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Subject: THE RIGHT REVEREND PETER BALL, (CONTINUED.)

then left the conference to contact the C.I.D. to arrange a meeting between me and the Detective Inspector investigating. Whilst Chris Read was out of the room, Mr. Peak said to Bishop Peter. "If you now admit the offence of Gross Indecency, I think you must submit your resignation to the Archbishop for the See of Gloucester." Peter replied, "Does this mean I will be defrocked?" We explained to him that if the Police were told that he would resign, if cautioned, and agree to leave the Country, he could well visit the Sisters in France. It would get the Press off our backs and it might be a suitable way out of this situation, in which case we are not talking about him being defrocked but resigning from the See of Gloucester and receiving some treatment for the pressures he has been under, and then visiting the Sisters in France. In fact leaving the Country to avoid publicity. A long conversation continued on this theme, during which Peter was agreeing to the idea of resigning from the Diocese and going to France, to stay with Glorious Ascension Sisters, to avoid the publicity and the press.

On Monday, the 25th January, at 9.30 a.m., I met Detective Inspector Murdoch, together with Chris Peak and Chris Read, at the hotel in which I was staying in Gloucester. We discussed the situation at great length, and the Detective Inspector said if he had only realised that Peter would admit the offence and agree to be cautioned it would be a much easier operation as far as he was concerned. He was pleased to meet me, and volunteered that if he had realised that it was

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me who was carrying out the investigation in Sussex he could have saved the County of Gloucester a lot of money, by, (with his tongue in his cheek), allowing me to take statements for him! We had a very friendly and helpful meeting and I formed a definite conclusion that Detective Murdoch, who knows Name Redacted of the Glorious Ascension, and who speaks very highly of the Order, is endeavouring to help as much as he can to avoid any unpleasantness in this investigation. During the course of our talk, however, the D.I., "unofficially," did say that we should not call The Reverend Victor House as a character witness, because his name had now been implicated in the investigation. We talked of his situation, and the D.I. did state that he was going to forward documentation to the Sussex C.I.D. on AN-F11 and on The Reverend House. I persuaded him not to do this, and I assured him that the Bishop of Chichester would deal with this and that I would carry out the investigation professionally and properly, and that there was no need for the Sussex Police to be involved. Detective Inspector Murdoch agreed to this, and said he would give me copies of statements when the Peter Ball investigation was concluded.

We then talked of the possibility of Peter Ball being cautioned, and eventually Detective Inspector Murdoch agreed to recommend this as the first proposal in dealing with the matter. He explained that statements had been obtained from young men, not only in DPA, but also DPA, DPA and DPA, and many other allegations had come to light, which were not mentioned in his previous conversation with

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