, the undersigned interrogated Mr. in his office at the Donald Long Juvenile Home. Mr. stated that he was not Catholic, he was aware of the matter which I wanted to discuss with him, but he did not know our procedure. When asked if he would testify under oath or mind if I wrote his answers down or sign a statement, he requested that the conversation remain unofficial. He preferred not to sign anything because of his professional status. He realized however that I would write a report of the interview. I am convinced of the counsellor's integrity and honesty. The following record is as faithful a report of the interview as memory permits.

PD-HO 0110
Q. Do you know or suspect the reason for this interview?
A. Yes, told me about the matter. He said that he had been to the
Archbishop's office to fill out a complaint. He told me what the compliant
involved.

Q. When did you first become aware of the matter?
A. Actually, the priest came in to see me about it first. The priest is
Father Ronan from the Sanctuary; I had know him previously. He came in to
see me, I believe the day that he talked with the Archbishop. He said that
had accused him of some sexual matter although he was not specific. Father
denied the incident and state that such accusations are "an occupational hazard
for a Priest". He has since called me a few times to ask if I have been con-
tacted by anyone from the Chancery office.

I had to call in anyway for parole violation. He had skipped several
days of school. I asked him where he had been. He claimed that he had spent
the two days at the Chancery office. When I pinned him down he finally admitted
that he was with the Bishop only for one morning. When I asked him what the
matter was all about, he said that he had to report Fr. Ronan. He said Fr.
Ronan was a "bad guy." He claimed that some time ago, Fr. Ronan had seen him
at the Sanctuary. They went to one of the guest room, a room with a high window
a bed and a chair. Father sat on the bed and on the chair. Father asked
to sit beside him. He asked if he felt any pain in the groin. He then
tried to touch He said he wanted to see how responded to pressure.
Then he tried to force  down and get on top of him. I didn't believe
at first and asked him what he was doing all this time. He claimed that he couldn't believe it was happening and was unable to do anything. Finally he said he had to go.

Q. Did say that this had happened on other occasions?
A. At first said it had happened on three or four occasions. Then he admitted that this specific thing happened only once. Perhaps the former occasions were advances which only now was able to interpret.

Q. Do you believe Is he capable of lying in the matter?
A. I had see a staff psychiatrist. The psychiatrist told me that he has a psychopathic personality. He manipulates people and tries to obtain their sympathy. He is unable to cope with authority. is perfectly capable of projecting his only feelings or desires into an innocent situation or even of lying. However I can't discover any motive why would lie in this matter. Because I can't see any motive, I suspect that is somewhat telling the truth. However, has very little emotionally feeling. He puts on a front of great emotional disturbance and anxiety whereas he actually feels very little. I was unable to pin down on specific dates or occasions.

Q. You say that you knew Fr. Ronan previously. What is your opinion of his character?
A. Actually I don't know Father very well. I am not Catholic and don't know any priests personally. I knew that Fr. Ronan was doing counselling and was
interested in his approach. It impressed me that a clergyman would take that much interest in problem boys. I had lunch one day with Father at the Sanctuary. He told me that he had worked in Chicago with problem boys; that he had written to the Portland Police asking to be their chaplain and had been accepted. He had also written to the Sheriff's office but had received no reply. I asked him how he contacted these boys living way out in the woods as he did. He said that he did not search them out, but people referred them to him. I asked him what approach he used. He said that it was a combination of religious help and counselling. However he did not force religion on them; they went to church for that. I don't know anything about Father's reputation. However I understand that Father has been doing this kind of work for many years (20?); I know that homosexual activity breaks out long before this. If statement is true, Father must have been in trouble before. On the other hand, if is lying, I can't understand what his motive would be.

Q. Do you know if anyone else is involved in similar matter?
A. No, I don't.

Q. Is this matter on record?
A. I will keep the matter confidential. However, insofar as the matter affects I will have to make a report. However I will not involve any names. I understand that you are not out to punish anyone. If the story is false, you want to clear the matter up, if possible. If the story is true, you want to help Father and protect others.
Q. Would you be willing to sign a statement or testify under oath?
A. I would rather not. I have only stated my impressions; these are quite subjective. Objectively, I am aware of no facts. All I can say is what and Father Ronan have told me and estimate personal involvement.

After the interview, the undersigned recorded what he could remember, in so far as possible in the words of the witness.

L.S.

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin,
Vocatus personaliter comparuit coram me infrascripto Bertram F. Griffin sistente in Portlandensi, Archidocesi Portlandensis in Oregon ad hunc actum tantum a R.P.D. Eduardo Havard specialiter delegato, prout ex Eiusdem literis mihi directis et datis sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 praesenti positioni alligandis, Rev. Augustine Hallisey, qui/ue, delato ei iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis, fuit per me....

1. Do you know Rev. Andrew Ronan of the Order of the Servants of Mary, attached to the Sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother in Portland, Oregon? Yes. I am his religious superior.

2. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has with the people.

I have given him no cause for criticism. He is a very good worker. He is engaged in retreat work and work of reeducation. He has worked with youth. I have given no indications of scandal. He has a good character. I have always found him a very good priest and one that does his assignments. He has been well respected in Chicago and in Chicago. He is a young man in his 30s. His reputation with the people is very good. Most people think he is effective in retreat work. He gives every indication of being a good priest and good religious.

3. Do you know Son of living at

No, although I am aware of this a problem. Ronan has told me something.
4. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has.

5. Do you think that he is worthy of belief? Or do you think that he is capable of lying, of bearing false witness and even of perjuring himself?

6. Do you know whether there has ever been any reason for hatred or enmity between and Rev. Andrew Ronan? No, I don't.
Tunc, acto testi debite perlecto delatoque ei iureiurando de secreto
servando, quod praestitit ut supra, dimissus fuit, et antequam discederet,
in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripsit.

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard
ad hunc actum tantum specialiter delegatum.

L.S.
J. Conran has been a student in Rome
in seminary work in Ireland 10 yrs.
in guidance in H. P. in Chicago 5 yrs.
Feb 65 -

Ordained 1951

Our Lady of the Holy Cross
Ben Burch
Co. Tyrone, Ireland

Clerical Office Fr. Terence O'Connor O.S.M.
3111 W. Van Buren
Chicago Ill., 60612.
Vocatus personaliter comparuit coram me infrascripto Bertram F. Griffin sistente in Portlandensi, Archidocesi Portlandensis in Oregon ad hunc actum tantum a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard specialiter delegato, prout ex Eiusdem literis mihi directis et datis sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 praesenti positioni alligandis, M. Nicholas Marusis, qui/ae, delato ei iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tectis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis, fuit per me.....

1. Do you know Rev. Andrew Ronan of the Order of the Servants of Mary, attached to the Sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother in Portland, Oregon?

   Yes.

2. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has with the people. I've never lived with it in the community, I've never been to a Catholic church, but I don't know his ability. Mentally speaking, he is faithful in his duties. He is a good priest. He has a good reputation. He taught in the seminary in Ireland. I would say, off-hand, he looks for counselling. I should say it is more our work rather than the work of the priest.

3. Do you know

   Yes, I do not.

   son of

   living

   at
4. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation which he has.

5. Do you think that he is worthy of belief? Or do you think that he is capable of lying, of bearing false witness and even of perjuring himself?

6. Do you know whether there has ever been any reason for hatred or enmity between and Rev. Andrew Ronan? I know of no reason for enmity or hatred between Rev. Ronan and anyone.
Tunc, acto testi debite perlecto delatoque ei iureiurando de secreto
servando, quod praestitit ut supra, dimissus fuit, et antequam discederet,
in confirmationem praemissorum se subscripsit.

Acta sunt haec per me Bertram F. Griffin a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard
ad hunc actum tantum specialiter delegatum.

L.S.
January 27, 1966

The Most Rev. Edward D. Howard, D.D.
2838 East Burnside, P.O. Box 351
Portland, Oregon 97207

Your Grace,

It's with a very heavy heart that I write this letter to you, fearing that it will mean another cross added to your shoulders - and in the 60th year of your wonderful work on behalf of Christ and the Church.

The day after I was elected Provincial (in June of '65), Fr. Loftus, my predecessor, went through the entire sacerdotal personnel of our Province with me, informing me of all secret social, physical, and moral problems that afflict individual priests. In the course of this meeting he informed of Fr. Ronan's problem.

Since then I've been under the impression that everything was working out for the best, and haven't received a word of accusation against Fr. Ronan - in fact, on the contrary, he's been praised on several occasions for the fine work he was doing.

Your letter arrived about an hour ago, and I went through Fr. Ronan's file. The enclosed photostats were all sealed, and marked "For the Provincial Alone." The copies may not be very good, but I've never run the machine before, and wouldn't entrust the contents to my secretaries. I presume some accusations have been made to you against Fr. Ronan.

I spoke to Fr. Cortney, who was Provincial at the time these records were made, and he believes, if concrete charges have been made against Fr. Ronan, that I should apply to the Sacred Congregation for a decree of laicization. If you concur in this opinion, I'd appreciate your supplying me with whatever information you may have. Last summer, while the General was here, Fr. Victor Leonard, O.S.M., Provincial of the St. Joseph Province, and I requested the laicization of another priest who suffers from a similar problem. Our appeal was refused pending documentation - names, dates, witnesses, and the like - for otherwise the Congregation and the Order could be liable to a defamation of character lawsuit.

Please forgive us for adding this case to your many problems. But I'm sure God will reward you richly for your solicitude and kindness to the unworthy brothers of his Son Jesus.

Hoping to have the pleasure of meeting you on my visit to Portland in February, Your Grace, I remain

Sorrowfully yours in Jesus and Mary,

The Very Rev. Terence M. O'Connor, O.S.M., Prior Provincial
April 3, 2002

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
For More Information, Contact: 
Bud Bunce (503) 233-8373
bbunce@archdpdx.org

This morning a lawsuit was filed against the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon. We believe that plaintiff, John Doe, is the same individual who complained to the Archdiocese in 1966 about Father Andrew Ronan a Servite priest assigned by his community to the Grotto. On hearing plaintiff's allegations, the Archdiocese took swift and decisive action. Judicial proceedings were initiated under Church law. Ronan was laicized in March 1966, and left Portland shortly after. Even the plaintiff does not allege that the Archdiocese of Portland had any prior knowledge of complaints against Ronan. Ronan died ten years ago.

In the interest of accuracy, there has never been a St. Albert's Parish in Portland.

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