



P.O. Box 305,
Joliment, W.A. 6913.
15th February, '96.

Most Rev. M. Malone, D.D.,
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle.

Dear Bishop,

Following on my last letter, written in haste to catch up on the delay in receiving my mail, and observing that you are still prepared to pursue the provisions of Can. 1044 in my regard, with respect, to present what I believe to be an obvious fact are that must convince any reasonable person that, at the time of my Ordination and for a considerable time afterwards, there was no indication that any aberration existed in circumstances that should most certainly have manifested its presence.

I was ordained 5th June '49; five months later, I was Chaplain to nearly 3,000 migrants on the ship "Asturias". Though, as Chaplain I had to contact all families for the purpose of Census, one particular family, **URS6 FAMILY**, became very friendly, as we were placed at the same table for meals. They had one child, UR56, about 8 or 9 years old, a very attractive and lively youngster. This child constantly followed me around the ship, even coming into my Office-Cabin where I had to retire to fill in details of the Census Forms. Yet, never did it occur to me to do anything to that child in any way remotely indecent. In fact, while it may have been somewhat flattering to be so popular, I found the situation a bit ^{of an} embarrassment that she should so continuously wish to be in my company. A couple of years after arriving in

N.S.W., UR56's family invited me to spend a holiday with 'em on a remote sheep-station at Berra-Berra where I stayed for a week or so. Again, it never entered my head to do anything wrong to that child who was then 10 or 11 years old.

That child is now UR56, a happily-married mother and grandmother. She and her husband, UR57, are excellent Catholics and well-known to the Parish Priest. For the next 25 years or so I lost track of UR56's family. Then UR56 sent out my address and invited me to visit her family. I spent a couple of days with them on my way to W.A. at their farm near Narellie, N.S.W., though, since then I haven't been in contact with the family for 6 or 7 years, though I regard them as very genuine friends.

I am quite agreeable for UR56 to be questioned or cross-examined by some responsible person, and I've no hesitation in guaranteeing that she will concur with all I have stated above. In any way, the point of all this is this: if there had been any inbuilt aberration or deviant tendency at the time of my Ordination or shortly afterwards, it would certainly have manifested itself in those circumstances as mentioned above.

The present address of UR56 is:

(UR56's address and phone number)

David M. Alden