

# Certificate of Baptism

I Hereby Certify, that Romanus Hieronymus  
Son } of [redacted] and [redacted]  
Daughter }  
born on the 20th day of September 1908, was baptized  
on the 22 day of November 1908, at the Church of St. Michael  
at St. Michael, Minn. by Rev. J. Mika

Extract from Baptismal Register, page 11 p. 15

} Sponsors, A. Mika

Pastor

Seal

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## Litterae Testimoniales



*Praesentes Inspecturis Salutem in Domino!*

Cum ex praemissa diligenti investigatione Nobis constiterit Dilectum Nobis in Christo  
..... Raimundum Hieronymum Dahlheimer....., ex legitimis natalibus in parocia S.  
..... S. Michaelis..... in loco..... St. Michael, Minn..... ortum, pie  
educatum atque in religione christiana bene instructum, moribus bonis ingenioque praestanti ornatum, honesta  
vita ac fama conditioneque integra commendatum, neque inquisitum aut aliqua censura, irregularitate aliove  
canonico impedimento, quod sciamus, irretitum esse, neque opitulandi parentibus necessitudine gravatum  
existere: Nos per praesentes litteras indubiam fidem facimus et testamur nihil, quantum cognoscere potuimus,  
ex hac parte obstare quominus praefatum D..... Raimundum Hieronymum Dahlheimer..... ut ad  
statum religiosum admittatur commendemus.

In quorum fidem has Testimoniales litteras manu Nostra subscriptas sigilloque Nostro et Secretarii Nostri  
subscriptione munitas expidiri jussimus.

Datum *Sancti Pauli*, ex aedibus Nostris Episcopalibus.

Die *26 Aprilis*, A. D. *1919*

*Augustus Dowbig*  
.....  
*Chalau*  
.....  
Secretarius.

St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud, Minn.  
April 8, 1929.

This is to certify that Raphael Raymond  
Dahlheimer was confirmed at St.  
Augustine's Church, St. Cloud, Minnesota  
on May 22, 1921 by the Rt. Rev. J. F. Busch.

Aug. S. Oussier

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## Litterae Testimoniales



*Praesentes Inspecturis Salutem in Domino!*

Cum ex praemissa diligenti investigatione Nobis constiterit Dilectum Nobis in Christo  
..... Raimundus Hieronymus Dahlheimer ....., qui per ..... 9 circiter ..... annos .....  
in hac Nostra Dioecesi moratus esse noscitur, moribus bonis ingenioque praestanti ornatum, honesta vita ac  
fama conditioneque integra commendatum, neque inquisitum aut aliqua censura, irregularitate aliove canonico  
impedimento, quod sciamus, irretitum esse, neque opitulandi parentibus necessitudine gravatum existere: Nos  
per praesentes litteras indubiam fidem facimus et testamur nihil, quantum cognoscere potuimus, ex hac parte  
obstare quominus praefatum D. .... Raimundum Hieronymum Dahlheimer ..... ut ad  
statum religiosum admittatur commendemus.

In quorum fidem has Testimoniales litteras manu Nostra subscriptas sigilloque Nostro et Secretarii Nostri  
subscriptione munitas expediri iussimus.

Datum *St. Caroli* ....., ex aedibus Nostris Episcopalibus.

Die *20 Junii* ....., A. D. *1929*

*+ Jos. F. Busch*  
*Episcopus.*  
*G. Schubert S. B.*  
*Secretarius.*

## Declaratio ante Professionem Votorum Solemnum Facienda

Petitionem et Testationem a me, infrascripto Fratre Cosma R. Dahlheimer  
alumno Abbatiae S. Iohannis Baptistae, Colleyville, Minn. Ordinis S. Benedicti, die ~~22~~  
mensis Maii anni 1930 ante votorum triennalium professionem factam, intuitu  
instantis professionis votorum solemnum necnon susceptionis ordinum majorum mecum iterum retractans,  
coram Deo denuo obtestor me adhuc in eadem mentis dispositione et voluntatis intentione persistere et  
inde ad vota solemnia nuncupanda necnon ad subdiaconatum recipiendum moveri.

Datum ex Abbatia S. Iohannis Baptistae, Colleyville, Minn.

Die 23 mensis Maii anni 1933

Sig. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer

Haec declaratio die, mense, anno ac loco suprascripto coram me facta est.

Sig. + Maximus Deutsch

Abbas ..... Delegatus Abbatis.

**Declaratio Manu Propria a Candidatis Ante Professionem  
Votorum Solemnium Subscribenda, Juramento  
Coram Superiore Emisso**

(Cf. Instr. S.C. de Relig., nn. 17, 18, 1. Dec. 1931, A.A.S., XXIV, p. 80)

Ego subsignatus Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
alumnus Ordinis S. Benedicti, ex Abbatia S. Joannis Baptistae, Colledgeville, Minn.  
cum petitionem superioribus exhibuerim pro emissione votorum solemnium et recipiendo subdiaconatus  
ordine, diligenter re perpensa coram Deo, juramento interposito, testificor:

1. Nulla me coactione, seu vi, aut nullo impelli timore in emissione votorum solemnium et in recipiendo eodem sacro ordine, sed ipsam sponte exoptare, ac plena liberaque voluntate eadem cum adnexis oneribus amplecti velle.
2. Fateor mihi plene esse cognita cuncta onera ex professione solemnium et ex eodem sacro ordine dimanantia, quae sponte amplector, ac Deo opitulante propono me toto vitae curriculo diligenter servare.
3. Quae castitatis voto ac coelibatus lege praecipuntur, clare me percipere testor, caque integre servare usque ad extremum vitae, Deo adjuvante, firmiter statuo.
4. Denique sincera fide spondeo jugiter me fore, ad normam sacrorum canonum, obsequentissime obtemperaturum iis omnibus quae mihi a Praepositis, juxta Ecclesiae disciplinam, praecipuntur, paratus virtutum exempla, tum opere, cum sermone, aliis praebere, adeo ut tanti officii susceptione retributionem a Deo promissam accipere merear.

Sic testor ac juro, super haec sancta Dei Evangelia, quae manu mea tango.

Datum ex Abbatia S. Joannis Baptistae, Colledgeville, Minnesota.

Die 23 mensis Majis anni 1933

Cosmas Raymondus Dahlheimer

Testor coram Domino, testationem praemissam cum adnexo juramento ante me, loco ac tempore indicato, rite fuisse elatum.

+ Alwinus Deutschendorf

Abbas ..... Delegatus Abbatis

In nomine Domini nostri Jesu Christi. Amen  
Ego Frater Cosmas Raymundus Dahlheimer et  
Sancto Michaeli, archidivocis Sancti Pauli, ad honorem  
Omnipotentis Dei, Beatissimae Virginis Mariae, ac  
Beatissimi Patris nostri Benedicti et, omnium Sanctorum,  
senore praesentium per vota simplicia ad triennium volitura  
promitto stabilitatem et correctionem morum meorum,  
ac obedientiam secundum regulam eiusdem Sancti  
Benedicti et statuta nostrae congregationis, coram Deo  
et Sanctis eius quorum Reliquiae hic in presenti  
ecclesia sunt, simulque in praesentia Reverendissimi  
in Christo Patris ac Domini, Domini Aluini Deutsch,  
huius monasterii Abbatis, et coram Reverendis Patribus  
et Venerabilibus Fratribus hic praesentibus: In nomine  
Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.

In cuius rei testimonium praesentem schedulam  
manu propria scripsi in hoc venerabili loco, Abbatia  
Sancti Johannis Baptistae, anno ab Incarnatione Domini  
millesimo nonagesimo tertio ante diem quintum  
Idus Julias in festo solemnitatis Sanctissimi Patris  
nostri Benedicti



Cosmas Raymundus Dahlheimer  
+ Aluinus OSB Abbas.

In nomine Domini nostri Jesu Christi. Amen.

Ego Sacerdos Cosmas Raymondus Dahlheimer, ex  
Sancto Michaelis, archidiecesi Sancti Pauli, ad honorem  
Omnipotentis Dei, Beatissimae Virginis Mariae, ac  
Beatissimi Patris nostri Benedicti, et omnium Sanctorum,  
tenore presentium per vota sollemnia promitto  
stabilitatem et conversionem morum meorum, ac  
obedientiam secundum regulam ejusdem Sancti  
Benedicti, et statuta nostrae congregationis, coram  
Deo et Sanctis eius, quorum Reliquiae hic in  
praesenti ecclesia sunt, simulque in praesentia  
Reverendissimi in Christo Patris ac Domini, Domini  
Alexis Deutech, hujus monasterii Abbatis, et  
coram Reverendis Patribus et Venerabilibus Sacerdotibus  
hic praesentibus: In nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus  
Sancti. Amen.

In cuius rei testimonium praesentem  
schedulam manu propria scripsi in hoc venerabili  
loco, abbatia Sancti Joannis Baptistae, anno ab  
Incarnatione Domini millesimo nonagesimo tricesimo  
tertio ante diem quintum Idus Julias in festo  
Solemnitatis Sanctissimi Patris nostri Benedicti.

+ Cosmas Raymond Dahlheimer  
+ Alexis Deutech  
Abbas





**Josephus Franciscus Busch**  
**Miseratione Divina et Sanctae Sedis Gratia**  
**Sancti Clodoaldi Episcopus**

Universis et singulis has litteras inspecturis fidem facimus et

testamur Nos die 10<sup>a</sup> mensis Junii anni 1934

in Eccl[esi]a Abbat[is] St. Joannis Baptiste

Dilectum Nobis in Christo

Cosmas Dahlheimer O.S.B.  
Abbat[is] St. Joannis Baptiste  
ad Subdiaconatum

juxta Romani Pontificalis Rubricas et assistente Nobis in hac Sancti Spiritus gratia promovisse et ordinasse.

In cujus rei fidem has testimoniales litteras sigillo Nostro majori insignitas confici jussimus.

Apud Sanctum Clodoaldum,  
die 11<sup>a</sup> mensis Junii anni 1934

+ Jos. F. Busch

Episcopus Sti. Clodoaldi.



**Josephus Franciscus Busch**  
**Miseratione Divina et Sanctae Sedis Gratia**  
**Sancti Clodoaldi Episcopus**

Universis et singulis has litteras inspecturis fidem facimus et  
testamur Nos die 10<sup>a</sup> mensis Junii anni 1935

in ecclesia Abbatia Sti. Saverii Baptista

Dilectum Nobis in Christo

Osman Dahlheimer O.S.B.

ex Abbatia Sti. Saverii Baptista

ad Disconatum

juxta Romani Pontificalis Rubricas et assistente Nobis in hac Sancti  
Spiritus gratia promovisse et ordinasse.

In cujus rei fidem has testimoniales litteras sigillo Nostro  
majori insignitas confici jussimus.

Apud Sanctum Clodoaldum,

die 11<sup>a</sup> mensis Junii anni 1935

+ J. F. Busch

Episcopus Sti. Clodoaldi.



**Josephus Franciscus Busch**  
**Miseratione Divina et Sanctae Sedis Gratia**  
**Sancti Clodoaldi Episcopus**

Universis et singulis has litteras inspecturis fidem facimus et  
testamur Nos die 6<sup>a</sup> mensis Junii anni 1936

in Ecclesia Abbatis S. Joannis Baptista

Dilectum Nobis in Christo

Cosman Dahlheimer O.S.B.

Abbatia S. Joannis Baptista

ad Presbyteratus

juxta Romani Pontificalis Rubricas et assistente Nobis in hac Sancti  
Spiritus gratia promovisse et ordinasse.

In cujus rei fidem has testimoniales litteras sigillo Nostro  
majori insignitas confici jussimus.

Apud Sanctum Clodoaldum,

die 8<sup>a</sup> mensis Junii anni 1936

+ Jos F Busch

Episcopus S. Clodoaldi.

*Winsted May 27 '36*  
Am 6. Juni erfolgt in der St. John's-Abtei in Collegeville die Priesterweihe des hochw. P. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer, O.S.B., von St. Michael. P. Cosmas wird am darauffolgenden Tage, Sonntag, den 7. Juni, in der St. Michaels-Kirche in St. Michael seine Primiz feiern, wobei der hochw. Sr. Pfarrer Wm. Wey von Winsted, ebenfalls ein Sohn der Gemeinde, die Festpredigt halten wird. Nach dem Hochamt werden die Frauen der Gemeinde ein Mittagessen servieren und am Abend findet ein von Mitgliedern der St. Andreas-Gemeinde in Elk River veranstaltetes Theaterstück statt, wobei die St. Michaels-Musikcapelle aufspielen wird. Alle Freunde der St. Michaels-Gemeinde sind herzlich zu der Feier eingeladen.

*Winsted May 27 '36*  
**ANOTHER FIRST MASS AT ST. MICHAEL**

St. Michael, Minn.—The Reverend Cosmas R. Dahlheimer, O.S.B., formerly of St. Michael, Minn., will be ordained at St. John's, Collegeville, Minn., on June 6, and will offer his first holy Mass at St. Michael on Sunday, June 7, at 10 o'clock. Father Wey of Winsted will preach at the first Mass. After the Mass, the ladies of the parish will serve a dinner. In the evening at 8 o'clock, members of the St. Andrew's parish of Elk River will present the comedy "Go Slow Mary" by Lillian Mortimer. Fitting music for the day's celebration will be furnished by the St. Michael's band. A cordial invitation to the celebration in honor of the newly ordained priest is extended to all friends of St. Michael's parish.

**ST. MICHAEL MAN WILL BE ORDAINED AT ABBEY**

*Call Winsted May 31, '36*  
ST. MICHAEL.—The Rev. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer, O.S.B., of St. Michael, will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 6, at St. John's seminary, Collegeville.

On Sunday, June 7, Father Dahlheimer will celebrate his first solemn high Mass in the Church of St. Michael at 10 o'clock. The Rev. William Wey of Winsted will preach the sermon.

After the Mass the women of the parish will serve dinner in the parish hall, with the St. Michael band furnishing the music. In the evening at 8 o'clock members of St. Andrew's parish at Elk River will present the comedy entertainment, "Go Slow Mary."

# FATHER COSMOS HAS FIRST MASS

St. Michael's Newly Or-  
dained Priest Honor-

ed Sunday  
*June 9, 1936*

The first solemn high mass of the newly ordained Rev. Cosmos Dahlheimer, O. S. B., was sung by the young priest Sunday morning in the St. Michael's Catholic church at St. Michael.

While the St. Michael band played a serenade, the clergy marched into the church between two rows of men formed by members of the St. Joseph society. At the foot of the altar the young priest was greeted by a small bride, Alice Zachman, accompanied by Anita Zachman and Jeanette Linnemann as flower girls. After the greeting the young priest blessed the congregation, whereupon the solemn high mass was started.

At the altar Father Cosmos was assisted by his brother, Rev. Hubert Dahlheimer, O. S. B., as presbyter; Rev. Egbert Goeb, O. S. B., as deacon; Rev. Father Schwinn, as subdeacon; and Frater Rombald Bloms, O. S. B., as master of ceremonies. All are former St. Michael boys. Rev. William Wey of Winsted preached the sermon of the day. In the sanctuary were Rev. A. Miks and his assistant, Rev. Julig, Rt. Rev. Cuthbert, O. S. B., of Richardson, N. D., Rev. Fathers Schumacher, Springfield; Rev. William Soulard, Dayton; Rev. Vander Velden, Corcoran; Rev. Heinz, Buffalo; and later in the day other visiting clergy included Rev. Pothman, Albertville; Rev. Trobec, Elk River; Rev. Kaufman, Loretto, Rev. Linus, O. S. B., St. John's university; Rev. Lancelot, O. S. B., St. Paul; and the seminarian, Rev. Mark Otto, Winsted. Sister Clarice, O. S. B., of North Dakota, a sister of Father Cosmos, was also present as were also his parents from Hillman, besides a large number of relatives and friends of the Dahlheimer family from various parts of the state.

The dinner which was served by the women was, as usual, well patronized, and the play, "Go Slow, Mary," given by the St. Andrew Dramatic club in the evening was well attended and greatly enjoyed by all present. The day was a great success for the parish.

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE  
MUNSTER, SASKATCHEWAN

Sept. 22, 1936

My trip to Canada was a pleasant one. Before leaving St. John's Henry Kopman told me to visit with his relatives Mrs. Kunza, in Winnipeg, and I had a genial visit with them on the afternoon of Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. To my surprise I found out that her son had attended St. Peter's in the year 1931 and he well remembered that I had him in typewriting class.

As I stepped off the train at Munster I was warmly received by two of my friends, Mr. Herbert and Emma. At the monastery everyone was cordial and very happy to see me. One thing struck me oddly. They all called me Mr. Raymond. Abbot Severin said that due to the fact that the late P. Cosmas already they would call me Raymond. The water has fairly well agreed with me because I have used it sparingly. When I do crave a good draft of water I fill up with rain water.

My schedule of teaching keeps me busy, and I am thankful for that. At present I have Greek, Latin II, German II, and some. The Rector already proposes to me to take a Literary Society in the monastery. I am to have me for typewriting instructor. However I told him that I am not definitely sure, but I would be glad to take on. In the afternoons Mr. Leonard and I have been getting exercise through a little manual labor. Since the same man is having a room, I will close this letter. Devotedly yours,

September 25, 1936

Rev. Cosmas Raymond Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey, Kuenster, Sask. Canada.

Dear Father Cosmas:

I was pleased to receive your letter and to learn from it that you arrived safe and sound at St. Peter's.

I am happy to know that you received a cordial welcome, and that you feel at home and have so far not suffered any disagreeable effects from drinking Canadian water. You will gradually get used to it.

You certainly have been given quite a teaching load. While I hope you will make yourself as useful as possible, you will also be careful not to overburden yourself; you must keep some time for yourself so that you may advance yourself by reading.

Nothing of importance has happened here since you left. The clerics and novices are getting a drill every day in the recitation of the divine office. I charged Father Godfrey with this task. There has already been considerable improvement. Even if no greater improvement is made, it will be a great advance, if what they have attained is retained. I dare say you found it is easier in a small choir like that of St. Peter's to keep a dignified recitation.

Those that have gone to the various Universities have all taken their departure. Father Emeric landed in Quebec and reports that he is pleased. Father Bede could not get in at John Hopkin's, because their quota was already filled; he is at Notre Dame.

The feast of your holy patron is at hand; even if you are now called Father Raymond, you will not forget that St. Cosmas was given you as a patron when I received you into this community. May he intercede for you and protect you all the days of your life, and may you strive to be as self-sacrificing for God's sake.

Affectionately yours,

## ST. PETER'S ABBEY

MUENSTER, SASKATCHEWAN

November 6, 1936

Dear Father Abbot,

My thanks for your felicitation on the occasion of my nameday are somewhat delayed.

Although I have gone back to my old name, I find it hard to again accustom myself to it. All the monks call me by the name "Raymond", except my two old cronies, Frs. Norbert and Edward, and Fr. Cosmas. The latter, however, calls me microcosm, lest there might be confusion between the two of us, as he avers.

Physically I feel quite tip-top. I have noticed that I feel more fatigued than at home and consequently have to take a frequent siesta. What could cause this tiredness is more than I can diagnose. I think that the change of climate has much to do with this condition and after sometime I will adjust myself. The generally cloudy skies with their depressing and tiring suggestiveness are bound to exercise some influence on a person, who drops into such a changed weather condition.

Now I can fathom the wisdom of that statement which my father has often made, "If you want to build, first dig the well to see whether the water is suitable." Only by using the drinking water sparingly do I fair gastrically well. Sometimes, however, I forget the caution, given by Fr. Subprior in Ascetics Class last year for the spiritual life, which in this instance also runs true in the physical order, "Prudentia est auriga virtutum". The occasional attacks of diarrhea have never been very severe and perhaps with time my system will get used to it.

It seems that winter has definitely taken hold. Someone remarked to me that in Canada the winter is of a semester duration. Since the beginning of the month it has been below zero every morning; the lowest was 13 below. In a spiritual conference yesterday, which had for its theme the necessity of expiation or purgatory, the Abbot gave some very inspiring and uplifting considerations. He said that we should gladly accept mortifications that come from community life or climatic conditions, so that by bearing them in a joyful spirit we may shorten our purgatory.

In a letter that Fr. Abbot received from Fr. William Gehlen, it was indicated that definite and persistent efforts are being made to improve choir recitation at St. John's. The recitation in choir at St. Peter's is slower than at home, as you yourself have had occasion to observe. But despite the fact that they have a very small group in their choir, the pitch has a tendency to drop. I imagine the matter of pitch is a universal ailment in all choir recitation.

Before closing I would like to ask for a favor. A good friend of mine from Cleric days, the former Fr. Martin Sader, lives about 250 miles from here. He wrote to me that periodically he makes a trip to Prince Albert, which is a little over 100 miles from the Abbey. I would like to know whether it would be all right for me to make a trip to Prince Albert on one of these occasions to meet him.

Devotedly yours,

*Cosmas, O.S.B.*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00016



**ST. PETER'S ABBEY**  
MUNSTER, SASKATCHEWAN

Dec. 21, '36

Dear Father Abbot,

Since the O antiphons have already begun, the feast of Christmas is hurriedly approaching. That great feastday on which the Church vividly brings before our minds God's singular manifestation of Love to mankind. The Liturgy with its abundance of varied antiphons wants to arouse us in making a worthy immediate preparation for the coming of the Princeps Pacis.

The Canadian weather has been so mild up to the present that it does not at all bespeak the season of the year. We, however, have had a few days on which the mercury dropped considerably below zero. During that short cold spell my overcoat failed to be an adequate protection against those icy blasts. Consequently the Abbot procured for me a meckinaw heavily lined with sheepskin and topped off with a high fur collar.

On the few cold days we have had, without fail one or the other of the Fathers has challengingly put this query, "How do you like the Canadian winter?" I think that I am taking it as well as any of them. To my great surprise I found that with the inception of cold weather most of them have gone into hibernation. Very few of them take walks and then they wonder why they can't shake off their cold. My prescription has been that they occasionally take a whiff of fresh air.

My daily exercise has mostly consisted in taking a few mile trudge down the railroad track. This is the only thoroughfare that is sure to be open. It is impossible to satisfy my craving for skiing, which had been my chief diversion during the winter months at St. John's. Occasionally one can see a student venture forth across the prairies with a pair of skis, but sliding down the small depressions that mark the local prairies does not hold out much of an attraction.

The Canadian boy is a lover of the outdoor life. In this he sharply contrasts with the American boy, who wants indoor sports. Whether above or below zero the Canadian boy is bound to be found on the hockey rink. It is the Canadian national sport. The Canadian boy knows the hockey stars from Alpha to Omega as well as the American sandlotter knows and idolizes the baseball stars. Some of the Fathers have urged me to skate and play hockey, "When in Canada do as the Canadians do," is their dictum. Although I might do some skating during the coming holidays, I doubt whether I'll ever become enthused over it. As a skater I have always turned out to be a "flop".

Although I have been away from St. John's for some time, I have often thought of the Alma Mater. After having been reared under her roof for so many years, it seems a person forms a sort of attachment which hankers to get back. In a recent talk with Abbot Severin he admitted to me that ever since his departure from St. John's he has always missed the liturgical functions as they are carried out there. Now he would like to have a solemn High Mass on Sundays and Feastdays, and how much he desires to have Vespers sung, but under present circumstances must dispense with them.

Wishing you such a Blessed and peaceful Christmas as Christ came to bring to men of good will, I am  
*Devotedly, Leonard.*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00017

**ST. PETER'S ABBEY**  
MUNSTER, SASKATCHEWAN

Feb. 15, 1937

Dear Father Abbot,

At the beginning of this holy Season of Lent every monk is obliged according to the Holy Rule to present himself to his Superior. Although I have made this Lenten call upon my delegated Superior, nevertheless, I feel that I ought to make some contact, if not personal at least per epistolam, with my own Superior.

Abbot Severin would not permit me to observe the eccl. fast. He thought that in view of my amount of work and somewhat run-down condition I should not fast. I have lost weight since my arrival in Canada. This loss of weight is not due to undernourishing diet, but I would say--it's the water. I have given my system an almost semester tryout and the attacks are worse than they were at first. And this despite the fact that I have used water very sparingly, not having tasted any sometimes for a whole day. Although I enjoy my work, I must say that unless the drinking water becomes a better friend of mine Canadian life does not hold much of an attraction for me.

It seems that a newcomer, before ~~his~~ is acclimatized, becomes the scapegoat for any ailment that may be drifting through the country. Shortly after the beginning of the year my left wrist slowly but determinately began to swell. After a few days the muscles were so cramped that only with a painful effort could I straighten the ailing member. A few days treatment with the hot water bottle effected the desired cure. The doctor said nothing as to what might have caused such a swelling. At present I am under the weather from the flu. I had been in bed a few days with only slight improvement. Last night I was going through a healthy sweat, but on account of my common ailment was compelled to make a visit to the lavatory every few hours. Due to the chilling temperature in that room by morning I had contracted a severe cold over and above the aching joints.

This Canadian weather has been record-making the past few months. Last November we had the warmest November day in 30 years. This month of January was the coldest on record at the Univ. of Sask's weather bureau. The mean average for the month being 17 below zero. Consistently for a month and a half the weather man's good morning was a chilly 30 to 40 below.

With the opening of the second semester at the beginning of this month the Rector requested me to help as Prefect. Mindful, however, that you admonished me not to take so much work as not to have some time for reading I somewhat hesitated. I told him that what the Superior says would be O.K. with me. He said that the Superior had told him to ask me. So I accepted the job feeling convinced <sup>under</sup> such conditions all would be well with you.

Hoping that you as well as the whole community is enjoying good health, I am

Devotedly,

*cosmas, o.s.b.*

February 18, 1937

Rev. Cosmas, Raymond Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey,  
Wenster, Sask. Canada.

Dear Father Cosmas:

I appreciate your having written me at the beginning of Lent so as to keep contact with me, as you say, at least by letter.

I entirely approve Abbot Severin's refusal to let you observe the ecclesiastical fast. I am sure you would not be entirely fit for it, since you had the operation last summer. Besides that, you are in a run-down condition on account of the effect of the Canadian water upon you, and over and above that, you have a considerable amount of work. You would be in danger of a break-down, if you do not nourish yourself properly.

I am sorry that the water has affected you in such an unpleasant way. I hope you will get hardened to it soon, so as to be rid of the annoyance it causes. However, I am pleased to gather from the tone of your letter that you are not a mollycoddle, but bravely endure, without fussing, the daily annoyance and discomfort. I can appreciate that the winter at St. Peter's has not been a glorious time for you.

The month of January was somewhat cold here with a considerable amount of snow - more than we have had in years. But the cold here cannot hold up a candle to what you say you had in Saskatchewan. The last few days have been rather mild with a slight thaw. The general health has been pretty good, all things considered. We did indeed have an epidemic of flu for the past month and more. But the hospital was never filled nor has anyone been seriously ill. More of the community were attacked by the flu than students. Father Mathias has held his place in the hospital longer than anyone else, though several returned to it again and again. His lungs are weak, wherefore Doctor Stangl advised him, a few days ago, to remain in the hospital for another month. Father Christopher is still here and apparently has not made much progress towards recovery. He still complains of stomach trouble, of tremblings and occasional out-breaks of perspiration. Father Wilfrid can walk a little with the aid of crutches, but his arm is still helpless. Unless there is some special reason for his remaining for some time yet in Duluth, I will have him brought here next Monday.

Asking God to bless you in a special way during this Lenten season and to confirm you in the spirit of patience and Christian self-denial, I am

Affectionately yours,

**ST. PETER'S ABBEY**  
MUNSTER, SASKATCHEWAN

March 23, '37

Dear Father Abbot,

Since I am not going to Emmaus today, I think that I could profitably devote some time to correspondence which has been hanging fire.

I enjoyed Holy Week very much, liturgically speaking. Although the external liturgical solemnity during the course of the year is not so much in evidence at the Abbey, we had it in its full splendor during the holy week that has just passed. We had Pontifical services just like at home. Last year I had just returned from the hospital and as a consequence of my stiff neck had to look on from the side lines. This year I had plenty of opportunity for active participation. Never in my life have I done so much singing in such a short period of time. Every night I sang the first lamentation at Tenebrae. On Holy Thursday and Good Friday I was Subdeacon; on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday Deacon. In a smaller community where ministers and good singers are scarce, even mediocrity gets an opportunity to shine.

In going over to the Cathedral we all rode in the episcopal carriage, which consisted of an open sled drawn by a team of black and white nags. Due to the large amount of snow that still covers mother Earth the roads are not passable with cars. We had a few warm days, but, if the cloudy weather continues, the vestiges of winter will hold on for another month.

The students will return on the last of the month to resume class work on the 1st. My Greek class will have their finals on the 24th of April, so that means a little less work for me. I am glad that it is coming for I have lost about 10 lbs. since last September.

Not so long ago I received a somewhat shocking letter from my old friend Brother Cyril Durbin. He wrote that at the beginning of November he received the long awaited reply from Rome. He had been reinstated to the extent of being permitted to offer the holy Sacrifice of the Mass for one year. I was surprised to hear that he, who proved himself to be such a likeable individual while at St. John's, should have erred in the past. He also mentioned in the same letter that he had done all in his power to prevent Fr. Cletus from taking the step that he did. While on this topic I might say that the departure of Fr. Maurus a few months ago has caused quite a scandal among the people in this territory, where both he and the female party were well known.

The community has had tough luck with casualties and illness. Fr. Matthew broke his ankle about four months ago and is still unable to get around without the help of a cane. Fr. Dominic injured his knee and has needed a man from the abbey for the past month. Brother Edmund, one of the printers on the Note, is in the sanatorium at Saskatoon. At the beginning of the semester Anthony Benning left the abbey and his classes had to be divided among different members of the faculty.

I have sufficient Mass intentions to carry me until April 6th. In the past I have always written to Fr. Prior, but I have a presentiment that he might not have returned immediately after Easter as has happened in some of the past years. But if he is back, would you please be so kind as to make mention of it to him. Thank you!

Wishing you, as well as the whole community, who strive to remain with Christ in tentationibus suis, true and lasting Paschal joy, I am,

*Litally in St. Benedict,*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00020

*Rec'd 65 int.  
Apr. 2  
- DR.*

April 28, 1937

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey,  
Muenster, Sask. Canada.

Dear Father Cosmas:

No, I have not forgotten you, though it might appear so to you on account of the long delay in replying to your letter of the 29th ult. I presume you know the reason for my delay: my absence from home from Easter Monday until last Thursday. Since then I have been very busy with accumulated work and Monday afternoon I drove to Hankinson with Fathers Joseph, George and Paulin to attend the golden jubilee celebration of Father Isidore. We got back last evening.

I enjoyed the little details of news and impressions that you gave me in your letter, and I am happy to know that your voice and your services as deacon helped to make the Holy Week services at St. Peter's more inspiring. It may be the last time for many years that you will have had an opportunity to assist at Pontifical services during Holy Week.

Your mention of Mass intentions in your letter caught Father Prior's eye, who opened the letter during my absence. A note on the margin of the letter tells me that he sent you 65. You will therefore not need any for another month.

I don't know why the letter from your old friend, Father Cyril Durbin, should have shocked you. Anybody may slip off the narrow path. You should rather have rejoiced - and no doubt you did - that he managed to climb up again. He is quite happy and very useful to Holy Cross.

Father Isidore is in pretty good condition for his years. Father Roland also was at Hankinson with Fathers Lambert and Edwin. Father Roland's condition has improved; Father Edwin is able to do all his work, though his arm is not entirely recovered from the slight stroke which he had last year about this time. Father Wilfrid told me the other day that he feels he is getting a bit stronger, but his right is still helpless. Father Sebastian said Mass on Easter Sunday; he tried it again on Low Sunday, but could not get through without the help of Father Frank. Father Jerome says there is a steady improvement in his condition. Father Flacid is again attending the community exercises as if nothing had happened to him; also Brother Rupert. Brother Othmar is not quite so well, but he is on his feet.

North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota had a terrible snow storm last Saturday. We suffered from the effects of it in driving to Hankinson. There was no snow fall here, but it has been rather chilly since my return. The grass is green, but leaves and shrubbery do not yet show the effects of spring. I hope that you will experience spring weather before another month passes.

With cordial greetings to you and Father Abbot and the members of the community, I am

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00021

1641 S. Allport  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Father Abbot,

So far I have been enjoying my work at the University. The courses are not too difficult, but the amount of work is abundant. The professor in the Latin composition course picks material for translation from any modern history or story book. In one of the first exercises that I submitted he had a remark to the effect that my paper shows a mastery of syntax, but that it shows a tendency to post-classical or medieval phraseology.

Also I must say that all people at the University treat me very cordially. The profs even address me as Father. I am almost sure that a few other priests are attending here, but do not wear their external insignia. In the Greek class that I attend there is a pupil who always wears a dark suit and comes from Marquette. His external reserve almost makes me believe that he must be a priest, though I would hate to ever question him.

Nothing would be more to my liking than to take both terms of the summer course, but my condition would hardly warrant it. At the

beginning of the term all those who had not been vaccinated against small pox had to submit to such a vaccination. For two weeks I felt feverish with special pain in the eyes. During that period I could with difficulty meet my daily class assignments. Consequently I fell behind in reading up for a term paper in Greek class. The professor told me that he would give me a few extra weeks to finish the paper, since my eyes do not permit too much reading with artificial light.

Yesterday I was over to look for the first time. They are erecting a science hall and the expense will not be too high since it is mostly done by monastery labor. Brother Crocopius is the only bricklayer and Father William, a physician, does the wiring.

Dr. Kasimir is working hard, in fact so hard that he even lost a few pounds. He could lose another 20 without harm. According to him Bohemian is not an easy language, and from what I have heard and seen of it I would agree.

I hope that my decision to discontinue at the conclusion of the first term meets with your approval.

Obediently yours,  
Loewen, S.B.

1641 So. Alford  
Chicago

Dear Father Abbot,

Today I registered at the Unit. All the while I was just floating along amidst a mass of humanity of many colors and creeds, and perhaps many without creeds. Amongst this vast multitude of unknowns I finally spied a smiling face. It was that of a Franciscan priest and needless to say we refreshed ourselves with a short friendly chat.

The registration process lasted well nigh unto three hours. When I finally came to the exit door I sighed a sigh of relief after having gone past desks, clerks, registrars, advisor, Deana, and whatever else belonged to that elaborate process. The two classes that I am taking over the ones that I specified to you before leaving - Plato's Phaedo and a course in Latin composition.

My trip to Chicago was a pleasant one in the company of my confreres Fathers Orlin & Alexander. In the few days that I have resided at the Priory I have met many members of St. Crociguine, and I must say that they have all been very cordial. So far my only objection to life in this big city is the noise. Street cars, trains, busses, and children shouting until midnight have often interrupted my sleep. If I have been awoken from sleep once a night, it was at least 30 times. There is no exchange for the wide open spaces of the country.

Litely in St. Benedict,  
Lorraine, S.B.



July 18, 1940

Reverend Thomas Bahlsinger, O.S.B.  
St. Procopius Priory,  
1441 Algonquin Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Father Thomas:

I thank you for your interesting letter. Your request to discontinue at the end of the first term is herewith granted. I am happy that you managed to hold out for the first term. If your eyes are giving you trouble, it would not be wise to put them to the strain of another term.

I have just written to the Prior and asked him whether he would receive Brother John Fox about three weeks. Brother John would like to learn more about tailoring and has an offer from one of the large tailoring houses in Chicago, of a course of instruction.

Most fervently welcome your coming to St. Peter's several weeks before the opening of the school year, since he just lost Father Casimir by death. A few weeks in the bracing air of Canada will help you to gain strength for entering on the work of the new school year.

Trusting God to bless you, I am

Affectionately yours,

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE  
MUNSTER, SASK.

Sept. 15, '40

Dear Father Abbot,

Yesterday noon I was welcomed to the prairies of Saskatchewan. The monks at the Abbey all gave me a hearty welcome including the inimitable Father Cosmas, who was smeared over with the dust and dirt of the threshing work. The monastery has a week more of threshing to do, with a possible yield of 10,000 bushels of small grain. Not all of this is wheat, but a good part is barley. The latter being a very good feed for hog raising, which seems to be the farms forte as is evidenced by the erection of a new hog barn plus the remodeling of the old one. Since most of the storage space for wheat is filled the government is allowing the farmers a sale of only five bushels of wheat from every acre.

My twelve hour stay in Winnipeg on Friday was surely a pleasurable one. Father Leonard had written to a good friend of his, Mr a Church Goods retailer, to meet me at the arrival of the station. Although he was handicapped in showing me the sites of Winnipeg because his car was out of town, yet he did well in helping me pass the time in an unmonotonous way. The temperature in the city was low enough to warrant the use of a topcoat. When I stepped on the train in St. Cloud, the weather was comfortably warm, but when I left the train in Winnipeg, I could definitely feel that I must have gone north.

A few of the students have already arrived and their lusty voices that can be heard on the monastery level attests to the fact that school days will be here shortly. Classes commence on Wednesday. My schedule of classes is formidable enough with Greek, Latin II, a special Latin, and two religion classes. These two religion classes comprise all the students at school. Over and above this the Rector has already indicated that he would immensely appreciate a lift on the prefecting work. Since I anticipate quite a bit of work in connecting with the effective teaching of those religious courses, I told the Rector that he would have to wait some time before I could tell him how much time I could spare to help on the prefecting staff. The surprising fact to all is that the Applications have shot over the number 60 already, with indications that it will hit perhaps over 70. No dopster around here has been able to give the reason for this phenomenal rise to pre-depression enrollment.

It's the water. It has made some places famous and others not so famous. It is this one disagreeable item that keeps my heart attached to the hills of Collegeville. As a substitute I am drinking more milk, but yet it cannot entirely substitute for water. But then one has to make the best he can of his environment.

Devotedly,

*Cosmas, O.S.B.*

September 23, 1940

Reverend George Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey,  
Monaster, Sask. Canada.

Dear Father Cosmas:

I appreciate the consideration you showed me by writing me so soon after your arrival at St. Peter's. Naturally I am always interested in hearing from my monks when they travel a long distance from the Abbey. I trust I may have a letter from you occasionally - at least two or three times in the course of the year. I am glad that there is at least one thing that is likely to keep you faithful to the some of your profession, though I regret that it is a cause of suffering for you - the water.

You say you felt the change in the weather when you arrived in Winnipeg. We have had delightful weather ever since you left, really a bit too warm for the latter part of September. Last night it thundered for a while, but no rain fell here. Our flower beds are still in fine condition.

I went to Chicago a week ago yesterday in consequence of a report that Father Clotus had hurt his arm and that it might have to be amputated. I hoped to be able to bring back the lost sheep. But I failed; he did not even want to see me. But I entered nevertheless. However, I achieved nothing except an insight into his obstinacy. Pray that the Lord be merciful to him. He will probably not have to undergo amputation.

I expect to bring Father Quentin to Minnesota, but do not yet know when to get to travel with him from New York. The doctor wants him to have a operation. How do I yet definitely know where I shall put him. However, for the present I will put him either to our home hospital or to St. Cloud.

I am glad to hear that St. Peter's has a larger number of students in attendance this year. We had a full and overflowing house, but some have already left. This morning Father once in to tell me that he didn't think he would go on. Things did not seem the same to him this year and he did not feel at home like last year.

I am not yet certain whether I shall come to St. Peter's for the visitation or whether Abbot Martin will take my place. Abbot Vincent wanted to go, but it seems impossible to arrange to hold the visitation before the close of the liturgical year in Chicago. It may be too cold for him then. So it is possible that Abbot Martin and I may come earlier. It would be a pleasure to go there and see you again.

Hoping that you will keep well and enjoy your work as you did the first time you were at St. Peter's, I am - I almost forget - with most cordial good wishes for the feast of your holy patron.

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00027

ST. PETER'S ABBEY  
MUNSTER, SASK.

April 10, 1941

Dear Father Abbot,

The Record that arrived a few days back had a brief notice concerning your return from the Philippines. No doubt you are happy to be home after such a long trip, especially since it was a trip that was not to afford you much relaxation, but, on the contrary, much to be worried over.

The postcard that you sent from Manila on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> arrived in Canada about a month after date of sending. I wish to thank you for your kind concern in me. Our winter has not been severe, but rather long. Around the end of Jan. the thermometer did take a sudden nose dive to 50 1/2 below, but in a few days we had above zero weather again. Cold has never bothered me; heat wears me down much more readily.

Up to a few days ago the ground had still been fairly well covered with snow, although thin in spots. The last few days of King Sol has come forth with real spring-like fortitude thus causing almost all the whiteness to disappear. The condition of travel is such now that it will make it difficult for the people to attend Holy Week services. Sleds cannot be used; autos can't make their way over these wet country roads. When this soil gets wet it is like trying to move in a layer of grease.

Quite a few of the Fathers have gone to do parochial duty, but I was kept at home to help in the Pontifical services. Last Sunday I had my first opportunity to participate in singing the Passion. Mine was the chronista part. Abbot Severin prefers tenor voice to bass. For that reason he has asked me to sing the quartet.

ST. PETER'S ABBEY  
MUNSTER, SASK.

My health has been fairly good, although I must admit that my stomach has been not of the best. After I had been here a few months the same trouble came to me that I experienced 4 yrs. ago — gas on the stomach. Last time I was here I thought it might be due to my physical condition, which had not been too good so shortly after my gaitre operation. As soon as I got back to the States I was no longer troubled. My conclusion is that it must be due to something in the diet. As long as it doesn't get worse there is nothing to be alarmed about. At times it becomes quite disagreeable, especially when one cannot eruct the gas. Then it causes a dull pain in the chest because of the pressure against the heart.

Some months ago I just had to give up drinking the water. Instead I get some at a well in town, but since it is Canadian water it must also be taken with discretion. It seems not to affect some people. At least Father Burdard said that he never experienced any ill effects from the water. Recently I wrote to him asking whether the diet perfectly agreed with him while in Canada. At the same time I told him about my troubles, and he humorously said that he wouldn't know what to do about my gas tank.

To substitute for the water I have presumed to buy some popo, tomato juice, fruit juices, etc. Anything in fact that is wet. To date I have spent about \$2.00. Last fall my Uncle & Godfather died and the relatives have sent me many Mass intentions, up to about \$60.00. I hope my presumed permission was not wrong.

ST. PETER'S ABBEY  
MUNSTER, SASK.

A very good friend of mine, Francis Sadler, lives in Prince Albert. I would like to ask whether I could at some time pay him a visit. The last time I was in Canada I asked for permission to visit him and you granted the permission, but at that time I was suddenly called home. Consequently I didn't get the opportunity to see him.

At this blessed season of the year I wish you, Father Abbot, and my confreres a very happy Yuletide.

Devotedly,

Gasmas, O.S.B.

April 15, 1941

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey  
Muenster, Saskatchewan  
Canada

My dear Father Cosmas:

I wrote you before I received your letter of the 10th inst. I thank you very cordially for this letter, as well as for your good wishes.

I am sorry to learn that your physical condition has not been all that might be desired. I compliment you on the patience with which you have borne the inconveniences caused you by the Canadian water. I am satisfied that you try to seek relief in the way mentioned in your letter. I know that you will be reasonable in your expenditures.

What prompts me to write so early is mainly your request for permission to visit your friend in Prince Albert. Since you have never been there and I wish to show my appreciation of your good will and of the sacrifices that it has prompted you to undergo, I herewith grant the permission, to be made use of after consultation with Abbot Severin, regarding the time when you may leave.

Affectionately yours,

ADjk

ST. PETER'S ABBEY  
MUNSTER, SASK.

May 4, 1941

Dear Father Abbot,

I have at hand the two letters which you wrote to me so shortly after your return from Manila. The promptitude with which you answer letters has somewhat amazed me - something similar to a stimulus and response reaction. I sincerely thank you for the permission that you granted me to visit my friend Francis Sader. My present plan is to make this visit on May 24<sup>th</sup>, a Dominion holiday.

At the present time I wish to know what I am to do during the summer. My desire is to continue the studies that I started last summer. Although classes here run until the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, an earlier departure for me would not affect my classes. The Greek class is already finished, and the religion classes are ordinarily finished off by the beginning of June. The other class, Latin II, could be taken care of by someone else for a few weeks.

Abbot Severin has spoken to me about my school work. He says that it would not cause any inconvenience if I would wish to go to the States for the summer. But he also said that the college would need some help for the next year, since Father Otto is leaving. He, therefore, asked me whether I would be willing to come back for another year. I told him that that rested entirely with you. As far as I am concerned I am willing to finish what I have begun, although it is a physical hardship. If you could say what your intentions are about Canada for next year, it



ST. PETER'S ABBEY  
MUNSTER, SASK.

would be helpful to me. In case you wish that I be here for another year, it would not be necessary for me to pack up my books, winter clothes, and other things not needed for the summer.

Father Otto from Atchison is somewhat interested in the Philippines. He asked me to inquire whether it would be possible to go for only a five year period. His parents are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary in 1946 and he would like to be home for that. He says that he would be willing to work in the Philippines until that year, provided, of course, that Abbot Martin could spare him. I had told Father Otto that he ought to write to you personally, but he thought that it were better that I should make this first contact.

The weather of late has been very spring like, and the good Lord has blessed this dry country with a few good rainfalls. In fact it looks as if the skies are about ready to shed a few tears, in harmony with the liturgical feast - St. Monica.

As my eyes skip across the calendar I am reminded that in a few weeks will be the feast of Blessed Placidia. My sincere good wishes for a blessed feastday and an assurance of my prayers.

Devotedly,  
Cosmas, O.S.B.

May 7, 1941

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey  
Muenster, Saskatchewan

My dear Father Cosmas:

In order to keep up my reputation for promptitude in attending to correspondence with you, I am replying to your letter received this morning without delay.

Abbot Severin had already written me to ask me to let you remain with him for another year. I was reluctant to grant the request, since Fathers Owen and Boniface would like to have you with them in Manila, and I would have been disposed to let you go there if agreeable to you. But I presume Abbot Severin needs you badly; hence, I granted his request to let you remain for another year at St. Peter's. I recognize that it is a sacrifice for you since your health is not too good, the water does not agree with you, and the weather is severe. But you have the proper spirit in you that does not run away from discomfort and sacrifice. God bless you for it and preserve it in you.

I told Abbot Severin that I am willing to let you continue your studies in one of our universities, unless he thought it would be profitable to go to a Canadian university. But please understand that I am quite willing to let you come down to the States and return to Chicago or to some other school that you may prefer. Would you please get into contact with one of them and take the necessary steps to get registered there, unless you prefer that we do that from here, in which case please send the necessary papers or information, unless you think our registrar can attend to all this for you? If you prefer to come down to the States for summer school, it would be just as well to get here in time for the first retreat, which opens in the evening of June the ninth.

Begging God to bless you, I am

Affectionately yours,

jk

ST. PETER'S ABBEY  
MUNSTER, SASK.

Fest of the Ascension

Dear Father Abbot,

Although you gave me the choice of attending any school this summer, I decided that I would return to Chicago. At first I thought it meant travelling quite a distance, but going to a school in Canada means a further travel. I wrote to Father Raymond Koman at the Priory in Chicago, and he says that I am very welcome to stay with them again this summer. And that is another reason why I would like to return to Chicago. To have a good place to stay and especially to be with Benedictine friends is a big item in making summer studying a little more pleasant. I have already taken steps to gain entrance at Chicago U. this summer.

My intentions had been to make the first retreat at St. John's and since you also mentioned that in your last letter, I will be back at St. John's the early part of next month.

Devotedly,

Cosmas, O.S.B.

May 27, 1941

My dear Father Cosmas:

I have noted the contents of your letter written on the feast of the Ascension, and I herewith give it my approval.

We shall therefore be looking for you on or before the day of the opening of our first retreat.

Affectionately yours,

Jk

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Peter's Abbey  
Munster, Saskatchewan

1641 S. Allport  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Father Abbot,

School work is well under way now with two weeks of class work finished. This summer I am taking a full course consisting of 2 subjects. A course in *Isocrates*, one of Athen's venerable and outstanding orators, a course in medieval Latin from the sixth century to the Renaissance, and a course in Greek history, covering from the beginnings of Eastern Mediterranean history to the time of the Macedonian era.

I must say that the load is heavy enough to keep me busy. Especially does the history prof believe in saturating his course with term papers and plenty of reading. Fortunately the Latin course is a snap for me and I am able to do most of the preparation in my long ride home on the street car. The Greek course I also find fairly easy.

The past week a few conferees surprised me with an overnight visit. Fr. Alfred on the final day of June, and Fr. Adlard on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The former was on his way to Pittsfield, the latter on his way to Mpls. for the wedding of his brother.

Chicago is a busy city this summer. Lots of building going on, factories working at full capacity, and the streets seem always to be crowded with immense freight trucks. Anybody is able to get a job, even youngsters in the tens. It is apparent that the wave of prosperity has hit the colored section along Cottage Grove street, for ~~so many~~ many of them smoke a good sized cigar.

Hoping that the feast of Our Holy Founder will be a successful day, I remain

Devotedly,  
Koamas, O.B.

MOST REVEREND  
FRANCIS J. SPELLMAN, D.D.  
MILITARY VICAR

MOST REVEREND  
JOHN F. O'HARA, C.S.C., D.D.  
MILITARY DELEGATE

## Military Ordinariate

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

33 EAST 51ST STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

TELEPHONE PLAZA 3-7303

RIGHT REVEREND  
FRANCIS W. WALSH  
VICAR DELEGATE

REVEREND  
ROBERT E. MCCORMICK, J.C.D.  
CHANCELLOR

December 4, 1941

The Right Reverend  
Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.,  
Abbot, St. John's Abbey

Right Reverend dear Father Abbot:

I deeply appreciate your letter and the kindly spirit you manifest. It encourages me to offer a suggestion. If you see any prospect of offering candidates after Christmas, it might be possible for you to allow them to begin their applications now. Up to the point of actual commission, applications may be withdrawn. The advantage of early applications would be that a certain amount of time would be gained in the process of induction.

I have sent word to Archbishop Caro that you are awaiting his reply. This should come soon. The word went by Archbishop Subercaseaux who was due to arrive in Santiago Monday evening, December 1st.

With renewed thanks and cordial good wishes, I am,

Devotedly yours in Dno.,

*John F. O'Hara C.S.C.*

G:r

January 2, 1942

Most Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.  
33 East 51st Street  
New York City

Most Reverend and dear Bishop,

I deeply regret the delay in answering to your letter of the 4th ult. However, I have been kept so busy with other pressing matters, and until today I have not been certain whom I would be able to send you.

It is a pleasure to be able to inform you that Father Cosmes Dahlheimer, one of my young priests, has offered himself and that I have found it possible to release him from his work of teaching. Father Dahlheimer was ordained in 1936; he was born in 1908. He is a good priest and thoroughly reliable, and I believe he has all the qualities of a good military chaplain.

Would you please have the necessary application letters sent to him and inform him of any other steps that may be necessary?

I realize the great need for Catholic chaplains and wish that I could send you more. But sickness has hit our community hard this present year, and quite a number of my men are helping out in other abbeys and dioceses. I do not feel that I can recall them before the completion of the year.

With the prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

Your Excellency's faithful servant,

Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Abbot

AD:je

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00040



MOST REVEREND  
FRANCIS J. SPELLMAN, D.D.  
MILITARY VICAR

MOST REVEREND  
JOHN F. O'HARA, C.S.C., D.D.  
MILITARY DELEGATE

## Military Ordinariate

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

33 EAST 51ST STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

TELEPHONE PLAZA 9-7985

RIGHT REVEREND  
FRANCIS W. WALSH  
VICAR DELEGATE

REVEREND  
ROBERT E. MCCORMICK, J.C.D.  
CHANCELLOR

January 8th, 1942.

The Right Reverend Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Abbot, St. John's Abbey

Right Reverend dear Father Abbot:

Please pardon the delay in thanking you for your letter of January 2nd. I have had to be out of the city several times.

Your generous gift of Father Cosmas Dahlheimer leaves us deeply indebted to you, the more so when we realize the sacrifice it entails on the part of you and your community. I am sure that he will be a fine addition to the corps of Benedictine chaplains already on duty. We have sent him the necessary forms, and we pray now for his speedy induction into service.

Please do not be too concerned about the abbey's inability to supply further chaplains. We are having a steady flow of applications at present, and it is quite probable that some of your own men in other abbeys and dioceses are enabling other Superiors and Bishops to fill the gaps left by priests they have sent into service. If our need becomes really desperate by the end of the year, it will be reassuring to know that we have some of your fine priests in reserve when it becomes possible for you to recall them.

With renewed thanks and cordial good wishes for the New Year, I am,

Devotedly yours in Dno.,

*John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.*  
JOHN F. O'HARA, C.S.C.

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00041

Midland Army Flying School  
Midland, Texas  
March 14, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

Arrived safe and sound at Midland on Thursday morning March 12<sup>th</sup>, mid lent and I didn't have the opportunity of offering the holy sacrifice on that day. In fact I haven't said Mass since I am here. No equipment has arrived yet for saying Mass, but I contacted Father O'Connell of Midland, who promises to furnish me with temporary equipment. The air field is about 10 m out of the city which makes it difficult to get to the city. The government is tightening up on the use of transport in. It expects officers to take care of their own, especially at a field like this where over half of the personnel are officers. Current plans are to make this one of the outstanding six fields. It is a bombardier school. An ideal location for that kind of a school, since there is so much to destroy.

At present I can already see that my work will be a difficult task. The planes fly seven days a week, and 24 hrs. a day. The purpose is to rush the boys through their course as rapidly

as possible. The night practice is almost more important than the daytime. This being a rapid finishing off school, it will mean that I'll meet boys from various fields. In my two visits to the hospital, I have met a few that have been at Keesler field. One of them knew Chaplain Zellner well.

My set up will be a little tough. There is only one chapel with the Protestant Chaplain being my superior. He is a young man, who has had some experience at another field. In my discussions with him he has given me to understand that he will respect my rights as a Catholic Chaplain.

I expect that my Mass kit will be coming any day. However that is only a miniature outfit and I'm wondering whether you couldn't possibly send me some large altar linens, a few purificators, missals, in fact any linens. Even old ones would look handy here. At every post there should be a Chaplain's fund, but everything is in turmoil here. The field is just in building, and the last thing they bother about is the Chaplain fund. Besides all my requisitions have to be passed through the post Chaplain, and Protestant Chaplains don't understand so matter how considerate they

may be. The altar is 10 ft. long and four feet wide. I would like to furnish it as well as possible for holy Mass.

In travelling south through Kansas and Oklahoma I, a northerner, was quite impressed. The farmers were planting and as I travelled further south the grain was a few inches high. This part of the country is prairie, but contrary to other prairie country the water is good. The sun shines all day, but occasionally the winds are high. People who know this country say that March is the worst wind month.

At present I am quite pressed for time. Besides trying to get used to a new environment, I also must attend an officers school every day from 3 to 5 o'clock. This, however, is only for the duration of two months.

All new personnel must take about 5 different vaccinations, some of them in triple doses. My one arm is quite sore. Perhaps that will prevent me from making left handed gestures in my uniform.

I greet my conferees at home, and closing with a request in prayer, I am

Devotedly  
Loomis, O.B.

March 19, 1942

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Army Flying School  
Midland, Texas

Dear Father Cosmas:

It was a pleasure to get a letter from you so shortly after your arrival in your new field of labor. I regret that you did not find conditions such that you could immediately get down to your priestly work.

I have brought your letter to the attention of our sacristan, Father Christopher, with the request that he supply you with the linens mentioned in your letter, at least to the extent of our possibility. I hope he will not keep you waiting long.

I note that you feel your set-up will be somewhat tough. Oh, I am sure that in the course of time things will adjust themselves so that your life will be pleasant, even though busy. You will, I am sure, be tactful in your dealings with the protestant chaplain, who is your superior; but at the same time I know you will be firm and not sacrifice any rights that seem necessary for the success of your work with which you are charged.

I drove to Superior the day before yesterday and attended the installation of the new Bishop of Superior; I returned on the evening of the seventeenth. Father Bertram had begged me to let him attend; so I took him along as chauffeur, and also three of our seminarians who belong to the Diocese of Superior.

There is nothing else to report just now, except that we have had several inches of snow since you left, but no cold weather.

Bishop Busch will pontificate on the feast of Saint Benedict. May it be a happy day for you and bring you many blessings through the merits and intercession of our holy Father.

Affectionately yours,

jk



MIDLAND, TEXAS

May 2, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

My delay afternoon is generally a time of leisure for me. Since today is a day of general celebration at St. John's, I think I ought to commemorate the day with a letter to you, Father Abbot. First of all accept my congratulations on the 20th anniversary of your blessing and installation as Abbot. The second event, the formal welcome to Bishop Bartholome, I think also means much to St. John's.

Although I have been here nigh unto two months, I must say that it does not seem that long. The Chaplain's day is well filled with a variety of work. My rising time is a little before six with Holy Mass at 6:30. The rest of the day is filled with hospital & guardhouse visits, convert instruction, trying to mother some homeless youngsters, services, and preparation for sermons. The day finishes off around 4 or 5 in the evening. At present I have 5 converts; a sixth one was moved

to another field. One I reached through by daily instruction in three weeks. About 3 weeks before his graduation day he asked whether he could be admitted into the Catholic Church. Upon inquiry I learned that he had never been baptized. Then & there it was determined to make him a child of God before he would leave for combat duty. On the 28th he received the sacrament of regeneration. He confided me very much when, just before starting the morning, he dropped on his knees to make one more devout act of contrition. Two days after his baptism he graduated, came in to thank me sincerely before leaving. I don't know where he is at present.

With my small experience in the army I am becoming more and more convinced that our shipboard educators are doing more harm than any other agency. Young men are eager to do right if only someone would tell them how to do. Many of them have been misinformed and miseducated. My educational institution that teaches solid principles has a great need to fill.

About a week ago a young man wished to speak to me. He had received his education at a secular school. What he had learned didn't



MIDLAND, TEXAS

make sense in his mind. He said that he was more confused than ever. And some young man came back for more last night. Such is the case with many. The young man wants to meet someone that can give him truth. They want it without "ifs", "buts", or "maybes". They want it straight from the shoulder and like the one that tells them to speak with conviction and authority. Some have told me that things they hear and read do not make sense. Such contacts surely are encouraging for a chaplain. There is still hope for this world, if the men of tomorrow will get an action that gives them the right principles to live by.

I was on the verge of organizing a choir, but now I am without an organist. My prospective organist was moved a few days ago. About 20 young men have told me that they are very eager to sing; the most enthusiastic one being a comrade, who had singing in father's church in at Keester field. It



first he didn't care too much a son  
chant, but now he thinks that it is the  
only music that should be sung in  
church.

I also wish to take this occasion to  
thank you for the generous shipment of  
linens, and the ciborium that Father  
Matthew re-filled. The latter comes in  
very handy on Sundays when around  
50 receive communion. On May 6th  
Bishop Sarriga from Corpus Christi, a sub-  
vicar of the Military Ordinary, will visit  
this post.

Respectfully,  
C. Sarriga, O.S.B.

May 4, 1942

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Midland Army Training Flying School  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

I am sending you herewith a little love note from the Maurice I. Rothschild & Co. of Minneapolis. If you cannot take care of this, will you please return it with your O.K. on it?

By the way, I do not recall that I made any arrangement with you regarding your compensation as chaplain. Of course, it was hardly necessary to do so, since you are a faithful monk and therefore know that you are bound by the vow of poverty and should also keep record of your income and expenses. At the meeting which we held recently in Chicago of all the abbots of the country, one of them said that he had required of his Fathers serving as chaplains a monthly statement. It was felt by the abbots that chaplains should be reminded of their duty as monks and urged to make provision so that if anything happens to them, there will be no difficulties arising on account of money matters.

While I do not wish to require of you a monthly statement, I think it would be proper to send me a semi-annual statement, and also whatever balance you may have to spare from the income received. I do not know whether you have opened a bank account, nor whether you have been required to get an auto. If you have a bank account, it would be well to have it a joint account with the Order of St. Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota. Also, it would be well to carry about you written instructions as to who is to be informed and as to what is to take place in case you meet with any accident. Furthermore, I wish you would make it a point to write me at least once in two months, to keep me in touch with your activities.

I took a hurried trip to New York last week, leaving here early Tuesday morning and returning Saturday noon. It was in connection with a proposition which, if it goes through as seems likely, should secure a steady annual income for an indefinite period to the Be-hana Mission.

On my return I found a letter here from Father Roland, saying that he has been told by the doctor that he may return to light parish work. Father Richard is here, living in the room next to Father Xavier, Father Quentin having improved enough to be given a room on the second floor. There is no improvement in the condition of the rest of the invalids; Father Corbinian, you have learned by this time, was found dead in his room, sitting on the floor with his back against the radiator.

Begging the Lord to bless you and your work, I am  
Affectionately yours,

JK

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00050

May 7, 1942

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Midland Army Training Flying School  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

I wrote you on the 4th. This morning I received your letter. There is nothing in it requiring special attention. So I may content myself with a brief acknowledgment and with a word of cordial thanks for your remembering me on last Sunday.

We had our Coadjutor with us. But he did not carry out the full program that we had arranged for him, since his principal objected to it, apparently. There was no Pontifical Mass, though Father Jude tells me that he has it from the Coadjutor's own lips that he would have been pleased to do it for us. He and Bishop Busch arrived at about a quarter to twelve, took dinner with us, attended the reception that we gave them in the auditorium at two o'clock, sat with us for a while after it, and then left for St. Cloud. We presented to the Coadjutor a chrismale (made by Father Baldwin) and one of the crucifixes that we cast here.

We have had a lot of cool days since Sunday. Today it looks more promising. I suppose you are having a pretty hot time down there. I trust the heat will not be too hard on you.

With cordial greetings, I remain

Affectionately yours,

X

May 21, 1942

Reverend Cosmos Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Midland Army Training Flying School  
Midland, Texas

My Dear Father Cosmos:

My cordial thanks, in the first place, for the greeting that you sent me for my birthday. I trust you will utter every day the "God bless my abbot!"

Your letter is very interesting and informative. I can well understand that your expenses are not low but run pretty high and that at the end of the month not a great deal is left of the \$150.56 2/3 that you get per month. Evidently Uncle Sam thinks that his officers should be sparing in their meals, since he allows only \$18.

Do not fear that you will be considered a sort of dandy if you keep your clothes well pressed and everything is spick and span about you. That is one of the things army life should teach a man. My observation has been that not all learn the lesson, but return to "their vomit" after their release from service. I do not fear this greatly in your case, because I think you have had some sense of order drilled into you by your mother, which, unfortunately, does not happen to all boys. I often wish that all of my monks would be spick and span in their appearance and almost immaculately clean and orderly in their rooms. To my mind that is the spirit of our holy Father.

I note that you paid Rothschilds for the clothing that you got from them; also, that you have started a checking account. I hope that you will be able to make the latter a joint account. I would, of course, rather not have you invest in war bonds; but, if the explanation that you are a member of a corporation ~~which~~ invest and that you have no personal money is not sufficient to save you from inconvenience, you may invest for the rest of this year. At the beginning of next year you may bring the matter to my attention again.

I note what you say about your meeting with our Co-adjutor Bishop. I am glad that you have been restraining yourself whenever the talk came up about St. Mary's in St. Cloud, and I trust you will not repeat the remark that the Coadjutor made in your presence in regard to the deal we got in 1937 from Bishop Busch.

begging God to protect and guide you, I am

Affectionately yours,

Midland Army Flying School  
Midland, Texas

July 8, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

Accept my wishes for a very happy feastday on the occasion of the Solemnity of Our Holy Father. Last Sunday I talked at length to the soldiers about St. Benedict, urging them strongly to attend Holy Mass and receive communion if possible.

Some time ago I received your circular letter announcing the retreats for this summer, which letter also mentioned that any one not able to make one of the retreats should inform you. I know that it will be impossible to come to St. John's for my retreat, but have in mind to try some nearby some-district community. Army regulations permit a leave of detached service for chaplains to attend meetings of their church affiliations. The Protestant chaplain a few weeks back attended one such in Houston. I can't see why I shouldn't be able to classify a retreat as a church meeting.

My intentions are to make a retreat at Shessee. Generally military planes fly to Fort Worth on

Sunday afternoons. From there it isn't very far to Shawnee on the fast Rock Island. In absence of six days from this school would save me about \$8.00 in rations, which sum would ~~be~~ pay for a good share of my expenses to Shawnee. I was wondering whether it is custom to give a fee for attending a retreat at a sister monastery.

In my contacts with non-catholic men I have been astonished at their lack of religious principle. Not so long ago I gave some fundamental instructions to a young officer who was marrying a catholic girl. He was a methodist, but rarely went to Sunday school. For him it was sufficient if he would try to keep the ten commandments and pray some prayers. After all religion never offered him very much. I found him very interesting in that he asked lots of questions. He wanted reasons for everything. He was very willing to make the promise that the children are to be reared catholic, if I could tell him why. To him it seemed unconstitutional to sign away ones children. Also he wanted to know where in the Bible mention was made that in case of a mixed marriage the children would have to be reared catholic. Protestantism surely has

given its members a hodge-podge. The success of a religious service is judged by how well the organist played or how well some female sobriest touched off their religious emotionalism. Recently a Hammond organ was installed in the chapel. The "I's & ah's", "how splendid", "Isn't it gorgeous," etc. remarks have surely given me a pain. Even appearances it looks as if the day of salvation arrived with that new organ.

Let me give another edifying experience. About two weeks before his graduation a cadet dropped into my office. He began his college studies at a peculiar university in Ohio, but in a few months he was dropped. Thereupon he attended a Catholic College. (Though not Catholic, he has the highest praise for Catholic colleges. Those professors took a personal interest in him and after finding himself he was a good student. He studied scholastic philosophy and admires it for its logic. In those few weeks he came frequently to discuss philosophy. After his graduation his orders were delayed for a few days. His last Sunday here he dropped in during the afternoon and in a 2 to 3 hour session made a more detailed confession of his life than is even

required of a Catholic to receive absolution. He is leading an edifying life despite his many temptations. He is very much concerned not to offend God. Frequently he wanted me to explain Catholic theology on sin. It was clearly evident to me that his soul was in torment, being in doubt whether his sins are forgiven. He admires the Church's teaching on confession, and her priests. He said that he could never get himself to make a confession to a protestant minister as he could to a Catholic priest. I told him upon his departure the following day - not to give up the thought of the Catholic Church.

My contacts with non-Catholics convince me that their education, which consists of snatches here and there, makes it difficult for them to see the claims of the Catholic Church. An education in philosophy or right thinking is the best preparation for potential converts.

In military life we are not permitted to wear watch chains. That makes the use of a pocket watch difficult, and occasionally it is dropped. A wrist watch would be very handy, but I have been hesitating about investing in one, although I have received gifts amounting to \$30.00. I'll await your advice as to whether I should make the purchase or not.

Devotely,  
Loomas, O.B.



July 13, 1942

Lt. Cosmas Dahlheimer, C.S.B.  
Midland Army Flying School  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas,

It was very good of you to think of us here and to send your greetings and good wishes for the feast of our holy Father. I think it was a happy day for all of us, since the reception of new members, either by solemn vows, triennial vows, or, on the day previous, by the reception of novices gave us a guarantee that our monastic family will continue to exist -- unless what has been happening in Germany should happen to us here also. God grant, through the merits and intercession of our holy Father Benedict, that our monastery may continue, for God's honor and glory, for many centuries as have some European monasteries. I commend you for having spoken to the boys regarding St. Benedict.

The novitiate quarters are quite well filled, there being fifteen novices, eleven of our own plus four from St. Bede's Abbey. Perhaps you are interested in the new members of the family and their monastic names: Frs. Conan McCarthy, Gunther Rollson, Idelic Wix, Bernon Miller, Ronald Roloff, Alexius Forts, Colman Barry, Adalrad Tegala, Harvey Shepherd and Barnabas McClatchey. The Christian Brother whom we accepted for the novitiate did not show up on the first, and it is doubtful whether he will come in the fall or not. Frank Kacmarick also received the habit on the 10th; he received the name of Brother Luke, since St. Luke is the patron of painters, having reputedly painted a picture of Our Lady.

On the 11th it was warm, but fortunately the church had not yet become heated. Eight of our novices pronounced simple vows, plus one Canadian; two Brothers made their perpetual vows, and seven Clerics their solemn vows -- two of these latter were from St. Peter's Abbey. On the 1st, also, two young Brother candidates began their period of postulancy; both appear to be fine young men.

I am glad that you find your work interesting. It must be so, and it is my prayer that your efforts will be productive of much good for the spread of God's kingdom. I have in mind to send a couple more as chaplains to the armed forces, but there are so many uncertainties regarding the needs for next fall that I cannot yet make a decision as to what I shall send.

I herewith grant you the permission to purchase a wrist watch. I would have sent you one, but my supply is almost exhausted and I do not know how good the one I have on hand is. Hence I ask that, when you have purchased a new watch, you return your pocket-watch to me. I think one should be enough for each monk.

Hoping that it does not become too hot for you in Texas and that you continue to enjoy your work, I am

affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00057

Midland Army Flying School  
Midland, Texas

Aug 6, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

By this short note I wish to acknowledge receipt of 30 Mass for the deceased Katherine Harton.

At present there seems to be an epidemic of flu at this field. It hit me yesterday and carried through the night. This morning, however, I feel like my old self again.

The weather continues to be very pleasant. I think this summer has been the most pleasant for me of any. It might be hot in the afternoons but the nights and mornings are cool.

Devotedly,

Lawrence, S. B.

8/10/42

Midland Army Flying School  
Midland, Texas

Sept. 16, 1942

Dear Father Hubert,

Father Hubert has sent me the Mass intentions, which I had asked him to get from my superior. I herewith acknowledge my intentions to fulfill the obligation of offering Holy Mass for these 42 intentions.

It came as a shock to me to hear of Father Bendlin's sudden death. It seems strange to know that a confere who has been so near to me should already have taken his state for all eternity. Whenever our older conferes are called, we feel that the death of an aged person is something inevitable. Perhaps Providence sometimes strikes a little closer to one's own age bracket to remind us that death can be very near.

In the week of August 16<sup>th</sup> I was permitted to be absent from the post, and so I availed myself of the opportunity to attend the retreat at St. Gregory's Abbey. The retreat master, Albert Hammenstake, so thoroughly explained the Benedictine life that it

seemed to be very simple. That shows that the man has spent many years of study, since in almost everything it happens that the person who is able to make a thing clear, is the person who is a master of the topic discussed.

In going to St. Gregory's I flew from Midland to Oklahoma City. Due to a heavy overcast with a ceiling as low as 800 ft. we couldn't get away until 1:00 pm. The pilot set the plane down at Will Rogers field at 3:15 pm., traversing a distance of 365 miles in a little over 2 hrs. In the way we passed through 3 or 4 showers. For a northerner it seemed a little strange to be able to pick ripe peaches from the trees that bear them.

At the time of retreat the community seemed to be a little glum. The Navy had been thinking to take over St. Gregory's College as well as the plant of Oklahoma Baptist University for a site on which to build a large flying school. At the time of my visit I was told that the decision was before the President whether it would be Shawnee or Fort Worth. Since I have heard nothing recently, I take for granted that

a favorable wind might have dispersed the clouds.

The Army encourages officers as also enlisted men to take an occasional leave from duty, considering it good for them to get away from camp a little. During war time it is not possible to get more than a ten day leave at a time. Until December a plane from this field flies to Minneapolis occasionally to be serviced with automatic flight control equipment. If it is possible for me to get away, I was thinking of coming north for a brief visit at the monastery and with my parents. The plane makes the flight in about 7 hrs., but I would have to return by rail. The ride in the plane is free, but the Army will not pay for travel expenses for leaves. However, I received 8 cents a mile upon coming to duty - a total of \$110.00 although the trip actually cost me around \$30.00. Considering that a trip north would hardly be feasible except for this ride by plane, which cuts down on travelling time as well as expense, I hope that my contemplated trip will meet with your approval. At present military personnel is being shifted quite a bit and I can never be sure how long I'll be at this station.

This field is activating two new bombardier schools at Big Springs and San Angelo. Although the construction is more temporary, I wouldn't mind going to either of these fields. The reason being that each of these fields is erecting two chapels. Personal inconvenience would be well repaid in that the Catholic chaplain could have his own chapel. No matter how beautiful the house of worship, it just doesn't seem like a church if the Blessed Sacrament isn't reserved.

The last weeks in August and the first in September were rainy, but since the weather has been excellent - similar to Minnesota Indian summer

Hoping that the occasion presents itself for me to go north, I am

Devotedly,

Lucas, O.S.B.

September 19, 1962

Mr. Thomas Paul Dixon, U.S.A.  
Millard Park Flying School  
Millard, Texas

My dear Father George,

Your letter of the 13th instant  
arrived here yesterday noon. Though I - knowing the  
need for a "No. 1" as well as to the other things, I  
want to answer your letter at least briefly and thank  
you for the acknowledgment of receipt of the News Inter-  
views. I shall ask Father Peter to meet you off in  
the same intention soon.

I was pleased to know that you had  
the opportunity to make your retreat at St. Gregory's under  
Father Albert Hirschenfeld. We too spent our time in studying  
our Holy Rule - it would be an example to all of us, and an  
inspiration to go out to the world. Just a day or so ago I  
got a letter from Aunt Marie by which she tells me that they have  
had decided to build their new St. Gregory, Oklahoma, and that  
St. Gregory's would not therefore be taken over.

It will be a pleasure to have you  
come up for a visit, even if it will only be a short stay.  
You may, therefore, come up whenever the opportunity pre-  
sents itself, and you may spend a few days also with your  
parents.

Hoping to see you soon, I am,  
with every good wish and the prayer of the Holy Mother, God  
bless you and your work,

affectionately yours,

John C.

John C.

Army Air Forces Bombardier School  
Midland, Texas

November 11, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

With this letter I wish to acknowledge receipt of the Mass intentions sent by Father Herbert, and to assure you that I will fulfill the obligation of offering Masses according to those intentions. After my return to Midland I began offering a later Mass on Sundays with very pleasing results. Last Sunday the late Mass was more than well attended. Some of the soldiers even had to stand in the street. This wonderful attendance is making a favorable impression upon many who are not of our faith.

At the present time we are overstocked with personnel. Daily recruits are shipped in and many are also leaving. This field has become a quasi replacement center for the Bombardier Schools in the Gulf Coast Training Center. Dennis Hall, an alumnus of St. John's, was here for about five days and then sent to Brooks' field at San Antonio. Our temporary increase in personnel without doubt has caused the increase in Church attendance.

In October 15<sup>th</sup> an order was issued by the War Department that all Officers must take a minimum



of 5 are a week physical exercise. Most of this exercise consists of organized calisthenics. Although at times one finds it difficult to spare the time, nevertheless the exercise is very wholesome. After a session of such exercise I feel more like sitting down at my desk for some serious work.

Enclosed is a card to which you should affix your signature at the two places checked. When I was at St. John's, I spoke to you about making my checking account a joint account. The bank authorities say that if a corporation has the right of inheriting the procedure must be through the processes of Law. The card after being properly signed must be returned to the files of the bank.

Since a man has not the right to give presents, I would like to ask for permission to do so in a few instances. I would like to send Father Edward Benning a set of cartoons of smokes close to Christmas time. I do not know at that time of the year does the Canadian government allow passage of smokes. I wish to make this present because Father Edward enjoys American smokes. Another gift I would like to send my dear mother. She is very fond of peppermint candy. Both of these items I am able to buy at wholesale prices at our local commissary.

Waiting your decision on this request, I remain  
Devotedly,  
Cormier, S. D.

November 14, 1942

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
AAFBS  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

Your letter arrived this morning, with acknowledgment of receipt of the Mass intentions sent you by Father Hubert and with the card from the Midland Bank, which I am returning to you herewith, with my signature attached at the places indicated. You will note that I am not using the Corporation title, but my own name. Should I pass away, you can have a change made, constituting the Prior as joint depositor.

I dare say that the five hours a week of exercise are burdensome in view of the abundance of your professional work as chaplain. No doubt, however, it will be beneficial to you, not only as regards your own health, but in getting others to do similar work once you have returned to St. John's.

I suppose you know by this time that Father Aidan is also in the service, located at the Cadet Training School at San Antonio. I shall probably give permission before the end of this month to another one of our Fathers to put in his application. But with the snatching of the march on Hitler's forces in North Africa, perhaps the war will come to an end, at least in that part of the world, sooner than has been expected.

I shall be leaving next Tuesday or Wednesday for New York, to attend the golden jubilee of St. Anselm's Church. I expect to be back by the First Sunday of Advent.

I herewith grant you the requested permission for a gift to Father Edward Penning, provided you are not corrupting him thereby, and to your Mother.

I suppose the Advent season will be upon us before I can write you again. May it be rich in blessings for you personally and through your ministry to the young men confided to our care.

Affectionately yours,

Army Air Force Bombardier School  
Midland, Texas

Dec. 20, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

For me this might be the first snowless Christmas. Although nature's dress doesn't in the least suggest the coming of our Redeemer, the daily liturgical prayers make me very conscious of the coming feast. On Christmas day I will have a midnight Mass with a choir. It is the chaplain's concern to make Christmas as beautiful as possible for the young men. That they miss home is evident from the many calls the last few weeks. Although they know that only a small percent of the personnel may go on leave, they think that the chaplain might by some hidden power produce a furlough for them.

Last Friday, Dec. 18th, I took a ride with a plane to San Antonio to see Father Aiden. He was all smiles in receiving his unexpected visitor. He doesn't have that plump appearance. Upon inquiring he said that he has lost 10 lbs which he thinks a good reduction. Apparently he enjoys his work of which there is plenty. So drop into a big air center like San Antonio a person becomes very conscious that the nation is engaged in a gigantic war. When I saw the largeness of the bomb replacement center, I was happy to be a chaplain at a small

field. Such a mass production plant just isn't human. Upon leaving Father didn't bid me a sweet farewell and invited me to come back soon.

Recently I received a letter from the Dubuque Chancery Office requesting a donation toward the Father Schmidt Memorial Chapel Fund. Since the chapel is to have a military flavor, they expect every chaplain to give something. I have not yet sent a donation but wanted to wait until I had written to you. Do you advise me to send a small check for the building of this chapel?

My Mass intentions are sufficient to last me until about the end of the year. If the Abbey has any spare intentions, please send me some. Bishop <sup>91400</sup> ~~91400~~ has asked us to offer a Mass every month for his intention. In that way he wishes to satisfy the Mass obligations that certain chaplains have lost through no fault of their own.

At this blessed season of the year accept my sincerest wishes for a blessed Christmastide.

Devotedly,  
Loaswa, OSB

December 30, 1942

Cosmas Dahlheimer, 1st Lt. Chaplain  
AFCC bombardier school  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

I sent you a card Christmas day, to let you know that I was grateful of you on Christmas day. I am sure that you did not forget so, since you found your letter to reach me just before Christmas.

I hope Christmas day was one of very spiritual comfort for you in your ministry as chaplain for the young fellows that fall under your charge. I suppose quite a number of the poor lads felt a bit blue and homesick. We had only six boys here on Christmas day--three of them Negroes, one Mexican, and the fifth, the lad Imer, whom I suppose you remember. The others all were out, except the old and the sick and the pastor was the organist and the pastor of Des Moines.

I am sure it was a pleasure to have had a visit with father Aidan. You did not tell me how far Aidan is from Midland, and I do, therefore, not know how long you were up in the air. I will look it up afterwards and get an approximate idea of the distance.

The days before Christmas father Aidan was taken to the St. Cloud hospital on account of high blood pressure, which made his doctor fear that there might be a cerebral hemorrhage. I saw him the day before Christmas and he was already somewhat better. Father Jerome is, I suppose, the same as he was some for the past year. Father Robert is recovering slowly from the slight stroke that he suffered two months ago. The other old men are levelled up about the same, except that Father Flacid is becoming increasingly forgetful and restless. Father Quentin has not been very well since his return about three weeks ago from Fergus Falls, where he assisted Father heading since the beginning of September. Apparently it was nothing but a cold, but it made him very weak, and I could not use him for Christmas service.

My cordial thanks to you for the check that you sent me. I shall have the procurator put it to your credit under a new ledger item: Army Chaplains. You may make a donation of two dollars to the Father Schmitt Memorial chapel fund. I think that should be enough. Why should the poor chaplains come across when there are a lot of well to do bargains for whom the chaplains are rendering a service?

I am sending you herewith twenty-five masses for the deceased Leonard and fifteen ad intentionem dentis. I suppose it is not necessary to enclose the check for the stipends, since you have been able to spare money. You may comply with Bishop O'Hara's request to offer one Mass every month for his intention.

It may interest you to know that I had a communication from the Spanish Embassy a few days ago. I asked them to get some information for me

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00069

concerning our men in Manila, through the Spanish Foreign Office inquiry was made, with the result that I got a communication to the effect that not only the Spanish Fathers but also those of other nationalities have been treated kindly by the Japanese and that San Beda was permitted to continue its work, though part of the buildings were taken over for military purposes.

We have had considerable snow so far. This morning the novices have been busy on the walks and our snow plow is running over the roads.

Father Morris went to Berk spelling a few days before Christmas for consultation with a view to getting in as an army chaplain. I do not know the findings, since he went from there to his Christmas assignment in Brooksville.

Wishing God to bless your work during the New Year, I am

Affectionately yours,

Army Air Force Bombardier School  
Midland, Texas

January 5, 1943

Dear Father Abbot,

The 40 Mass intentions that you sent arrived just as I completed my previous allotment. I assure you that I will gladly offer those Masses which you specified.

The holiday season is past with this being the first opportunity to settle back to normal. Already from the beginning of December the chaplain's cares became heavier. Many of the young men were looking forward to their first Christmas away from home. In their heaviness of heart they turned to the chaplain hoping that by some occult powers he might produce a furlough out of a silk hat. But many found out that army regulations are quite inflexible. Many of the more candid young men admit that army discipline is doing them a lot of good; they had seldom felt it before.

Christmas Midnight Mass was jammed - the aisles were filled and they even overflowed into the sanctuary. Colonel Kenny, a non-catholic, second in command at this field, attended the Mass without my knowledge. A few days later some officers were telling me about how highly the Colonel was edified.

by the large attendants, as well as the singing. Many also received the sacraments. On the vigil I heard some confessions in the morning, but from one o'clock until about 10 minutes before midnight there the stream of penitents was continuous. I had to steal out about a half hour for supper.

Christmas Day itself was perfect as to weather. The temperature was around 80 making it very comfortable to be out in shirt sleeve. In general the spirit among the men was excellent with many admitting that Christmas can be nice even away from home. In the hospital I found the men exceptionally joyous, especially those in the surgical ward.

On Christmas eve dinner I was invited together with Father O'Connell to the home of Mr. who is the head of an oil company in Midland. He is well acquainted with all the high army officials of this war, being a classmate of General Eisenhower, both graduated from West Point in 1915. In the last war he was an infantry officer but chose to resign from the army in 1922 with the rank of Lt. Colonel. When a West Pointer gives a dinner, he has everything from 4 to 7.

Wishing you a Blessed New Year. I am

Devotedly,

O'Connell, S. B.



January 12, 1943

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B., 1st Lt. Chap.  
AAFBS  
Midland  
Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

Just a brief note today to acknowledge receipt of your Christmas letter, or rather post-Christmas letter, because you tell us in it how you spent Christmas with your young charges. I posed the letter, so that the Community might know how you fared.

I am rather swamped with work at the present time. You know, financial statements are coming in in the course of this month and must be acknowledged. Besides, there are a number of other matters on my hands, some of them not so pleasant and requiring time.

My motive for writing you today is to send you the enclosed bill. I presume it is o.k. I do not know why you had it sent here. If you want it to be paid from here, you may return it, if you have not enough money on hand.

It will interest you to know that Father Emeric got a telegram yesterday, telling him to report at Harvard Chaplains' School on the 26th of this month.

With cordial greetings and the prayer that God bless you for your work, as also that work, I am

Affectionately yours,

Encl



HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY AIR FORCES BOMBARDIER SCHOOL  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

January 16, 1943

Dear Laverne Abbott,

Your letter with the enclosed bill has been received and promptly taken care of. It was impossible for me to procure the coat in Texas so I asked Rothschild to send me one. Why they forwarded the bill to Lt. John's is more than I know. Perhaps they have my name on record from last March when I made my initial purchase of army clothes from their store.

Enclosed is the Personal Account form submitted to me at the end of the year. The figures on it are as nearly accurate as is possible for me. During the course of the year I kept an account on general expenses, although at times I forgot to make notation at the time of expenditure. The \$1.50 listed as Laundry Expenses was the sum needed to balance the columns. In that sum are included incidentals of every day plus money spent to treat officers at the club or coffee shop, also what I spent on beer. Generally I have a glass of beer in the evening before retiring. The 16.00 for coffee is an approximate guess. It costs 15¢ for fare to and from the buses. That cost is between either

city and the field. It is difficult to keep an account of expenditures, but in general I try to be mindful of my obligation to God as a man. As an officer one cannot be too frugal; some are so prodigal as to spend as fast as they earn.

Recently the Bulletin Board carried a notice as to income tax. It read that remittance should be made to the Internal Revenue Collector of the district in which one has his legal residence. I would think that such a collector resides in St. Louis. Father O'Connell, P. M. S., pastor of Midland, told me that he always sends his money to the motherhouse leaving the payment of income to the procurator. I have decided to do the same thinking it better for him to take care of that. My personnel according to a bulletin is to be taxed on base pay which for me was 1624.90 .67 for nine months and 121.87 for the part month from March 10 to 31.

assumption for a person is 500.00 a month

The surplus income to lobby was sent on three different checks:

Oct. 5	550.00
Dec 21	200.00
Jan 16	300.00

With kindest regards,  
 Sincerely,  
 W. W. W. W.

January 20, 1943

Cosmas R. Dahlheimer, 1st Lieut. Chaplain  
Headquarters, Army Air Forces Bombardier School  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

Just a brief note to acknowledge receipt of your financial statement, with check for surplus salary. You have been very, very good. If all our chaplains succeeded in having such a surplus from their income, it would be well worthwhile--even from the financial point of view, just is, of course, secondary--to have a number of chaplains in the Armed Forces of our country.

I have no fault to find with your account; I recognize that under the circumstances you may have to spend a little more than you would do if you were not an officer. But I know that you are very conscientious in this matter, and I pray that you may continue to render unto the Lord what you promised Him.

I am sorry I cannot give you any information regarding payment of income tax. I have not had the opportunity to study the question and am not in a position, therefore, to decide whether you, as a member of a religious order and under the vow of poverty, are under obligations to pay an income tax. You say that Father O'Connell, pastor of Midland, always sends his money to the mother-house and leaves payment of income tax to the procurator. The question might be whether the procurator does make the payment. Our Fathers have heretofore not paid income tax; whether there is any special law for the military chaplains, I do not know. There is no Commissioner of Internal Revenue in St. Cloud; we belong to the St. Paul district. You might make some further enquiry as to whether you are under obligations; I shall let you know, in case I discover anything.

I hope you are not having the cold weather down in Midland that we have had the past three days. Yesterday we had a maximum of -12 and a minimum of -27.

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00076



HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY AIR FORCES BOMBARDIER SCHOOL  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

March 9, 1943

Dear Father Abbot,

Today is the eve of the penitential season and also the first anniversary of my departure from St. John's for military service. So time it does not seem like a year's time here perhaps to the manifold activities which always made time pass rapidly. Weeks seem like points of time centering around Sunday, at least it seems that I am continually preparing my sermons from the snatches of time taken here and there. During these twelve months I have frequently experienced the consolations of God's grace in my work, but also at times I have longed for the quiet of monastic life.

Sunday night a plane crashed just after the take off killing the four occupants. In looking through their records I found that 2 were Protestants, one no religion, and the other a Catholic. When such sudden death strikes I frequently wonder how well these men are prepared to stand judgment. Such

a sudden death is surely preferable to a lingering one if a person is prepared to meet it at all times.

Several days ago as I was preparing my sermon for Lent I decided to take the Scriptural passage "Unless you shall do penance you shall all likewise perish" as my theme. Not knowing where to locate the verse I asked the Protestant Chaplain's clerk, a devout reader of Scripture, for his concordance. In looking through the index I was unable to find the caption "Penance"; but finally I found it under "Repentance." That was the first time that it dawned upon me that in all the passages of Scripture where our version has "Penance" the Protestant versions have "Repentance." What a different scheme of theology that little change gives!

Later I told my Protestant friend about that, and he remarked that they do not believe in penance. But I told him to read the prophet Jonah to see how those people did penance. So that he was unable to give an answer. Furthermore I remarked that all laws of justice are based on penance. To make my point clear I asked him whether he believed in punishing a man who had committed murder.

The murderer might be as repentant as anyone has ever been, may make him do the penance of life imprisonment. After that he changed the topic. My principle is not to argue religion, but simply to explain our teaching and its reasonableness. On occasion, however, I like to put in a jab, for not infrequently this clerk with a sort of self-righteousness condemns the teaching and laxness of certain Protestant bodies.

Our coldest weather this winter was 9 above and that in the month of January. Not being used to it I must say that it felt quite snappy. The drop to that low was rather sudden lasting only a few days while the wind came from the north. At the beginning of this month the wind again came from the north and we were chilled for a few days. These few "norther" were reminders how cold the northern U. S. is even at this time of the year. Papers from Minnesota give testimony that the weatherman was breaking some long standing records.

Looking ahead about ten days accept my wishes for a blessed fastday on March 21st.

Devotedly,  
Cosmas, M. B.,

March 16, 1943

Chaplain 1st Lieut. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer,  
Headquarters, Army Air Forces Bombardier School,  
Midland, Texas.

My dear Father Cosmas:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of the 9th inst. I enjoyed it on account of its chattiness. Your little experiences as chaplain are a matter of interest. That concerning your contact in reference to a Scriptural passage, with the protestant Chaplain's clerk, might well serve as an incentive on the one hand to read holy Scripture more frequently and on the other to avail oneself, as you did, of an opening to give instruction.

I suppose by this time you have heard that Father Hubert is to go to the Bahama Islands. I think he would indeed have preferred to follow you as a chaplain in our Armed Forces. But just now I had to give attention to Bishop Bernard's request for help in the Bahama Mission. Work there has increased on account of the American workers and soldiers in Nassau, joined with the poor health of some of the Fathers down there and the prospective absence of two of them on scheduled visits up this way. Father Hubert did not hesitate much to express his willingness to go. Of course, I told him the assignment is only a temporary one, lasting until the end of summer at the most, unless he should then want to stay longer. He visited your parents last week and is now here, waiting for his passport.

You say that reports come that this winter was so severe as to break some records. Well, the temperature here did not break any records; we have had lower temperatures in the past years. But there have not in many years been, in my memory, times when there was more snow on the ground than this year. The last we had came yesterday. It was accompanied by a strong wind that had howled already the day before. But today the snow will likely melt somewhat before the day is over, for the sun rose bright.

Thanks for your good wishes for the feast of our holy Father Benedict. I reciprocate most heartily. Our celebration will be less solemn this year on account of the cadets that we have. It will hardly be possible to grant a holiday for them; it may therefore be better to run classes also for the others. But we shall have at least a Solemn High Mass for those of the Community that are not engaged in teaching at the time. I imagine the day will be about the same for you as other days, but I trust that your heart will be with our holy Father and that you will promise him enduring loyalty. May his intercession obtain for you the richest blessing!

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00080





HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY AIR FORCES BOMBARDIER SCHOOL  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

April 20, 1942

Dear Father Abbot,

On April 4<sup>th</sup> a telegram from Washington ordered the Post Chaplain to duty at another station effective immediately. He and I had been together since March 1942 with very agreeable relations. In army regulations the senior chaplain is the Post Chaplain with lot of extra details to tend to. With Chaplain Schoen's departure all that extra duty devolves upon me with a sharp increase in the number of interviews by enlisted personnel who have trouble of an administrative nature. For a week I was alone, but on the 16<sup>th</sup> a new Protestant chaplain arrived from Chaplain's School. His name is C. C. Dollar, a former Congregational minister from Alabama. It seems that his former congregation must have worked him plenty hard; for he got to me to be a man of 50 rather than 34.

Father Emeric and I have had several pleasant visits. The Fathers in this area provide the occasions by inviting us to a dinner. It is the custom of five Pastors to have regular Sunday dinner engagements on a round the lock regularity. Last week it was at Stanton, a small town between Midland and Big Spring. For Easter Sunday Father O'Connell and his Easter assistant, and Father Emeric and I are invited to the home of a good Catholic in the City of Midland.

His Excellency the Bishop of Amarillo has written me that he has procured the services of Rev. Henry Courtney O.S.A. to give Missions to the many army camps throughout the diocese. My hope is that Father Henry will be able to conduct a Mission at this field during the month of May. It will be difficult to get all the men to come since this field operates 24 hrs every day. The Cabot schedule changes from day to day and the Enlisted Men, who service the ships, alternate every week on day or night shifts. Even with these handicaps I am willing to give it a try with

hopes for a favorable outcome.

Many of the Officers make allotments of part of their monthly pay to some bank at home or some relative. I would like to allot part of mine to the Order of St. Benedict, but army regulations will not permit an allotment to a corporation. I have written to the bank at St. Joseph whether it would be possible for me to make an allotment on my savings account with the provision that St. John's could draw the money without consulting me. I think such an allotment would be very wise in the event that I might be moved to overseas duty. Such an order may come any time or it might be months. If the bank at St. Joseph agrees to such an arrangement, would it be favorable to you, Father Abbott?

During Lent the weekly attendance was fairly satisfactory, especially at evening Masses. Three times a week in the evening and three times in the morning. The U.S.O. in Salina gave me 125 of Father Stebbins's Lenten Missals which were all

taken a few weeks after Ash Wednesday.

With best wishes for a blessed Resurrection,  
I remain

Devotedly,

Loosmas, O.B.

St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota  
April 29, 1943

Chaplain Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
AAFBS  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

I was very happy to receive your Easter letter. It was chatty and interesting. Above all, it gave me great pleasure to learn that there is a real fraternal feeling among the priests of your district and that the pastors invite also the chaplains to join them in their gatherings. I am sure that this contact will provide you with much valuable experience.

I am told that The Wanderer carried the news that you have been promoted to Captain. You did not mention this in your letter to me, unless it was implied in the statement that you are now Head Chaplain of the Post. I am too ignorant of military matters to know whether this brought with it automatic promotion to the rank of Captain. However, I congratulate most heartily and am glad to know that besides Father Aubrey we now have also you as a Captain.

Holy Week was a delightful week, not only spiritually but also from the standpoint of the weather. Holy Thursday brought us rain, which made the grass turn green, not with envy but as a natural consequence. The rest of the days were beautiful spring days. It was a bit strenuous for me and also for our Master of Ceremonies. We were both pretty tired in the evening of Easter Sunday. Of those available for service outside, only Father Matthew remained with us. He, too, would have been sent out but had to stay here on account of the cadets. He served as assistant priest on Easter Sunday and did very well.

Father Linus came back from his Easter assignment in Minneapolis with the news that Dr. Richardson of St. Paul wanted him to come back on the following day and submit to an operation for what the Doctor feared was cancer of the stomach. A letter received this morning by Father Walter from Charles Moos says that Dr. Richardson informed him that fortunately it was not a cancerous condition but only an old ulcer. Father Quentin called me up from Hudson, Wisconsin, where he has been assisting the pastor, who broke his ankle. He told me that he had just had a hemorrhage of the lungs. I therefore sent Father Prior to Hudson with instructions to send Father Quentin either here to the Abbey or to a hospital. I suppose he will have to have a complete rest for weeks.

Thanking you for the check which you sent from your savings, and begging God to keep you well and happy, I am

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00085



HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY AIR FORCES BOMBARDIER SCHOOL  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

July 21, 1942

Dear Father Abbot:

Work for the Chaplain has become less intense during the past few months. Every field in this country has received instructions to boil down their personnel to minimum essentials. The purpose behind this order is to release every available man for combat areas.

According to recent instructions the training is to be as nearly as possible to actual combat conditions. In compliance with this order every class must have a week's training in a bivouac on the open prairies of West Texas. The men sleep in pup tents on the hard ground, carrying all combat equipment like steel helmets and gas mask at all times. At any time those on bivouac may be attacked by gas from the air. All administrative officers will be subjected to one of these experiences. According to indications mine will come during the first week in August.

At commencement last Thursday this field

had as guests General Arnold, head of the Air Forces, Chief Marshal Sir John Dill, head of British ground forces, three other Major Generals, and a Brigadier General. The evening before the Cadets of the field put on a bombing exhibit, with bombing at various levels, 500 ft, 4000 ft, 10,000 ft, and 12,000 ft. The General was well pleased to note the accuracy with which the bombs were dropped in and around the target.

When I was home in the early part of June, you mentioned that Father Harold intended to apply for release from the army. It is certain that any priest in the army would rather do his former work than be in the army. Yet the few years of hardship should be gladly endured for the sake of the men in the service. I would not like to see Father Harold quit at this time, for it would mean a defeat in his own life. He might feel that he is not a success, but let him do the best he can. No one is expected to do more than that.

At the beginning of next week the pastor of Stanton and Big Spring are making a trip to Lordsburg, N. Mexico to see the world famous

Karlsbad Caverns. They have invited Father Kemerie and myself to go along. I presume that you have no objection to that travel, which is about 175 miles from here. People in this area have encouraged me to see them while I am so near. It is about a 5-hour trip underground covering over 7 miles.

Almost every Tuesday I have a visit with Father Kemerie at the West Texas clergy dinner. The attendance varies from 4 to 10 priests. Due to rationing it is sometimes difficult for these priests to get supplies for this dinner. We as officers are able at times to get supplies on the field. I wanted to ask you when on leave whether it is all right occasionally to buy these supplies and give it as our contribution to this friendship dinner. At least I feel that it is hardly right to go to the dinner and never contribute, especially since their salary is only a fraction of what we get. And in many instances commodities can be bought at an army exchange for considerably less than in civilian stores.

Father Wilfrid of St. Peter's Abbey graciously



mails me The Prairie Messenger. I noticed in the last issue, that 5 of their men are entering the novitiate this year. The article said nothing about where they will make their novitiate, but since it was around mid July that they were making their retreat I surmise that St. Peter's is having a novitiate of its own. I happen to know the 5 men, having been their teacher, and know them to be excellent young men. If St. Peter's has its own novitiate, I feel confident that they will have more vocations. After all it takes a strong vocation for a young man to decide to go to another country to make his novitiate. As a <sup>Canadian</sup> youngster who has never been far from home, a trip to the States with a stay of years looks like a mighty hurdle. And how solid is a vocation before entering the novitiate? In my own case I must say that it was only decided during my days of noviceship.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Devotedly,

James, OSB

O.S.

At present the army is making a drive to have every man take out insurance up to \$10,000. When the insurance man approached me, I told him that I do not care to carry a policy. In no case does the army allow a corporation as a beneficiary. The dead line for insurance for those on active duty is August 10<sup>th</sup>. A \$10,000 policy means a monthly deduction of over \$8.00 on the pay check. I have never carried any insurance. Do any of our fathers in the army carry government insurance? Do you wish us to carry insurance, and if so, how are we to make out the beneficiary?

James, O.S.

July 24, 1943

Lt. Cosmas Dahlheimer, Chaplain  
Army Air Forces Bombardier School  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas,

It was a pleasure to receive your lengthy letter of the 21st instant. I am sorry that an abundance of work prevents my answering you at similar length. All in all it has been a busy summer, and it appears that it may be sometime yet before a let-up comes.

It appears that Father Harold will have some difficulty in obtaining a release from his work as chaplain, and I have written him that he should go on faithfully with his work meanwhile, and continue to do his work well if his request for release is refused. I am happy to note what you say about any priest in the army preferring to do his former work, and I lay the Lord to keep alive and strong within you the spirit of sacrifice for the welfare of our armed forces.

I am sure that it will please you to know that just yesterday I sent in the names of three to the Military Ordinarate. I proposed that each they will receive their instructions from Bishop O'Hara. Father Bede wants to become an army chaplain; Father Cyrian and Deshaire wish to join the army. I have not yet decided as to whom I will send to replace these men, for I have not had sufficient time to study all our needs for the coming year.

You may go to visit the Dalsted Saverns. While I have heard much of their beauty I have never had an opportunity to see them. You have also my permission to buy whatever supplies you think it best to purchase for the West Texas clergy dinners.

Yes, St. Peter's is beginning their own novitiate this year. Father Basil is now giving them their retreat, and he will also instruct the novice master.

Since it is not possible for a corporation to be made the beneficiary, I prefer that you do not take out any insurance. If you are pressed, you might tell them that such were the instructions of your superior. One or the other of our chaplains has insurance, but it was taken out without my knowledge, and the matter has not yet been settled as to the beneficiary.

With a prayer that God continue to bless you and your work. I am

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00091



HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY AIR FORCES BOMBARDIER SCHOOL  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

August 17, 1943

Dear Father Abbot,

Yesterday I received official Army Orders sending me to Chaplain School for the course opening August 22nd. The orders read that I am to report by the 21st and after completing the course of instruction to return to my proper station.

This orientation course is a great help to a new Chaplain, but by this time I have learned many of the things given in the course by practical experience. During my absence the services at the Post will be attended by the priest in Midland. Since his time is limited, it will mean very little accommodation for the men. Time of Mass for Sunday will have to be changed. This always means that many will miss holy Mass.

Devotedly,  
Cosmas, O.S.B.

- 0139314

Ch. Sch. Harvard U.

Cambridge, Mass.

Aug 29, 1943

Dear Father abbot,

Your recent letter in which my baptismal records were enclosed was forwarded to me from Midland.

Upon coming to Harvard my mind was refreshed with the memories of my novitiate and early clerical days. To my great surprise Fathers Luke of St. Procopius and Philip Boyle of Holy Cross are students in the present course. Out of the 14 in our novitiate class a triumvirate is attending Harvard at present. In addition to these there are 3 other Benedictines - Fathers Adolphus Beecher of Conception, Boniface Moll of Akhison, and a Father from St. Meinrad's. Yesterday I received the notice of the

death of P. Placidus. St. John's lost an outstanding tradition. At least for a while we will miss that venerable beard.

The Chaplain course has been lengthened to 5 wks with graduation on Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.

The horarium is rigorous with emphasis on rushing the entire day. More hours of drill have been added with 2 hrs of it daily and some days 4 hrs. In the present class there are many Lt. Col and even a full Col. These men were Chaplains in the last war.

Heavy assignments compel me to be brief this time.

Devotedly,  
Kozmar, O.S.B.

September 13, 1943

Captain Cosmas Dahlheimer, Chaplain  
Chaplains' School - Harvard University  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Father Cosmas,

Just a brief reply to your letter of the 29th of August, which arrived here during my absence. I left here on the 29th for St. Martin's Abbey to preside at the election of a successor to Abbot Lambert. The election was held on the 1st of this month, and Father Raphael Heider, a nephew of our former Father Jerome, was elected and immediately confirmed. He had been here in our novitiate, though for St. Martin's Abbey, about the year 1920 -- I am confident that he will prove to be a good choice.

After the election I drove to Vancouver, Portland in Oregon, and Bingen to look after our timber interests. Our agent there has not been very prompt or very careful in sending his reports, and I wanted to check up on the logging operations for this year, as well as on the amount cut the past few years. The reports do not jibe too well, but unfortunately we had little time, for I had to be in Nicholson on the 5th of this month to assist at the blessing and installation of Abbot Cuthbert McDonald. From there I went with Abbot Cuthbert of Richardson to St. Meinrad's for a day, since he had never been there. I returned home only last Friday, to find a lot of correspondence that had accumulated. With school starting tomorrow, you can imagine that there is plenty of work to keep me busy.

I merely want to tell you that I was happy to hear that you are enjoying your course at Harvard since you are fortunate in being surrounded by so many of your brethren. Please give those that know me my greetings and best wishes. Our new three chaplains have not yet received their commissions, but I believe that all passed their examinations. Perhaps it will be possible for me to allow one or the other to go yet, but I am not sure, since not all of my problems are yet settled. Father Hubert will be returning from the Bahamas, and I am sending Father Andrew down to take his place -- the latter seems pleased about the appointment, and Father Hubert told me that the climate did not agree with him. I do not yet know what appointment I shall have in store for him. Father Florian was here today to bring Father Method back; the latter had been at Pensford all summer, since Father Florian had an operation in June and has not yet completely recovered. It may be necessary for me to make a change there.

It is almost mail-time, and I would like this to go off today yet. With a prayer that God bless you always, and a request that you remember the community in prayer, I am  
Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00095



HEADQUARTERS  
MIDLAND ARMY AIR FIELD  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

October 5, 1942

Dear Father Abbott,

is the above address indicated & did return  
from Chaplain School to my old pastorate. But since  
I have returned there have been all kinds of signs  
that indicate that my stability will be very  
short lived. Today I received the most positive  
hint that it is time to pack and have all  
things in readiness. Father Patrick Dooney,  
a graduate of the best Chaplain School course, was  
ordered by Headquarters in San Antonio to be my  
successor as Catholic Chaplain at Midland, so  
far I have heard nothing as to my next move,  
but it is likely at any moment.

Today there was a training meeting in Midland  
with a dinner in the Scharbauer Hotel. Father Conner  
also was present. One of the fathers present mentioned  
that by a strange incident this dinner turned  
out to be a farewell banquet for me.



At present I have only about a half dozen Mass  
Intentions, but most likely I will not be at Midland  
by the time a return letter would arrive. If  
since letters are forwarded I request that you  
mail me some intentions. Will let you know  
of my whereabouts as soon as it is feasible.

Dartmouth,  
Coarves, O.S.

P.S. Enclosed a brief financial account from  
Jan 1 - Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>



HEADQUARTERS  
MIDLAND ARMY AIR FIELD  
Office of the Post Chaplain

Midland, Texas

Financial Statement (Jan 1, '43 - Sept. 30, '43)

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Salary	1728.84	Books	76.00
Mass Stipend	145.00	Book + Papers	16.00
Gifts	5.00	Smokes	19.00
	<u>1878.84</u>	Stamps + Stationery	3.00
		Travel	29.00
		Taxi + Bus	38.00
		Laundry	18.70
		Cleaning	46.05
		Meals	302.68
		Bever + Shines	20.00
		Phone + Pictures	4.30
		Telephone	3.10
		Gifts + Treats	68.50
		To Abbey	1100.00
			<u>1744.33</u>
Payments to Abbey:	Mar. 9 - 150.00	On hand	200
	Apr. 20 - 200.00		<u>1944.33</u>
	May 21 - 250.00		
	Oct. 5 500.00	(over)	

The two columns do not balance. It must be due to faulty bookkeeping, because I know that there were many incidents which cannot be recorded. Some of the figures on expenditures are approximations, which are perhaps a little too large. Gifts are listed quite high, but I know that I did spend a good deal on the occasion of my promotion for treats.

This account does not include my expenditures while at Cambridge. Meals were up to  $3.00$  +  $4.00$  per day in restaurants. The reason I did not list it is that I broke about even on my total expenses with the amount I received for travel.

A soldier owes me  $10.00$  but will not be able to pay until toward the end of the month. I have instructed him to send it to Father Fabian, so that he could put it to account for my nephew - Edward Robinson - who is a freshman in High School. Because of a marriage your bad my sister finds it difficult to send him to school. If this gift of  $10.00$  does not meet your approval, it is fine with me. In such case tell Father Fabian to turn the  $10.00$  over to the Monastic account.

Loamas, O.S.B.

October 8, 1943

Chaplain Captain Cosmas Dahlheimer  
AAFBS  
Midland, Texas

My dear Father Cosmas:

Since your letter, dated the 5th but which I received only this morning, indicates that you are expecting to be sent elsewhere, I am replying to your request for Mass intentions without delay. Please take care of 52 for the deceased Francis Koll. I suppose it is not necessary to send you the stipends. But it would be well to note them in your financial statement, but indicated that the stipends were sent to the Abbey.

I thank you ~~have~~ your check of \$500. At the same time I commend you for your contribution to the Abbey funds. It is almost financially more profitable to have an Army Chaplain than a pastor. But not all of the Chaplains have been as generous in their contribution as you. I thank you for your financial statement. I have no fault to find with it. The item for gifts and treats, of course, is somewhat large; but I am sure that you have been as reasonable as circumstances would permit. I approve of the gift that you sent for your nephew.

I did not forget you on the feast of your holy patron. But I did not know where I would reach you on that day, so I asked the Lord to look after you, for your holy patron's sake.

I suppose you know that the other chaplains are still at the same old places, except Father Columban, who is over in the Mojave Desert, and Father Harold, who is at Ft. Stevens in Oregon. Father Cyprian has been assigned to Camp Shelby in Mississippi; Father Casimir is to report at Harvard on November 7; Father Bede received definite notice that he is not acceptable to the Navy and has therefore applied to the Army. Father Oliver is waiting for the word to present himself for physical examination at Ft. Snelling. No news from Manila. The last from home was from the Abbot Primate dated August 3. All was well then; I am a bit apprehensive as to what the situation may be now. The reports from the Fathers in Utah are satisfactory; Father Blase is teaching in the high school in Roosevelt - six hours a day. He has already received four converts.

Please write me as soon as you know what your new assignment is. I shall be leaving here on the 19th inst. with Abbot Cuthbert to make a visitation up at St. Peter's and then of the monasteries west of the Mississippi, together with St. Bede's.

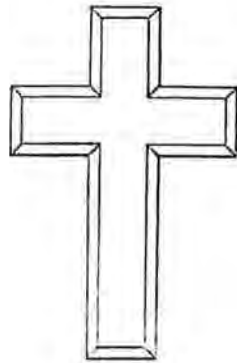
Commending you to the protection of our Blessed Mother and your Guardian Angel, I am

Yours affectionately,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00100

**OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00101**  
**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

THE ARMY AND NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES



In recognition of the patriotic sacrifices of

St. John's Abbey

Collegetown, Minn.

in giving the services of

Cosmas R. Dahlheimer

that he might serve God and Country as a

Chaplain

in the armed forces of the United States

12 October 1943

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. H. ...", positioned above the official title.

CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS  
UNITED STATES ARMY

Oct. 29/43  
I acknowledge receipt of  
this with some lit. of interest.  
Rogue

724<sup>th</sup> Training Sq (ORTC Prov)  
Seymour Johnson Field, N.C.  
10-25-43

Dear Father abbot,

This is a large field, but I am not assigned to the Hdqts of the Training School. I am assigned to the Overseas Replacement Training Group Pool. Some stay for weeks, others for days. Orders come from Hdqts in Washington. Our work at present consists of learning how to pitch pup tents, bivouacs, learn the tricks of camouflage, etc.

At present there are 12 Chaplains in the pool, and the regular post has 11 Chaplains. Some Officer remarked several days ago that this post seems to be "Chaplain happy." Upon reporting a week ago I received a pleasant surprise. Father Adelphense Baechler of Conception had come in a few hours before. He and I are in the same project to be sent overseas. However, since our projects are intended for replacements we might be widely scattered after we get to our destination.

While here we are advised to get our financial matters in order. Several months ago I corresponded with the First State of Bank of St. Joseph relative to having a savings account there which would be the money of St. John's Abbey. I made such an arrangement

because the government does not permit a  
soldier to make an allotment to a Corporation.  
I have made an allotment of \$125.00 from my  
pay to be deposited in the St. Joseph Bond  
effective Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.

With best wishes, I am

Devotedly,

Loewen, G.S.



Order & ans.  
this by V-letter  
11/6/43 Roger

0-439014

A.P.O. 12561 A c/o Postmaster

New York, N. Y.  
10-29-43

Dear Father Abbot,

Here is my new address which will be changed later to a permanent one. At present we have the strictest instruction not to mention anything that might give indications as to our whereabouts.

In an instruction from Bishop O'Hara some time ago we were advised not to take Mass intentions before leaving for overseas. As of this date I have 40 intentions left pro + Francisco Noll. These were given to me while at the Abbey. In case something should happen I wish that you take responsibility for these intentions. I also request

that you send me more intentions  
within about 30 days so that there  
will be no lapse between finishing  
the ones I now have and a new  
allotment.

Should I have any spare money  
I will send it to St. John's by  
Postal Money Order. This order  
will arrive ~~not~~ only after we  
have arrived at our destination.

Devotedly,  
Joannes, OSB.

provided. Use typewriter, make use of space.

C.R. Dahlheimer  
chaplain

(SENDER'S STAMP)

To Abbot Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota  
U.S.A.

From  
C.R. Dahlheimer - Ch  
(Sender's name)  
A.P.O. 12561 A 4 Postmaster  
(Sender's address)  
New York, N. Y.  
11-30-43  
(Date)

North Africa

Dear Father Abbot,

At present I am able to write just a few words to let you know that I am safe and well. Uncle Sam feeds his men well, but living conditions are somewhat primitive. Nights are cold, but we have plenty of B.I. blankets to smother ourselves. I am sure that conditions of this type will make me appreciate all the more the royal luxury of monastic life.

Advent is a time of preparation for the holy feast of Christmas. This year my preparation will be more real, since I am surrounded by a physical environment that must have been true over 1400 years ago in Palestine. Arabs with their heat turbines look very similar to biblical Patriarchs. Seeing these men set on the hill tops watching their small flock is a graphic picture of the shepherds watching their flocks by night. Oranges and tangerines are plentiful. A blessed Christmas to you and all my confreres.

Devotedly,

Cornelius Dahlheimer, O.S.B.

V-MAIL

December 20, 1943

Chaplain 1st Lt. Cosmas E. Dahlheimer  
APO 12561 A  
c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

Yours of November 30 arrived here on the 16th. While what you wrote was little, yet it made us feel that your Christmas will be a little more realistic to you this year than ever before, inasmuch as you will be in the midst of an environment resembling somewhat that in which our Blessed Lord was born. May it help to increase in you the sense of gratitude and love for Him. I dare say you will be able to appreciate better what he must have endured under the primitive conditions of Bethlehem.

Nothing of any great consequence has happened here since you left the U.S. The sick are still sick, though Father Eugene is growing somewhat better; the aged have not grown any younger. But a lot of the young ones have been knocked out by the flu, which has raged here the past two weeks, as it has throughout the country. Father Baldwin seems to have been hit hardest, along with three of the soldier boys. The rest have had rather mild attacks, though about eight clerics are down now. Of the Fathers only Fathers Dominic, James, Paschal and Walbert are down, in addition to Father Baldwin.

Fathers Bede and Oliver will be leaving here after Christmas for Harvard. Father Casimir has finished his work there and been assigned to 1134 Engr. Cmt Group, Camp Young, California. He was to have gone to Camp Bowie, Texas, but got a change of assignment on December 10. Father Columban is probably closer to you than to us; I do not know where he is just now, but apparently he has been sent abroad.

Should you get over to Italy, you will, of course, not forget Fathers Ulric and Michael. The last letter from them was dated July 7. Father Owen sent me a letter dated September 12 from the Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila. After a few bits of information concerning the Spanish Fathers over there, he writes: "All others well--except P. Rojo recovering from general debility and lungs in Baguio. I have been well all through. Weigh 170. Released from Concentration after 4 days in Jan. '42. Here since. Fathers & Bros. teach about 200 graders 1st floor Convento. Being relieved of responsibilities have time to read and study. . Food local but ample. Mass wine and host flour a problem. . Since only one letter permitted, please communicate with parents.."

This will, of course, not reach you for Christmas. But you should receive it some time early in the new year. But you know that I shall remember you in the Christmas services, as, in fact, I remember you every day. May God bless you and His holy Mother keep watch over you.

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00108

A.P.O. 12561A 9/8 PM

New York, N.Y.

12-27-43

North Africa

Dear Father Abbot,

The Christmas holidays are past with so much work that I did not have time to think about home. At the midnight Mass had in the chilly, rainy hills of North Africa really approached the physical environment of the 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas. Whenever we celebrate the sacred mystery in a large, warm, cozy church, it is more difficult to enter into the true poverty of Bethlehem. Where I celebrated, the roof was leaking in a number of places. At the consecration of the Mass Christ was made present on a rough table, so true of the poverty of Christmas. Many of the men had tears in their eyes.

Although it was difficult to preach to them of the beauty of Christmas, I was inspired by the thought that Christ becomes present in the same way on this rough board altar as in the most splendid Cathedral, because Love is in search of human souls wherever they may be. The theme of the sermon was that they, being away from home, are imitating the true Christmas spirit. For on Christmas Christ left his home in order that others might be happy. The soldier overseas has left his home to bring happiness to others. Paradoxical as it may seem, the law of life is that the happiness of another must be purchased with the sacrifice of someone else.

The soldiers' piety in crowding churches and receiving the sacraments is a continual source of edification and admiration to the French Padres. Repeatedly is heard, "Bon exemple des Soldats Americain."

A French Padre in a nearby small village graciously invited me to his skimpy table on Christmas day. For his many kind favors I have given him a present of \$30.00 as a gift from St. John's Abbey. I felt that you would approve, should you see his poverty. He is a Holy Ghost Father.

Wishing you and my Conference a Blessed New Year, I am

Devotedly,

Lochner, O.S.B.

P.S. Please send Mass Intentions

## Financial Report

At the end of Sept I made a report of the first nine months of '43.

Since I have been on the move meals were bought on a meal by meal cash basis<sup>so</sup> that it is difficult to give the expenditures. Before going overseas I spent close to \$100.00 for different items of clothing.

By the end of Sept I sent to the Abbey 1100.00. At port of embarkation I sent 2 Money Orders, one 100.00, the other 50.00. I have made 125.00 allotment per month to the bank of St. Joseph, and enclosed is another Money Order for 100.00.

Total sent to Abbey for 1943:

2 Oct. 1	1100.00
3 Money Orders	250.00
On deposit in bank	250.00
War Bonds	225.00

1825.00

Please inform me when 2 Money Orders have been returned. *Coonan, W.B.*



January 10, 1944

Chaplain Captain Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
APO 12561 A  
c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

I received your beautiful letter the day before yesterday. I posted it for the edification of the Community.

Today I can write you only briefly, as I am leaving this morning for the Visitation at Richardton. I shall be back towards the end of the week for our own Visitation and then leave next week for the Eastern monasteries. I do not expect to be back much before Ash Wednesday. My reason for writing you today is to comply with your request for Mass intentions. Please take care of:

20 pro defto Roberta  
20 pro pluribus deftis  
10 pro Fidelibus deftis  
50 summa

I presume by this time you have received notice of the death of Father Adolph, as also of that of Father Eugene two weeks earlier. The next one is likely to be Father Florian; in fact, Father Prior tells me that the nurse called him last night, thinking that he would pass out. The case seems to be one that is cancer that has spread pretty well over the interior organs.

The day before yesterday I had a Letter from Father Frederic, telling me that Father Leonard's leg is again acting up and that they thought it advisable for him to go to the Mayo Clinic at Rochester. Father Leonard himself did not care to return to Dr. Sullivan of New York, who had been treating his leg for the past two years. Father Constantine also had to go to the hospital in Detroit Lakes, since he was suffering from severe pains in the region of the kidneys. A letter from Father Valerian on the day before yesterday indicated an improvement in his condition to such an extent that the doctor did not think an operation necessary.

I sent Father Hubert to take Father Florian's place in Ponsford; it will not be possible to send anyone to replace Father Leonard in Nassau.

Hoping that you are keeping well, and begging our dear Lord to be your light and strength and comfort, I am

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00113

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address at the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.



Rev. Alvin Deutsch  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville Minnesota  
U.S.A.

C. A. Dahlheimer 44  
A.P.C. 490 76 PM N.Y.  
305 of Service Co.  
5-8-44

India

Dear Father dear,

Thinking it had come to ~~my~~ my attention with my permanent address as indicated above. To date I have received no news since I have left the States but expect back mail to catch me soon. In the last several months I have had no Mass Intimations I take for granted that you have sent some, and as soon as I receive them I will send acknowledgment.

My new assignment places me very close to a fellow Benedictine - a St. John's Benedictine. In the past he has taken care of this group for Catholic services. I have just arrived, but expect to see him in several days.

I am well and healthy - a little mystified as at the mystic East. Greetings to my Congress. Will write more as soon as I get orientated and my bones unshattered.

Devotedly,  
C. A. Dahlheimer, Jr.

March 22, 1944

Chaplain Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
Hq 305 Service Gp  
APO 690  
c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

Father Aubrey sent me a brief note to inform me that you are now his neighbor. The tone of the letter showed that he is most happy because this is so. So am I. I am sure you will be a great comfort to each other and an encouragement when you feel discouraged and glum. I am happy that this does not happen often and that when such a mood comes upon you you will lift up your heart to our blessed Savior with a child-like confidence: Ego vici mundum. With His help you can therefore also overcome.

I received the telegram that you sent me a few days ago to the effect that you had not heard from me in a long while. My last letter to you was dated January 10. I left that morning for Richardson. On my return from the Visitation held there with Abbot Mark, I remained here while the Visitation was conducted by Abbots Mark and Cuthbert. Then I left with Abbot Mark successively for St. Procopius', St. Andrew's, St. Vincent's, St. Mary's, and St. Anselm's. When we had finished the Visitation of these Abbeys, I stopped for a day in New York, and then went to Washington, where I remained two days—just long enough to get a passport, etc., for Nassau. In Nassau I remained fifteen days. I presume you have heard I went down there to help Father Gabriel celebrate the golden jubilee of his ordination and his service in the Bahamas. I got back home on the 11th inst., after an arduous trip. Traveling is not at all pleasant in these days in the United States, and I suppose nowhere on earth at the present time, except possibly for you who travel by ship or airplane.

The Fathers in the Bahamas are all in pretty fair condition. I presume you know that Father Leonard came to Rochester at the end of January on account of a tubercular condition in his leg; he is now here at the Abbey, where he will remain for a while. The doctors think he is cured, but insist that he take care for some months.

Father Jude joins me in wishing you a most blessed Eastertide.

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00115

Hq. 305th Service Group  
A.P.O. 690 % FM, N.Y.  
March 29, 1944

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minn.

Dear Father Abbot,

Finally after 5 months my mail caught up with me, and what a bundle of mail it was. Sufficient to put me in a trance for four hours. I hereby acknowledge receipt of the 50 Mass intentions sent in your letter under date of January 10th. It surely is satisfying again to be assigned to some unit. The life of a casual Officer is very trying at times, shifting from one staging area to another and for the most part living out of a pack. In the army Gyrovagi are always the last to be taken care of. Men travelling under such a shipment have no definite work to do. Consequently they become a problem to themselves, which means that the Chaplain with such a group has some added headaches. Now that it is by I look back upon that time as valuable in gaining some further experience. Coming to India via North Africa was a little more picturesque than some other route.

The supervising Chaplain (Father Nolan) met us a few days after we landed, telling Father Idephonse and myself that he has 3 places that sorely need a Catholic Chaplain. He allowed us to choose what we wanted. Neither of us was very much concerned about what we got, until I made further inquiry. The 305th had been given Catholic Services by the tireless Chaplain Father Zellner, he said. Upon hearing that I told him that I'll take the 305th assignment without further ado. Was Father Aubrey ever surprised when I dropped into his office! He was under the impression that I must be in Italy by this time, so he blurted out, "Is that you, Cosimo?" The shock was almost too much for him. He became pale and started to perspire. After a few minutes he said sceptically, "Let me pinch you to make sure that I am not seeing a vision!"

Father Aubrey has and is doing a grand job. The Tenth Air Force Chaplain avers that he is one of the best Chaplains in the force. All the men like him for the ease with which they can approach him, and yet he does not allow any familiarity. His whole aim in being familiar is to remind them of their obligations towards their <sup>God</sup>. In the course of a conversation he senses the right moment in which to make a remark about how the party concerned ought to go to holy Mass more regularly. I think that the hard experiences of army life have matured Father Aubrey very much. Truly a Confessor non-Pontifex. Providence has dealt kindly with me since I have been in the service. In West Texas I had a Benedictine Confrere nearby; in India Father Aubrey very near, and Father Idephonse not too far. Shortly after my arrival Father Aubrey went on furlough to make a retreat. Upon his return we will work out some schedule whereby we can have a weekly get together.

To a Western mind reared amidst the progress (physical) of the Industrial Revolution, India presents an entirely different world. It is like living among the realities of ancient history--the ancient stick plow, two-wheel ox drawn carts, clever handicrafts, travel by foot, an easy goingness that is conscious that tomorrow is another day. Walls of dwellings are decorated with cow dung patties being dried for fuel. Truly a people living in the simplicity of nature.

Wishing you and my confreres a Blessed Eastertide, I remain

Devotedly,

*Boeman, O.S.B.*

April 12, 1944

Chaplain Captain Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
Eq. 306 Service Group  
APO 690  
c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

Your letter from India traveled very fast. Yours of the 29th arrived here on Holy Saturday. It gave me a great deal of pleasure. I have posted it on the bulletin board, that your brethren may also have the pleasure of your Easter message and share with you the joy you experienced in being so near Father Aubrey. I am sure the Community will also be delighted to learn from you that Father Aubrey is doing such excellent work. I have no doubt that the Lord has been also with you in your work and that your guardian angel has jotted down all the good deeds that you have been performing as chaplain these months that your light may shine before us on the day of judgment.

Our Holy Week ran off as usual. The Clerics, Father Innocent, Father Jude, Father Christopher and I bore the burden of it. Father Sylvester was at home, but had to teach the Army boys. Father Roland joined in pretty well, though he is supposed to be an invalid. He is at home now; he comes to choir except in the morning. At the end of this week I am sending him up to Detroit Lakes to act as chaplain in the Benedictine Sisters hospital until the end of this school year.

I had a letter from most of our Chaplains during the past week. All are well and still at their old places, except Father Oliver, who is at Camp Callan, California, and Father Harold, who is at a hospital in the Hawaiian Islands. They will probably be joined shortly by Fathers Dunstan and Aldrich. Father Dunstan has applied for the Navy; whether he will make it I do not know, but Bishop O'Hara has given his endorsement, though Father Dunstan is already somewhat past the age of Naval Chaplains. I think I shall draw the line at this dozen. It is so hard to know just what we are up to for next year. Father Cyprian writes me that he is to go to the Chaplains' School - somewhere in the U.S. - shortly after Easter.

We will have to run summer school for our seminary and collegian candidates for the priesthood. It will be in session from June 12 to August 12. We have to do this all over the country, in order to preserve the 4-D status of these young men.

Well, I will tell you I am glad you are in India, though I sympathize with you in what being there will mean for you in the way of physical hardships. But it will give you an insight into the Oriental mind and perhaps prove most useful some day for the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00117

We are just slipping into spring - a bit of snow on the ground, here and there, but little will be left by the end of this day.

Begging you to give my greetings and love also to Father Aubrey, I am

Affectionately yours,

Hq 305th Service Group  
APO 690 % Postmaster, N.Y.  
April 27, 1944

Rt. Rev. Aicuin Deutsch, O.S.B.,  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

By now I am well grooved in my new assignment. Besides this Group that I am assigned with I also take care of the Catholic men of another nearby Group. A Catholic Chaplain overseas never wants for plenty activity. On Sundays I have my third Mass at 11:00 for the men of this second group. Father Aubrey has his third Mass at a nearby Station Hospital at the same time, the two of us celebrating our third Mass about 6 miles apart. We always have Sunday dinner together at the Hospital Mess.

My daily Mass is offered in the morning at 6:45. I feel that the men ought to have an opportunity for a prayer meeting at least once a week. Since the men of our group are located in two separate areas, I have Novena service, the Rosary, and the Litany of Our Blessed Lady on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Wednesdays I spend with the other group finishing off the day with the same evening Service for them. Friday afternoons Father Aubrey and I generally go to the neighboring small city to have tea with the three mellow Jesuits residing there. The combined age of these three venerable Ignatians is over the 200 mark.

Last week one of these Jesuits accompanied us in a visit to some Hindu temples and shrines, which are over 2000 years old. These religious monuments are built of native rock with beautiful carvings. In the entire construction of these pagoda shaped fanes not a drop of mortar was used; it is all match block design. What a great amount of meticulous labor and quantity of Rupees were expended on these habitacula for pagan gods of stone! One of the deities was truly a 'Monstrum horrendum informe ingens cui lumen non datum' that might be best classified as a centaurian figure. It is a fat bellied human torso with the head of an elephant and arms that appeared finnish to me. When we arrived at the courtyard in front of one of the temples where the sacrifices are offered, the priest sitting before the entrance said that we may not enter unless we take off our shoes. To which remark our venerable Jesuit fired back, "I will take off my shoes only to Almighty God." With that retort we sought the exit from this campus of superstition.

The message sender just delivered to my desk your letter of March 22nd. With mail having to travel so far it is rather difficult to keep a line on correspondence. I have about 20 Mass intentions on hand, therefore I request that you please send me another sum.

India reminds me a lot of some of the pictures depicted in Bible History texts of Paradise. Animals and men seem to associate in a very domestic manner without the least sign of fear or distrust. Cows wander around aimlessly. Having never been fenced in they seem to be without discipline.

This letter ought to reach you in time to fulfill my Easter duty. Also the 19th of May is just around the corner. My best wishes for a Blessed name-day.

Devotedly,

*Loannos, O.S.B.*

May 22, 1944

Captain Cosmas R. Dahlheimer 0439014  
Hq 305 Service Group  
APO 690, c/o Postmaster, N.Y.  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

I would have written you before this in response to your letter of the 27th. But I have been very busy these last weeks. I was down to Madison for a gathering of men from colleges and universities of the North Central States; again down to the University of Minnesota last Saturday for a meeting of the Minnesota Colleges; last evening in St. Cloud for a meeting of the Catholic Women's Missionary Association. At Madison I found Father Vincent in good condition. He will come home for the retreat, but then return to Madison to continue his work for the doctorate, which he hopes to obtain next year.

I have had quite a mass of correspondence lately and was just a bit pessimistic over it. But Father John came home from the Catholic University on the 19th and is willing to help. I shall now have two secretaries until I send Father Jude away for a change. I have been working him pretty hard. While he does not complain, I think he needs a rest or he will crack up. I dictated quite a bunch of letters to Father John yesterday, which he is attending to now while I am dictating to Father Jude.

I understand Father Benjamin is sending a monthly Abbey chronicle to all our chaplains. Hence I infer that you are kept pretty well occurrent of the news. I have therefore not much to give you at the present time. The latest is that Brother Mark has been laid up for several weeks with a bad leg. Dr. Stangl punctured it last week, and apparently it is improving. But the bad piece of news is that Father Charles is down with a heart condition, which probably means the end of his pastoral activity, though I hope not yet of his life. Father Romuald will be coming on these days for the First Mass of his brother, Father John. I shall be keeping him at home, since he has had a few attacks in the course of the last few months. Father Jordan will also come for the ordination and First Mass of his brother, Father Bartholomew of Assumption Abbey. Father Alto will be up in time for ordinations here on June 4--Fathers Benedict, Raphael and George being ordained. Father Benedict will say his First Mass here at the Abbey, since he has no one but his mother close enough to be interested, and she would rather visit here than have him celebrate in Brooklyn, where he is practically a stranger.

Your little word pictures of India are full of meaning. May it please the Lord to bring better days to that poor country. I think I mentioned to you that the Vicar Apostolic of Ranchi, Bishop Sevrin, invited us to make an establishment in his district. If you get a chance, I dare say it would be a pleasure to him if you were to call and introduce yourself--both you and Father Aubrey.

I shall be driving up to see Father Charles tomorrow. I am going to try to clear my desk of correspondence as far as possible. I shall then leave with a light heart. I shall therefore bring this to a close, with an earnest prayer that our blessed Lord send His Holy Spirit upon you with a rich abundance of His gifts - a prayer in which Father Jude joins me.

By the way, I am enclosing a copy of the instructions that I am sending to all our chaplains. I know you will not find anything therein requested difficult; I think you have already complied with all the items.

Affectionately yours,

P.S. I am herewith enclosing 50 Masses ad intentionem dantis.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00120



Hq 305th Service Group  
APO 690, % Postmaster, N.Y.  
June 22, 1944

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

Your letter and Mass Intentions were gladly received. I immediately request another batch of intentions, if available, since it takes a good time for correspondence to travel thither and back. Before these Intentions came I requested 20 intentions from Bishop Sullivan of Patna, telling him to apply the stipends for a worthy Missionary cause.

The Instruction sheet directed to the Chaplains from St. John's Abbey is printed proof that you are solicitous for us, who have temporarily weighed anchor from the peace, quiet, and safety of the monastic harbor. Confreres have written me that you frequently remember the Chaplains in public prayer; a favor and help for which we are indeed grateful. Not so long ago I wrote to some Confrere that if the Monks in the parish are called expositi, the Khakified ones might rightly be labelled expositissimi.

Point One directs us to beg God daily lest we be forgetful of our profession. Although I have not done so every day, I must say that the good Lord has kept me homesick for the monastery. Frequently my thoughts turn to St. John's with the hope that the years of separation might not be too many. The Sixth Point deals with the matter of bank account. Before going overseas I made an allotment of \$125.00 a month of my pay to the First State Bank of St. Joseph. Since these allotments cannot be made to a Corporation, I instructed the cashier of the Bank that this money may be drawn and used by the Order of St. Benedict without consulting me. To change now to the American National Bank of St. Cloud is a very difficult matter. All allotments of pay must go through the allotting agency at Newark. This is a matter of much paper work, and many times it results in such confusion that the allotment fails to come through for months. My suggestion would be that the Procurator speak with the Bank at St. Joseph how my present allotment might be made a joint deposit.

To date I have not sent a monthly report as the last point in the Instruction requests. At Chaplains' School the Chaplains are verbally exhorted to keep in contact with their civilian Churches and to give them some glimpse of the work that they are doing. On entering the Service I went directly from the classroom to West Texas, not passing through the gate of enlightenment until my 17th month of service. Since you would not have a complete record, I thought it best to save my personal file which contains a monthly report to the Chief of Chaplains and the one to the Military Ordinariate to be turned over to you or the Archives at the end of the war. I couldn't follow the proverbial exhortation "Well begun is half done", so I'll do the next best by following the sage's advice who said "All's well that ends well".

My greatest affliction at present is prickly heat caused by excessive sweating and friction of the clothing. It becomes very irritating when wearing the vestments because not even the slightest breeze can get to the body. I have adopted a sort of a priori mental attitude that I will be miserable for the next three months.

Father Aubrey and I had a few day visit with the Jesuits of Patna. One afternoon we spent with Father Sontag at his Mission. With us was also another

American Jesuit from Boston College, who is at present a Chaplain in India. Before leaving the Jesuit Chaplain handed Father Sontag a 100 Rupee note (about \$30.00). Not wishing to be outdone in generosity Father Aubrey and I did likewise, for we know that Father Sontag will spend those Rupees well. Father Sontag mildly protested that he hardly expects that Benedictines to be so generous. Father Aubrey made answer that if you were here you would agree to this donation. I said that this was after all very little for all the advertising that he and the Jesuits do for St. John's. Father Loesch, who had driven us to the Mission, asked, "What do you mean by saying that the Jesuits advertise St. John's?" I replied, "Everyone puts S. J. behind his name." Father Loesch and Sontag averred that they were happy to know that those two letters stand for two things that are near and dear to them.

May the Feast of Our Holy Father be a great and festive occasion for you and the Community. I will be present in spirit.

Devotedly,

*Loesch, O.S.B.*

July 10, 1944

Captain Cosmas Dahlheimer, Chaplain  
Hq 305 th Service Group  
APO 690, % Postmaster  
New York City

My dear Father Cosmas,

Your letter of the 22nd of June arrived here this morning. I am replying immediately, though briefly, since you asked for Mass intentions, and both Father John and I are busy in view of tomorrow's feast. Please take care of

fifty (50) pro def.

I am glad you had a pleasant visit with Fathers Sontag and Loesch, and I approve entirely of the donation that you made to them. I ought to write him a few lines, but always have other work more pressing.

I sympathize with you in the suffering that comes to you from prickly heat; I know it is not at all pleasant. May I suggest that you offer it, as a victim soul, for our erring brethren? I had a letter the day before yesterday from Father Marcel in which he tells me how he suffers from the degrading surroundings and immorality at Wilmar. And begs me to secure his release. Perhaps your sufferings offered in union with our Blessed Lord may secure for him the grace of a change of heart. And please don't forget Fathers Valentine and Cletus; no word from them.

Father Clarus has suffered greatly from colitis and insect pests down in Mexico; he is now at the University of Mexico. Father Romuald is back from New York to stay here. Father Roland came today to see Doctor Wenner on account of his throat; he was ordered to the hospital in St. Cloud. He says that Father Charles' heart is showing no improvement. Father Meinrad, too, appears to be on his last legs. Father Felix is but skin and bones and trembles terribly with the palsy. Remember them all, as I do all of you chaplains more than once every day. Father Hubert is going back to the Bahamas some time this month; he indicated that he would rather like to go back. Father George will go down with him.

Thanking you for your good wishes for the feast of our holy Father, and promising a special memento, in which Father John will join me, I am

affectionately yours,

Hq. 305th Service Group  
APO 690 % Postmaster, N.Y.  
August 2, 1944

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

Thank you for the high priority you gave me in writing a letter on the 10th of July, a day undoubtedly very busy with the preparations of the morrow's great Feast. I hereby acknowledge receipt of the 50 Mass intentions pro def. . . . and my intention to absolve that obligation. The present tempo of the war has lifted the morale of the G. I. immeasurably. When I first came into this theatre, the favorite song was "Golden Gate in 48" executed in a melody similar to the Danse Macabre. Now it has changed to "Home and Alive in 45" done in the best of Sunday melody that would suggest Strauss in his spritliest step.

India moves along at its eternal pace, no change. At present there is lots of rural activity. With the coming of the monsoons the Indians have raised from their haunches and gone to work the rice paddies. The pick like plow is dragged through the heavy mud flooded with several feet of water at a laborious pace. It is evident to me why the ox or the water buffalo is the best animal for this task. This animal never becomes excited in such a smeary surrounding, in fact the water buffalo delights in it. At times the buffalo will take time out for refreshment by lying down in the soup.

Monsoon time is frog time. In fact they are in plague proportions so characteristic of all Indian life where the species of nature are unmolested, unhunted, and never frustrated. At dusk begin their heavy droning chorus which is so conducive to sleep, the bass section predominates. I am sure this nightly chorus of brek-ke-kekex koax would have regaled the spirit of Aristophanes.

By this time you are most likely aware that Army Orders have dropped the sword of separation between Father Aubrey and myself. I miss him immensely. The companionship of even one Confrere, who has the same training and ideals, is a great aid in killing those Rhapsodies in Blue, which come over a person betimes in this lone battle of the spirit. Here are no protecting monastic walls, the buoyant examples of virtuous monks is missing, even the last reminder of monkdom and the priesthood--the garb and Roman collar--are seldom donned. Perhaps I ought to live more in the spirit of our Father Meinrad, whom I have often heard saying, "Deus providebit."

For a second reason I did not like to see Father Aubrey leave this area. Besides my own work I also fell heir to his. The sorry part is that some units must go without Sunday Mass; for even an army chaplain may not celebrate more than 3 times a Sabbath. The mileage per week runs into very solid three figures. (Some might be knots since it is done through monsoon water). These Jeeps are the real buggies to get to one's destination with the front wheel drive that can be clutched in when the going gets tough.

Asking you to extend my best wishes to the Community, I remain

Devotedly,



August 19, 1944

Chaplain Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
Hq 305 Service Gp  
APO 690 - c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

Your letter of August 2 arrived two days ago. I posted it on the bulletin board, as I do with most letters from our chaplains, to keep the Community interested in them and in their work. I am sure that all found your letter as interesting as I did and were edified by the tone and sentiments therein.

I am sure we all sympathize with you and Father Aubrey in that you have been separated from each other, not only because it threw additional work upon you, but because you were deprived of the benefit and pleasure of each other's company. I am rather hoping that before long he will get leave of absence and come for a visit. Our chaplains are pretty widely scattered now. I do not yet know where Fathers Casimir, Bede and Oliver are. The three of them were sent eastward, presumably across the Atlantic, where Father Columban has been with the invasion army. Father Emeric was in Alaska when he last wrote, but was looking forward to a change. Father Harold was still in Honolulu; Father Bede down in New Guinea. In this country we still have Fathers Dunstan at San Diego; Cyprian at Jackson, Mississippi, and Aldrich finishing up at the Chaplains' School, in addition to Father Aidan at San Marcos, Texas.

Father Hubert left last evening for the Bahams. I suppose he wrote you that he had an operation on his eye. It is in good condition now, but the doctor - Dr. Wenner - thought there might be a recurrence of the trouble after some months and gave him the names of some doctors in Florida whom he might then see. If all arrangements had not already been made for his going to Nassau, I think I would have kept him at home and left him with the Indians at Ponsford, where he got to like the work. But I trust the Lord will watch over his eye and prevent any recurrence of the trouble. Will you please also pray unto this purpose? Father George arrived in Nassau on July 28 and writes me that he is most favorably impressed and thinks that he will like the place better than any other to which might have sent him. Father Leonard is still in this country, helping Bishop Bernard with his collections; the Bishop is not at all well.

I am to go to St. Paul tomorrow for the convention of the Central Verein and to have a pontifical Requiem Mass on the following day for the deceased members of the Verein. I regret that I accepted the invitation; I would rather stay at home, since I shall have to be back anyway in the afternoon on account of the second retreat, which begins that evening. I had to go away also because I still have some problems to solve in regard to appointments for the coming school year, both here and in the parishes. Too many sick men to make things easy...sick in body or mind. Father Roland has been laid up for some weeks with an infection of the throat and is now here at the Abbey. Father Charles will be coming home by the first of next month; he is somewhat better, but I do not think him well enough to have charge of a parish like Detroit Lakes. Father Christopher is about the same—still pastor of Collegeville, but not very well. Father Jerome thinks that the administration of penicillin in recent weeks is going to put him on his legs—God grant that it may. Father Vitus has been in our hospital since the close of the school year in January; danger of pulmonary t.b., but he has greatly improved. Father Romuald wrote me yesterday from Red Lake that he feels so chipper that he is ready to tackle anything. But—I hope he will have no further attacks. Father Jude was in the hospital in Brainerd during the month of June—not a patient, but as chaplain; from there he went to Rush Lake for July. Father John act

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as my secretary until Father Jude's return after residence at Rush Lake until July 24; I have now again put Father Jude into the harness. Father John will have to get busy working at his thesis. I have had Father Otto come home from Laval in Quebec, since we shall need his services as teacher of philosophy. Father William has been serving in Father Roland's place at the hospital in Detroit Lakes during the past three weeks or more; he is aching to get away, as hospital air does not seem to agree with him.

There would be a lot more news to tell you, but I do not want to have Father Benjamin's MONTH WITH THE MONKS be out of date when it reaches you. So I shall wind up now with a cordial "God bless you" and keep you safe and sound in body and soul until you return to us. May the day not be so far distant!

Affectionately yours,

Hq 305th Service Group  
APO 690 % Postmaster, N.Y.  
September 12, 1944

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

Your letter arrived on the 2nd of this month, just two weeks after date of mailing. Such speed is a credit to the U.S. Postal System. It was interesting to read of the whereabouts of some of the St. John's Military Chaplains. They are spreading apace with this global war.

This morning I officiated at the funeral services of a soldier. Although a funeral is a funeral, this one had a special significance. Of all the people that I ever anointed, he was the first that ever died. In my few years of priestly life I have not had too many to whom I have given the last rites of the Church, but some have been very critically ill. In connection with this comes to my mind a discussion that Father Oliver and I had about administering the last Sacraments several years back. Father Oliver said that he has never made a mistake in administering the last Sacraments; all of them have died.

The past thirty days there has been lots of talk about absentee ballots. Upon reflection I became aware that I had voted in a Presidential election only once and that was in 1932. In 1936 and 1940 I was in Canada, and this year I am in India. From this it would appear that Presidential election years are somewhat unstable. At least I have been consistent in this that I have been somewhere in this world where after a public performance is sung "God Save the King".

Higher Headquarters have been promising a Catholic Chaplain for this area for the last month and a half. It would be very helpful if one were assigned to the area Hospital, for every sick call means another thirty miles for me. This last week has been a heavy one for me. The speedometer testifies that in the last week I did over 500 miles. Am I turning out to be a truck driver? In a country of narrow roads where 30 miles per hour is a good speed, so much time is dissipated in moving from one scene of activity to another.

The enclosed snapshots might be of interest to the members of the community. The one is of the Basha type chapel in which I offer my daily Mass; the other is of an Indian farmer. The latter one should be of interest to those interested in Rural Life, or to the Ancient History professor. It shows what is meant by the timelessness of India.

At present I am planning to make a retreat next week at the Mission of the American Jesuits. I have been thinking about that for several months, but something turned up to postpone it. My Mass intentions are running low, so I request a supply if you have an abundance. The rains are over, and the weather is hot again.

Devotedly,

*Alcuin, O.S.B.*

September 26, 1944

Chap. Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer O-439-014  
Hq 305 Service Group  
APO 690 c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

I received your letter of the 12th inst. yesterday. Tomorrow is the feast of St. Cosmas. I am therefore writing you without delay. Of course, you won't receive the letter, but perhaps by a sort of clairvoyance you will see that I am dictating one to you today. Let it bring you the assurance that, while I remember you and all the other absent brethren, especially those at the greatest distance every day, you will have a special memento tomorrow.

I thank you for the snapshots that you enclosed. Yes, the water buffalo plowing with an old-fashioned plow is undoubtedly indicative of the "timelessness" of India. But one is inclined to think that a great change is abrewing. Perhaps you are privileged to see the beginnings of it and may live long enough to see a great change over that poor country.

By the time you receive this, you may have already been up to Patna to make your retreat with the American Jesuits. If not, will you be sure to give them my cordial greetings? I shall be writing Father Sontag before long, as I received a letter from him within the past two weeks. I think that they would be happy if you and Father Aubrey would form the nucleus for a Benedictine foundation to take over a part of their work. Who knows? Maybe the Lord arranged to have you and Father Aubrey go as chaplains to India for that purpose. On the 9th inst. I went to Utah with Father Maurice, whom I appointed to assist Fathers Wendelin and Blase, Father Quentin having come home. As they wanted an additional car, we traveled thither by car, but I came back by train. In Ogden, where our Sisters at St. Joe are going to take over a hospital, the pastor showed us what appeared to us a very desirable site for a monastery and a school. Maybe the Lord will grant that we make a foundation over there and bring some of the Latter Day Saints into the fold formed by the Apostles and their fellow saints. I expect that before long I shall have a proposition from Bishop Hunt of Salt Lake City.

I think this will be all for today. Father Benjamin should be sending you his MONTH WITH THE MONKS in a few days, and he will be giving you the news concerning monastery and school. What may interest you is that Fathers Walter and Gregory were elected Seniors for this year.

Well, may Our Lady take you under her special protection during the month of October. God bless you.

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00128



Hq 305th Service Group  
APO 690 c/o Postmaster, N.Y.  
October 28, 1944

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

With St. John's foremost Chaplain, both in length of service and proficiency, back at the domestic hearth giving you a verbal description of the territory in which I labor, I feel a little at a loss as to what I should write. Father Aubrey was relieved from his Group just a bit too soon. Had he stayed on just a little longer we could have enjoyed the same brotherhood that we did in the early days of my arrival in India. The 7th Bomb Gp does not carry a Cath Chaplain at present. This means another step child for me to foster. The best I can do is to give them several Weekday Masses; for the Lord has given me only two hands, and Ecclesiastical faculties permit me to offer the holy Sacrifice only thrice per Sunday. The first half of the week has become a sort of holyday of obligation, and a semi-Lenten period since breakfast and dinner are a two in one affair. Of course the accent of activity falls on the first day of the Week. It is generally a nervous whirl of action beginning about six in the morning and subsiding by noon, including Masses, Confessions, Jeep rides, and consultations during that six hour span.

I was able to get away from my work on the week of the 17th of September for six days to make a private retreat with the Jesuits. The change did me a good deal of good spiritually and physically. During the first few days I found it difficult to put much emphasis on the side of the spirit. It seemed that I was continually tired and dropping off to sleep. At the time I remembered Abbot Severin's parody on Scripture, which he uttered to me one day in the Chapter Room at St. Peter's, "The spirit is willing, but the meat is weak." Recently I had a short letter from Father Loesch. He was very much elated over being relieved of the Superiorship, subjoining a hearty 'Deo gratias'.

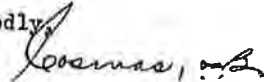
As I am becoming more acquainted with the men of the Group, I discover that some have never made their first holy Communion. Without intending to cast aspersions at anyone I have found that most of these soldiers are of Italian origin. That was generally true also in the States. It is a condition worth while considering; for isn't that a missionary field right in front of our door step?

At this time of the year I am giving serious thoughts to preparing a choir for Christmas Midnight Mass. A project that I face with fear and expectation of what shall come to pass. I am aware that as an organizer of choirs and as a singer I fall into the D- class. From bits of information that come to me through our two monastic reporters to the Chaplains I gather that Father Lancelot is a chorister of some ability. Too bad that I could not have his services in my present endeavor.

Your letter of Sept 26th omitted a list of Mass intentions. Perhaps I forgot to request them. Whenever I run short, I request some from the Jesuits permitting them to keep the stipend for missionary work. I hope this meets with your approval. If the Monastic Registrum has any spare intentions, I could use 75 or 100 of them.

I Thank you and other confreres, who assured me that they remembered me before the Altar of God on the feast of St. Cosmas. It must be these prayers that are giving joy to my youth.

Devotedly,



OSB DAHLHEIMER 00129

November 16, 1944

Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer 0439014  
Hq 305 Service Group  
APO 690 c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

I just now read your letter of the Feast of St. Jude to Father Aubrey. He has been here for a week, but I had not seen much of him after the first evening until yesterday afternoon, when I had him drive me to St. Martin. I went there to see Mrs. Mondloch, to whom the evening before I had asked Father Edwin to communicate the sad news of the death of Father Arnold. We had time to have a talk while on the way, and he told me a lot about India and his work there. He had been talking also to the Clerics and the student groups. Last Sunday he was to Duluth to substitute for Father Patrick Joseph, who was in the hospital with pleurisy.

Father Aubrey has already written you since his return. Therefore I think he has told you all about himself and his trip and whither and when he is to go from here. From the other Chaplains there is no special news, except that in a note on his monthly report received this morning, Father Columban writes: "A hunk of scrapnel missed me yesterday by ten feet. Thank God for that." Father Harold wrote three days ago that he is in the Philippines; I think Father Bede expects to be there before long. He recently ran into Father Claude Schwinghammer. Father Cyprian is overseas to the East; Father Aldrich expects to be alerted any day.

I know no details of Father Arnold's death. The day before yesterday brought three telegrams from Father Frederic: the first, stated that Father Arnold was suffering from a nervous breakdown; the second, that his condition was critical from a haemorrhage (cerebral); the third, dispatched an hour later, stated that he had passed away. I suppose by this time he has already been buried. Father Cornelius is still in New York. I phoned him to get back to the Bahamas as soon as possible. Father Daniel has written me that his hands are in such bad condition that he feels he should be withdrawn from the Bahamas. I wrote him that he may leave as soon as arrangements may be made for someone to take over his place.

Father Rudolph, who is now at St. Bernard's in St. Paul, had an operation on the 10th inst. on his leg. He had broken it when he was thirteen. Silver plates had been put in to unite the bone; some screw got loose and caused such trouble to his leg that he could not walk without pain and difficulty. Bishop Bernard is still in New York, not at all in good condition of health. I imagine that the news of Father Arnold's passing will not improve his condition. Father Leonard is still helping him with the collections and will remain with him until December 8.

Father Roland is still in Detroit Lakes, where he was chaplain until I withdrew Father Charles and sent Father Alphonse there as pastor. Father Alphonse thought that he and Father Athanasius could manage parish and hospital. Father Roland was taken with another of his heart attacks in the early part of September; he was to have come home, but had the attack. I saw him on the 5th inst. He

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had recovered somewhat, but on the 10th there was a call from Detroit Lakes to the effect that Father Athanasius had anointed him. No news since then, which makes me infer that he has again rallied and is in better condition. Father Felix is growing weaker day by day, and will probably pass away before long.

Commending myself and the Community to your prayers, and begging God to preserve you from all harm of body and soul, I am

Affectionately yours,

P.S. I am enclosing herewith the Mass intentions:

100 pro uno defto

Hq 305th Service Group  
APO 690 c/o Postmaster, N.Y.  
December 9, 1944

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.,  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

Obviously the speed of the mail has slowed somewhat with yours of the 16th of November arriving yesterday. Thank you for the Mass Intentions, which I will gladly take care of. No doubt you and the Community enjoyed the visit of Father Aubrey and his tales of the Far East. Thus far I have not yet heard from him, but I am sure that a letter from him is tied up in some mail pouch coming this way. Officers and men who have known Father Aubrey in these parts, also civilians, keep on asking about him. It is evident that he has made a deep impression upon all who met him, irregardless of what Faith they profess.

On the last day of October I received two letters from Chaplains, one from Father Emeric, the other from Father Oliver. The former Librarian gave a very vivid picture of the rugged living conditions that are part of his life. The description recalled to my mind the several months that I spent in N. Africa. It was sleeping and walking in mud, shivering and standing in the rain while waiting in the mess line. Those poor soldiers on the Western Front are suffering all that plus the horrors and dangers of combat.

The announcement of Father Arnold's death through the regular death notice sheet, which arrived a few days ahead of your letter, came as a shock to me. It was almost like losing a brother, in fact I did look upon him as a sort of older brother. He was my first Prefect when I entered St. John's in 1923. I was fortunate enough to have him as a Prefect for three out of my four years in High School. His simplicity, sincerity, fatherly love in youngsters, and complete impartiality were the qualities of his character that made him such a successful disciplinarian. He gave me a lesson about the middle of my Freshman year in High School that I shall never forget. After supper Father Arnold was in the Juniors' Recreation room. Father asked me to play a round of checkers with him. When the bell for studies sounded, we had played to a draw. During the course of the recreation I was becoming more and more elated because of the close friendship that I was making. To my satisfaction I noticed that Father Arnold was in charge of the Study Hall that evening. Instead of settling down to work I was fooling around and talking to boys near me, thereby wanting to show off that the Prefect was my friend in a special way. Father started his usual stroll down the aisles of the Study Hall praying his breviary. Upon coming to my desk he stopped and sternly said, "If you don't get to work immediately, there'll be trouble." How different, I thought, this man from the one with whom I had so much fun a few minutes before. I learned the lesson that he wished to impart, namely--there is a time for play and a time for serious business. That is the way Father Arnold was. For him there was a place to sleep, a place to study, and a place to recreate. His technique was the perfect Prefects technique. *Requested in page.*

The great feast of Christmas is rapidly approaching. For a northerner it is hard to realize that it is so close. Christmas for us is tied up with cold and immaculately white snow. This year I will have to dream of a white Christmas. Everything is in the final stages of preparation to make the Midnight Mass a success. Some are making the outside altar, some the drapes for hanging behind the altar, others are hunting for places to get flowers, etc. At this time of the year the men get a little more homesick, but I am sure that we will have a happy Christmas.

May the Infant bless you and the Community in this holy Season!

*Devotedly, Alcuin, O.S.B.*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00132

P. Cosmas Dahlheimer.

b: Nov. 20, 1908

Prof: July 11, 1930.

Ord: June 6, 1936.

Assist: St. Bernard's, St. Paul, Minn. -- Summer 1936.  
St. Mary's, St. Cloud, Minn. -- May to Aug. 1937

Abbey: Prefect of St. Gregory's Hall - 1937-1938; 1938-1939;  
1939-1940

Professor of Greek, Latin -- 1937-1938; 1938-1939;  
1939-1940

Canada -- St. Peter's Abbey, Sask. -- teach Greek and Latin -  
Sept. 1936 - May 1937.  
St. Peter's Abbey, Sask. -- teach  
Sept. 1940 -

ST. JOHN'S ABBEY  
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

Chaplain Captain Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.

Commissioned: February 20, 1942  
Active Duty : March 10, 1942 at Midland Army Air Field, Texas.  
Ass't. Chaplain: March 10, 1942 until April 15, 1943 at same base.  
Post Chaplain: April 15, 1943 until October 7, 1943.  
Promoted to Captain: April 15, 1943.  
Was in North Africa for several months.  
Assigned to: 305 Service Group in March 1944. (In India-Burma theatre)

The above was copied from a letter to Fr. Benjamin Stein, O.S.B.,  
on November 28th, 1944.  
Copied by me on December 20, 1944.

Address at time of writing:  
Hq. 305 Service Group,  
APO 690 % Postmaster ,  
New York, N.Y.

Christopher, O.S.B.  
Archivist.

# Army Chaplains—Soldiers Of Tradition

## Men Of The Cross Followers Of Armies For 14 Centuries

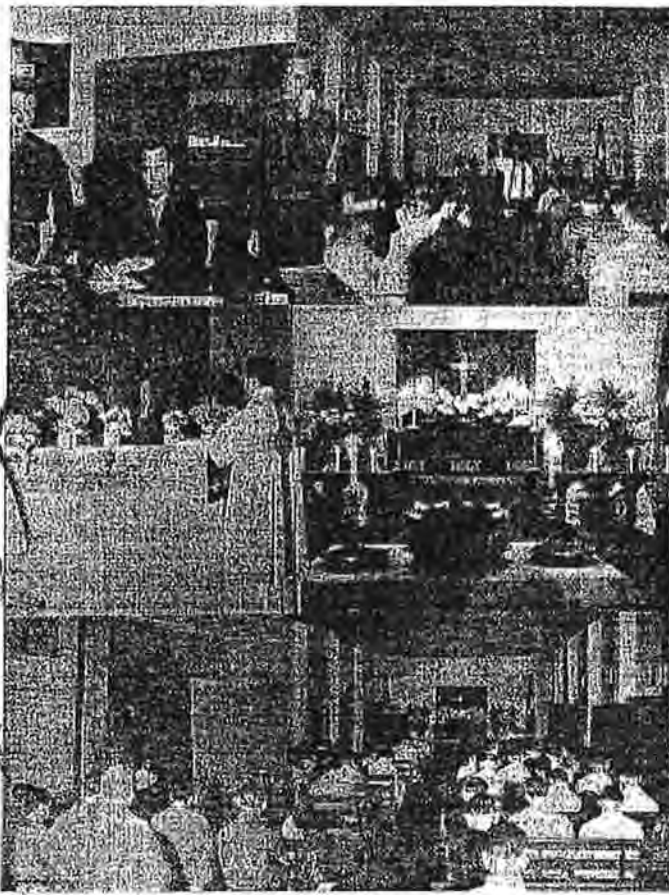
Constantine, emperor for the purple and the wreath of the Imperial Roman Tarsos, chose battle in the midst of the blood and carnage, a mighty lightning came in the sky. The cross seemed to rise in supernatural protection of his host, and in this sacred moment of vision, Constantine accepted the sign and Christianly, crying out to the heavens: "By this sign shall I conquer!" And legend and tradition say conquer he did as the first Christian Roman Emperor. And from that time onward, the sign of the cross follows the armies of Christendom, emblazoned bill, on the surcoats of his knights and the nobles, and upon the battle ensigns and the pennants of the great of the Church.

Throughout truceless centuries of war and conquest, the armies of Christian Europe and later Christian America were always accompanied by their spiritual advisers. The Benedictines and Jesuits followed the Conquistadors to the ends of the Aztec and Inca Empires. The Jesuits followed LaSalle down the Mississippi, the martyrs of Lath and Calvin and the priests of Rome absolved and consecrated the soil of all nations during the Thirty Years War, and today in the greatest war of all time, great priests and chaplains follow their hosts through the Valley of Armageddon.

However the place of the Chaplains in the Army of today has changed greatly from the past when the Chaplain was doctor, nurse, spiritual adviser, and "jack-of-all-trades", constantly involved in things which were not his primary mission. Today, because of the importance of combat, but particularly, the next few years, the Austrian army, and across all armies, the general have come to realize that deliberate and systematic cultivation of the spiritual forces of the soldier is a necessity. Today, the Chaplain's task is to stimulate and guide the growth of these spiritual forces.

The Chaplains of the United States Armed Forces today, have three primary duties. Most important is the promotion of facilities for public worship by the military personnel. On this base that has means the creation of two chapels, one in Hill Camp and one in Stedje. It has meant the holding of regular services, two Catholic and two Protestant services, morning and evening of every Sabbath Day, besides one Jewish service every Friday. And when special religious holidays arrive, they hold special services, as they did this Christmas Eve, with a large Protestant service at Stedje and at midnight another Protestant service in the Hill Camp Chapel and a mass in the Hill Theater, were the beautiful ritual was heightened with a small male chorus. The very chapels themselves were gayly and nostalgically decorated for the Yuletide, and within their quiet walls one could almost imagine oneself home again.

Then too, the chaplains are supposed to give moral counsel and religious guidance to those of us who feel the world is too much with us and desire to find a sanctuary of peace; for those whose personal or



Upper Left: The Chaplain's office in Hill chapel. Left to right: Cpl. Frankie Altus, organist, Chaplain James T. Williams, Protestant Chaplain, Cpl. Lamar McLeod, Chaplain's Assistant. Middle left: Chaplain Casmas R. Dahlheimer saying the Catholic Midnight Mass. Middle Right: Hill Chapel's Altar Christmas Eve. Lower Left: Chaplain Dahlheimer preaches the Catholic Midnight sermon. Lower Right: The Protestant services Christmas Morning.

family affairs have approached a crisis and know not which way to turn. They also handle spiritual administration, giving absolution and the last rites to those men who have fought the last fight. And finally the Chaplains, must in themselves, be the living example in the military establishment of the religious motives in right thinking and right acting. The weekly chaplain's column in his paper and the occasional addresses made to various groups on the base, are all a part of their job.

The two Chaplains on this base are Captain J. T. Williams, Protestant, and Captain C. R. Dahlheimer, Catholic, with Captain Abraham Dublin, from a neighboring

base, attending to the Jewish religious needs. These men, as are all Chaplains, are volunteers, and before entering the army they must pass several rigid requirements. All Chaplains must be citizens of the United States, and furthermore they must be male. They must be between the ages of twenty-four and fifty, regularly ordained with an endorsement by some recognized religious denomination. They are graduates from a four year accredited college or university, and have had either three years of graduate work in Theological school, or else four years of active pastoral experience. Besides that, they must pass a uniform and rigid physical examination, for their training upon

going to Chaplain's School is as Spartan as any in the army.

The course at the school only last twenty-eight days, but during that time, the study: Graves' Registration, Practical Duties, Morale, Military Courtesy, Defense against Chemical Attack, Map Reading, Army Correspondence, Sanitation and First Aid, Military Law and related subjects. In addition they have two and a half hours of infantry drill per day, and an hour of calisthenics, and in the evenings, jetties with night marches and night problems.

Chaplain Williams was born in South Carolina in 1915, but has lived almost all his life in the

(Continued on page 5)

HOSE-LINES

Christmas has come and gone. A very mild season for the most of us. We now await developments on the New Year. We are all agreed, I believe, this past year has been a lulu. We've certainly had a grandstand seat for history's future record. A lot of changes have taken place and the future will continue as interesting. An open mind will concede the fact we still have a long, hard, road ahead before returning home. We must adhere to our policy of "work to win". In our work no job can be considered as completed; changes are necessary as conditions develop. The routine and close association so important in this organization tends to increase boredom, which in turn, unless steps are taken, will reduce efficiency. We must keep interested and be more tolerant of our co-workers. Let's resolve to continue doing our best work and setting the example for others to do the same. If we can, in our humble way, shorten the war, then our New Year will indeed be a happy one. Best of luck to every man. Boys I'll try again to get this platoon news published.

- 1.-Steve Varish, the Pennsylvania Caskow, is eagerly awaiting a pass to the big city. Incidentally, he was tickled pink to receive that box from home (but the whole section too) and the contents were super.
2.-McStravick and Studinski were the first to take off on a three dayer.
3.-The happiest men in the outfit lately are Barrelhouse Rachtel (good food, hubb) and Mor Jimenez. Mor says "That blimp received from de familyfr Kerenski and it's sure good. Why'n't some of dese older guys get no cake? I shut seen none."
4.-T/S Paul (Pop) Basinger is revealing out an addition in family. My, hasn't time done since that last (uh)ought? Paul says: "I don't want to go through this any more. as all until after we get back home."
5.-The latest qualities of "smoked eating" was observed when in T/S Rogers. T/S Lettig Bob King at the recent disaster to Lord Lowenthal's four boiler. Sgt. Malvosa shoveled manfully while the assistants sought success from the engulfing gaseous ozone. What fun.
6.-Apropos of nothing-The gallant crew that received the "team" job for helping decorate Club 690 for Xmas. To those gentlemen, my thanks on behalf of the platoon who did

THE JOCKEY'S

Number one Joker-sabilla. The stocking was hung awaiting good old Saint Nick. Get up in the morning, look into the bulging stocking, and take out one mirror, one shoe, and two empty beer bottles. If the bottles were full, well! Some guys, all the time joking!

Knights of the Round Table; the boys that stay up all night, by flashlight, playing for one and two annas, co-ry-ay! The Greek used to win all the money, but biggest winner lately proves to be "Tavvy" who won all of sixty-five Rupees! What's to do with all the Rupees? Yeah, I know, atabai in the cooler!

Our third Christmas overseas is now just a memory; pleasant or not, so, depending, you know. Now we look forward to New Years Eve, which should also be something to remember, pleasant or not so. With the coming of the new year will also come a five percent increase in pay for most Jockeys, as they will have completed three years in the ton suit. After all quiet mouths, a raise! That will be cause for celebration, uh huh.

To Stanley Krutz, John Smith, Ivan Brandenburg, and "Tex" Waldrey, one Grand Trunk Cross with a mail sack cluster, for delivering the mail during the Christmas rush (bated all month and still going). Every afternoon we hear: "Thirty bags" Fifteen first class 'at cetera, all very pleasant to the ears!

Left at the post... "Snake" Joslin and his brother, whoever that may be. A mere shadow of his former self, if you follow... "Iron Lou" McInnes going to Bigtown regularly. That's what girls will do to an honest man... Somebody said "Berber" McInnes had his biggest day. Out all of five heads in one day! Such speed... If somebody's looking for Pop Lambertson, well, don't, as Pop is on emergency! In addition to all of his other names, "Lee" Schuster will answer to the name of "Dhobie"... Mark up Quaranta with another furloogh. Paves, furloogh, and what have you, the little man always comes back popped! Coyotes used to always be good for a couple of lines, but I guess that there isn't anything I can say about him so I'll leave him out of here.

-E. M. Krauk

SKY PILOTS

(Continued from page 2) neighboring state of Georgia. He went to Furman University in South Carolina, graduating in 1930, but by that time had been an ordained pastor for over two years, having entered the ministry in the fall of 1928. He was married in 1929, and is the proud father of our son, James Richard Williams, who his father beautifully told us, will soon graduate from Hursley School and enter kindergarten.

He was inducted into the army, April 4, 1943, leaving behind him a thriving pastorate at the First Baptist Church in Clayton Georgia. He joined another Service Group, came over seas with it and spent over a year up in the Assam hills, before he came down here to replace Chaplain Hobgood who returned to Shanghai. His only other brother is in the service too, a paratrooper no less, but the Chaplain doesn't envy him a bit. Chaplain Williams plans to continue his training either at Yale or Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville as soon as he returns home. Or as soon as he returns from a hunting and fishing trip for the Chaplain is an ardent sportsman and outdoor man, having both played and coached soft-ball and football in school. He is quite modest about his hunting prowess, but admits that his wife was his biggest catch-Joy C. B. DeWitt had picked her as one of the seven most beautiful women out of two hundred in a beauty contest.

The great state of Minnesota, has given us Chaplain Dahlheimer, who first saw the light of day in 1905 in a cold November. Living in a small town, he admits to having had the typical small town elementary education. In 1929 he decided to join one of the oldest orders in the Catholic Church, the Benedictines, founded over fourteen hundred years ago at the famed Monte Cassino. After completing all studies in philosophy and theology he was ordained in the Spring of 1936.

He then became an instructor in Latin and Greek at St. John's College in his home state, doing the same work somewhat later at a college in Saskatchewan, Canada. By 1942, he decided that he was going to get into a more active part of the war, and applied for his commission in January of that year. He was stationed in a field in Texas and stayed there over a year. He was finally sent over seas, and with several delays, he finally arrived in India and joined the 303th in March 1944.

The Chaplain have a fine study office in the new Hill Camp Chapel where they can be reached by those who have business with them, where they write their articles, and transact all their work. Assisting them is Col. Lester McLeod, who comes from down Mobile, Alabama way, and who has spent thirteen months in Assam too, before coming to join the group. McLeod, was taking a Liberal Arts Course at Evanesce College in Tennessee, before the army put a crimp in his educational plans and whisked him off to the land of the Black Pagoda. He hopes to complete his education as soon as Uncle Sam gives the word.

These are the men who keep ever before our eyes the truth and the light, the hope, the faith and the charity, and never let us doubt or believe in the finer things. Whenever a helping hand or a willing ear is needed, whenever our doubts or our heartaches become too great for us to bear, these are the men who, by the best of their ability will help us restore our faith in ourselves. These are our Chaplains, the leaders of a great tradition.

AT THE MOVIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, Hill

Monday, Sledge

"Rainbow Island", which opens this week's schedule, is the tale of three merchant sailors who survive a Jap sub attack to reach a South Pacific island populated by hostile natives. It just happens, however, that another inhabitant of the island is Dottie Lamour, serene and all, an American girl shipwrecked there some years before. She saves the sailors by having one of them, Eddie Bracken, impersonate the local god. Unfortunately for Eddie but fortunately for the audience, the deity who he is supposed to be was one of those guys who never touched wine, women or the other finer things of life, and that's where most of the fun comes in. While not a laugh riot throughout, it has its amusing incidents, and then there is Miss Lamour and her wavy hips. GI Movie No. 61 completes the bill.

Tuesday, Hill

Wednesday, Sledge

"Babe on Swing Street", featuring Janice Peggy Ryan and sweet-voiced Ann Elysh, the teen-aged youngsters who recently appeared here in "The Merry Menahunt", is the midweek attraction. Fair entertainment for those who like the bobby socks brigade on parade, with more music than usual for the swing followers. The plot is inconsequential.

Thursday, Hill

Friday, Sledge

In "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" Diana Lynn and Gail Russell are cast as Cornelia Otis Skinner and Emily Kimbrough in this film- ing of their autobiographical book relating the adventures of two Bryn Mawr College innocents who go abroad in 1920 to "get worldly." British and appealing in spots, only average movie fare on the whole. An added attraction is an excellent Combat Bulletin No. 21.

Personals

The same "red socks" of the 10th. Bicycle riding all PM for "sexcess" by Bobby Klug. Varish's "permanent wave" hair so deeply admired at 900. Snock feeding his "bug". Masons plump of the Mrs. Hoffmans too. That sweet smile of a certain Angel.

Wonder if another New Year's will find Edie Hill as is? And me struggling to turn out this column? Oh boy, just go away and let me dream - that Angel. Happy New Year to one and all.

P.F.M.

WORLD PREMIER HERE

FLASH! The new Warner Brothers production of "Rhapsody in Blue", starring Jean Lealle, Alexis Smith, Oscar Levant, and Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra, is scheduled for showing here at an early date although it will not be released nationwide until March. It is a 2 1/2-hour life story of George Gershwin and is full of famous Gershwin hit tunes, specially recorded on the overseas 16mm film so that none of the loss quality is lost. Watch for it!

Kipling Didn't Know American Soldiers





Hq 305th Service Group  
APO 690, c/o PM, N.Y.  
January 19, 1945

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

In this first letter of the New Year to you accept my sincere wishes for a Blessed and Prosperous One. Since I have been in the Service I have submitted a financial statement of the previous year at the beginning of the new one. In this letter you will find enclosed on a separate sheet my financial statement for the year 1944. Enclosed also are six Money Orders for \$100.00 each, which was money saved in addition to the \$1500.00 deposit in the Bank at St. Joseph. Upon receipt of these Money Orders I would appreciate an acknowledgement so that I will no longer have to keep the stubs in my possession.

The Feast of Christmas was a grand success from the spiritual side, if I am able to judge from the facts and figures that I have. Various Services or Departments strive at that season of the year to put on celebrations for the men in order to minimize their feeling of homesickness. Christmas is primarily a spiritual feast. You can see why the Chaplain is happy when he hears remarks for days after the Feast that of all the activity on the base the highlight was the Midnight Mass. It is at least an immediate reward for the worry and work that was mine for almost two months before the Feast.

The Midnight Mass was celebrated in the outdoor theatre area. With the volunteer help of some soldiers we had beautiful decorations. The altar constructed of rough boards was entirely covered in immaculately white cloth. On the altar and at its side were many bouquets of richly colored flowers (this time of the year is flower time in India). There were also green palms, trees, and other vegetation placed on the large stage. Several soldiers used their ingenuity in clipping and tying a few trees that from the audience these trees gave the appearance of being real evergreens. This rich setting of nature's growth was heightened by the backdrop of the altar. One of the soldiers sprayed a sky blue paint on a large white cloth. On this blue field he painted stars of silver in varying sizes. About three feet from the top he painted the large star of Bethlehem shedding its rays over the altar. The Engineer shop rigged up a loud speaker making me feel like Cyclops with the volume that I could pour forth. The men were kind enough to say that they appreciated the few thoughts that were spun out by the G.I. Chaplain.

What made Christmas such a success was the extra "Dispensers of the Mysteries of God" that I was able to procure. A British Chaplain held Midnight Mass at one of the Bases that I care for on Sundays. Several weeks before the Feast the Bishop of Patna volunteered to help me. His Excellency celebrated Midnight Mass at the Hospital. With all that help it was possible to give every installation in the area a Midnight Mass. Without the help of the Bishop and the British Father I would not have been able to cover the Confessions. Verily it was a Merry Christmas.

Two days ago the Hospital was assigned a Catholic Chaplain. He will take over one of the bases that I had charge of besides the Hospital. It appeared to me that I would be able to settle down to a somewhat slower pace, but yesterday the advance notice came that I would be moving on to a different field. Where I know not, but as soon as I get the address I'll inform you. In the meanwhile you may write to my present address.

*Sincerely,  
Joseph, O.S.B.*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00137

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF COSMAS DAHLHEIMER, O.S.B.  
Jan 1, 1944 - Dec 31, 1944

RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS	
On hand Jan 1, 1944.....	68.00	Clothing.....	63.00
Salary.....	2896.20	Books & Papers.....	32.00
(1) Per diem.....	103.00	(2) Post Exchange.....	129.00
Mass Stipends.....	37.00	Stamps.....	8.00
		(3) Charity.....	71.00
		Laundry & Cleaning.....	39.00
		Mess.....	310.00
		Barber.....	8.00
		Telephone & Telegraph...	7.00
		Servant.....	75.00
		Miscellaneous.....	28.00
		War Bonds.....	150.00
		(4) On deposit at Bank.....	1500.00
		To Abbey.....	600.00
		On hand Dec 31, 1944....	25.00
	3104.20		3045.00

- (1) Per diem is a special allotment given by the Army to an Officer ~~when~~ on travel Orders when Ration and Quarters are not furnished.
- (2) Post Exchange is the General Store for soldiers overseas. It dispenses all toilet articles, sweets, ~~smokes~~ <sup>beer</sup>, and for Officers a bottle of liquor per month. I do not drink hard liquor, but the ration comes in handy to treat missionaries and as a gift for favors rendered.
- (3) Most of the charity was given to missions, some to natives. On my nephews birthday I sent him 5.00. The latter is a sophomore in High School at dear Alma Mater.
- (4) Upon going overseas I made an allotment of 125.00 permonth to the First State Bank at St. Joseph, Minnesota, with the instruction that the Procurator be allowed to use the money as money of St. John's Abbey.

There is a discrepancy of 59.20 between RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS. In the report I only listed the funds of which I had a record. The 59.20 was spent mostly the first few months of the year when I was in transit in sight seeing tours and for recreation.

The DISBURSEMENTS are given in even dollars. The basic money in India is the Rupee, which is divided into 16 Annas. The Rupee is worth 30.04¢ in American exchange. In computing from Rupees to American Dollars I figured to the nearest Dollar omitting the Cent column.

*Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.*  
COSMAS DAHLHEIMER, O.S.B.



To: *Rt. Rt. Akum Deutsch,*  
*St. John's Abbey*  
*Collegeville, Minnesota*

From  
*R. Dahlheimer, c/o*  
*1880th Eng Avn Bn*  
*APC 218 90 PM, N.Y.*  
*30 Jan 1945*

*Father Abbot*

PLEASE ADDRESS ME AS SHOWN BELOW UNTIL OTHERWISE ADVISED

*C. 218* *R. Dahlheimer*  
(Block) (Post name) (Last name) (Army serial number)  
*1880th Eng Avn Bn*  
(Company, battery, etc) (Regiment, group, or other organization)

A. P. O. No. *218*, c/o Postmaster, *N.Y.*

The above COMPLETE ADDRESS should be placed on ALL MAIL sent to me  
 MY CODE CABLE ADDRESS IS

Normal signature *Kramer R. Dahlheimer*

SPACE BELOW FOR MESSAGE

Just a line to inform you of my new address. Upon being transferred it was APC 669, now 215. We, Engineers, just don't have any stability. How true "mutabis eam et mutabuntur." Only I hope that I am not becoming as an old garment, although the hikes over rough & dusty roads after a hard day each made me feel that way.

This new life is different as day & night from my former one. The Rear & long point camping office. This scenery of Northern Burma along the Kido Road is very refreshing compared with the dry, flat, and arid parts of India where I worked almost a year.

Please advise community if

*Kramer R. Dahlheimer*

U.S. D. A. & O. Form No. 271  
 1 July 1944

**Who Says It's Art?**

"Your offering to send beautiful 'Pin-Ups' of Our Blessed Lady comes as a lifesaver to rescue the imagination of decent peopl

*Extension Magazine  
February 1945*

from the modern cesspool of sensual and debauched 'Pin-Ups,' parading at times under the disguise of art. We know that it is woman's desire to win the affection and attention of men. The woman of charm, character and decency does so by her womanliness; but those who have debauched their charm and character, since they are unable to appeal to decent men, resort to making prints of themselves in bathroom or bedroom attire in order to arrest the attention of those of their ilk. That American magazines, even some that claim to be of a high class, include such prints in their editions for the men overseas betrays the low state of our culture. The excuse put forth is that such lewdness is a builder of morale. That remark is an insult to every decent American. It implies that we have sunk so low that things of the spirit, of the intellect, no longer appeal to us, but only those of the pure animal.

"The chaplain knows from his contacts that such is not true. Thanks to the work-

ings of God's grace and the saintly American mothers who have reared their offspring well, there are many in Service whose morale is not helped by what they see and hear about American women. Just the other day a young Captain remarked to me, 'I wonder whether I will ever get married. From all the news items that give accounts of delinquencies among young woman at home, how can a person be certain in choosing a good and virtuous partner?'

I can use Madonna Pin-Up advantageously. Therefore I request that you mail me 300 pictures."

Cosmas R. Dahlheimer, *Chaplain*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

February 13, 1945

Chap. Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer 0439014  
1880 Eng Av Bk Quincy Massachusetts  
APO 689 c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of the 19th ult., with its good wishes for the New Year. I thank you for them most cordially.

My thanks also for the money orders in the amount of \$100 each, for a total of \$600, which you enclosed. Father Jude tells me that he sent you a note acknowledging receipt of these during my absence. Thanks also for your financial statement. You have done very well indeed. I know that you are really solicitous about your vows and not given to spending money recklessly. May the Lord bless you for this spirit of fidelity and of sacrifice, as well as for the contribution you thereby managed to make to the Community, not only in a financial way, but also by the blessings that come to the whole Community through the good works of each of its members.

You certainly had reason to rejoice over the celebration of Christmas that you and your men managed to stage, the memory of which they will love to hark back to in the years to come, if they survive this war. Our Christmas ran off as usual. Only enough of the Fathers were at home to take care of the required Masses.

Father Aubrey stopped here last week for a day on his way to the Chaplain's School in Massachusetts. He was not exactly overjoyed that he had to go there; however, he was willing to make the best of it and hopes that he will have a congenial assignment thereafter. He would like to get to Salt Lake City, where there is a pool for gathering the soldiers before they are sent overseas. I, too, would like to see him there, since it would bring him in the neighborhood of the Fathers that are stationed in Utah. I do not remember whether I mentioned in my last letter that the Bishop of Salt Lake City has agreed to let us establish a monastery with a school at Ogden, to give us a parish to be newly-organized in that city, the chaplaincy at the hospital which will be conducted by our Benedictine Sisters of St. Joseph, the two parishes which we already have in the eastern part of Utah, with the next two to be established in that district.

I suppose Father Aubrey has told you about the Archbishop of Bombay's desire to have us. He sent me a cablegram about the middle of last month, saying that a decision on the proposition that he made was urgent, but that there would be other possibilities. I wired that we can do nothing until the war is over and then wrote him and begged him to write and let me know what propositions he has.

We expect to have a Benedictine Father from China here before long. His expenses for six months are being paid by a Chinese Institute. We are hoping also that two young Chinese, one of whom is already a monk in the Community established near Chungking by the Abbey of St. André, will come by the end of this semester to continue their studies here.

From Manila there is no definite news concerning our Fathers there. Both Fathers Harold and Bede are on the Island of Luzon, in which Manila lies. But their latest letters do not indicate that they had already entered the city.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00141



AT OBNINIA ELIVBELLCO YBBAASHOCTIAS

Tomorrow we begin Lent. I do not suppose it will mean much for you in the way of fasting and abstinence. However, I am sure that you will enter into the spirit of the holy season and in that spirit offer all your works and privations. May the Lord please to accept them benignantly and strengthen you for a heroic fight until the end.

Affectionately yours,

Use the space provided for address. Write plainly. Use metric and SI, if possible. Write plainly. Use metric and SI, if possible.



To: Rev Alcorn DeLoach, ASB  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota

From: OSB DAHLHEIMER, OSB  
52nd Ave. S.W.  
BPO 218, 9/2 P.M.  
7 March 1971

Dear Father Abbot,

Just a line at this time to let you know that I have  
worked again. I am assigned to Army Air Force by of the district  
and filled on Detached Service to this group. My  
present assignment is similar to that of the  
"bellman", but it is a privilege and pleasure  
to serve for the Mystical Body here.

Life of inconvenience in that I will have to  
road most of the time, sleeping in different  
and bumping the rough road. I have seen  
clippings mentioning that the Little Road is to be  
built - a super super highway. Whoever made that  
statement ought to be compelled to build it. Some  
to more than see road with the truth.

If my correspondence is not known, do not  
think it is. I am not a man thinking less of  
myself. It is the time I am not in community  
of the Holy Spirit. OSB 22 An Service Group

OSB 22, 1971  
V - MAIL  
Lumen (St. Joseph)

Hq, 52nd Air Service Group  
APO 218, C/o P.m., N.Y.  
March 15, 1945

Dear Father Abbot,

Today are the Ides of March. For the original Caesar they spelled doom, and it looks as if the day of wrath for the modern Caesars is not too far in the offing. On the 10th of March I started my fourth year in the Army. In Army parlance I am now a "fogey". After three years of service a 5% increase is given in pay. Back in '42 when I entered the service, I conjectured three years at the most, now it looks like five years at a minimum, ere that blessed day comes when I'll be able to lay aside the uniform and resume the cowl of a monk.

Of late I have been about as stable in my assignment as a hunted jackrabbit on the Dakota plains. With the Engineers I stayed about five weeks. Not that they did not want me, but they were moved to a spot from which I could not contact large numbers of Catholics. On Sundays I care for all the Air Bases at APO 218, during the week I am on the Ledo Road giving Mass and the Sacraments to Engineers units and small Pipe Line detachments. Sleeping on different cots, eating the various experiments of Mess personnel, dissipating many hours on the road, cramming in the Office, etc. are not too pleasant for me. Being a dutchman I am somewhat a slave to a routine, which does not exist now. Although doing a lot, I feel at times that little is accomplished. The spread is too great. It is impossible to work over the Catholic personnel. A sort of hit and run pastor. My parish is the northwest territory of Burma. Although the size of a diocese, rest assured that I have no aspiration to the Purple.

This assignment comes at the beginning of the hot season. Last year it was the same way. During the hot season and the monsoons I was continually on the go. Last summer I was the only Catholic Chaplain in an area where now are four priests. Father Nolan, the supervising Chaplain of the Air Forces in this theatre, apparently does not wish to give me any rest. I have confidence that I'll survive the job. At least at present I do not feel that I am worn out, but must admit that the wear and tear is telling a little.

In India everything was settled; it was impossible to imagine that a war was going on. Now, however, I am in combat area. I have seen much of the destructive residue of war. Cities entirely demolished, buildings leveled to the ground, rubble strewn like a blanket over beautiful landscaping, the former city area a net work of trenches and pillboxes; these are my daily sights. When a person stops to think how day after day enemy lines are reciprocally hurling cannon balls, dropping bombs, it leaves the impression of how senseless mankind has become. Omnia desolata sunt. quia nemo recogitet in corde suo. Should Jeremiah be here with his vivid imagination, I am sure that he could compose some soul stirring lamentations.

In a few minutes I must be on my way. You will have to excuse the brevity of this letter. I wish to take this opportunity to wish you and the community a very Blessed Easter.

Devotedly,

*Cozman, O.S.B.*

P.S. Please send me some Mass intentions. Enclosed are a few pictures taken of my Midnight Mass in India.

*60 add. intentions*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00144



Print the complete address to which these letters in the postal tubes, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, ink ball, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. \_\_\_\_\_



POSTMAN'S STAMP

To Rt. Rev. Alvin Douseth, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota

From C. P. Dahlheimer, Chap  
(Sender's name)  
52nd Air Service Group  
(Sender's address)  
APO 218, Ft. P. H., N. C.  
March 16, 1945  
(Date)

Dear Father's abbot,  
Yesterday I wrote a letter to you. Due to the greater bulk of mail it has been mentioned that there is no guarantee that any other mail but V-mail will be flown back to the States. Air mail will be flown if there is cargo space on air ships, otherwise it goes by boat.

In my letter I requested these intentions. In the event that my letter should go by boat I would be without intentions for a long time. To make sure I am sending this note requesting these intentions I would appreciate if these intentions - their number and for whom to be offered - would be recorded on a V-mail form.

A happy and blessed Easter to you and my Confessors.

Most truly,  
C. P. Dahlheimer



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

March 26, 1945

Chap. Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer  
52 Air Serv Gp  
APO 218  
c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

My dear Father Cosmas:

Your V-Mail of March 7 arrived here a few days ago. I wish I could get this to you before Easter. But this is impossible. I might have gotten a letter off to you immediately on receipt of yours, but I have been dictating so many letters these last days that Father Jude got more than he could type in the course of the same day.

Father Aubrey stopped off yesterday for a few hours, on his way from the Chaplain's School to Santa Ana. He expressed his sympathy for you in the new assignment that you mention in your letter; but he was also edified by the fine spirit in which you are taking this--"privilege and pleasure to be such (a traveling salesman for the Mystical Body, Inc." With him I am happy that you can take things in such a cheerful way. Thanks be to God that He has given you this power to look at things from a spiritual standpoint. May it ever abide in you and grow.

Father Aubrey looked quite well and enjoyed his stay at the Chaplains School. I think he would not mind getting another assignment overseas. All our men are overseas now, except Fathers Dunstan and Aidan. Of course, Father Aloysius just began Chaplains' School last week and Father Athanasius has not yet received his commission. I am hoping that he will not, since I would need his services here.

By this time you probably also have learned that Fathers Owen and Boniface are still alive. They did not get to San Beda for about two weeks after having been rescued. But Father Owen's last letter, dated March 12, states that he has returned to San Beda, while he has suffered no injury, thanks to the fact that it was not in Old Manila, but in a newer section. Both Fathers Owen and Boniface are willing to remain at San Beda; Father Alfred Koestner of Atchison is on his way back to the United States. I shall have to be sending additional help to them. I have already notified Father Bernard to be ready; I shall also send Father Anselmo. Who of ours will volunteer, I do not yet know.

I think I shall refrain from giving further news, since you will have already gotten some items and will get others. I would merely add that Father Bede is reported as having contracted jungle rot. I know that he has been in the hospital for some weeks. His last letter stated that he was hoping to be transferred to a hospital in the United States. My prayer is that he may fully recover. Father Harold has not yet reached Manila - at least had not when he wrote his last letter on March.

I hope and pray Holy Week may be a source of spiritual joy and refreshment for you, no matter how heavy your work may be. I am sure you are not forgetting to offer all your labors and sacrifices in union with those of Our Blessed Lord for peace, the welfare of the Church and of your own Community, especially those that are constituted in great danger. May our dear Lord keep you hale and hearty in body and mind!

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00146



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

Chap. Capt. ~~JOSEPH F. DAHLHEIMER~~  
52 Air Service Group  
APO 218 c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

Deutsch, O.S.B.  
St. John's University  
Collegeville, Minnesota

April 3, 1945

Since I wrote you on March 26, I shall reply only briefly to yours of March 15 and the V-Mail of March 16. I think they arrived the same day. You ask for Mass intentions and suggest that I send them by V-Mail, that there may be no delay. I am doing so. Please take 60 ad intentionem dantis.

Nothing of importance since my letter of the 26th. It was an empty house during the latter days of Holy Week. Prior Frederic wants me to come down to the Bahamas about the middle of this month to see what can be done about finding and purchasing a suitable site for proposed monastery and school. I am reluctant to go and have not yet decided what I shall do.

The new Bishop of Crookston, Father Schenk, will be consecrated on May 24 and installed in Crookston on the 30th.

I am sending Brother Michael to see Doctor Hinsella. I suspect he may have t.b.

Thanks for the pictures that you sent. I sympathize with you in the difficult service you are now having. God bless you.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00147

Hq 52nd Air Service Group  
APO 218 c/o Postmaster, N.Y.  
April 11, 1945

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

Nothing, as far as I am able to remember, has ever so moved me emotionally or cast such a spell of depression over me as the glimpse I had at the Mar 24th edition of YANK, the soldiers' magazine. That edition featured the ruins of Monte Cassino. The large picture on the front page graphically shows how the bombs of war have bitten large holes into the massive walls of that house of prayer. Another shot clearly shows a priest taking a few soldiers over the ruins of the Abbey Church with a remark that here lie the bones of Our Holy Father St. Benedict. The gait of the monk suggests the inner pain and dejection that he feels. Mentally I tried to put myself in his place. How would I feel upon coming home to St. John's and find it in such ruins.

Seeing these pictures a few days before the holy Feast of Easter, I decided to take a collection on Sunday for the reconstruction of that famous Abbey so dear to the heart of every Benedictine. My appeal was simple; the results were beyond my wildest expectations. The total was \$749.79. I am proud of my soldier parish. The following Sunday I told them that their generosity for this cause will be one of the most pleasant memories of my whole Army career, in fact a memory that will only fade in death. The cheque is enclosed in this letter. Upon receipt I would appreciate a statement from you that this money was received for that cause. The reason being that the Army is very particular about this matter of collections. If the cause is specified, it is O.K. Yet it is necessary to have some receipt on hand to show that these funds were disbursed for that cause.

Last Friday, the 6th, Bishop Sullivan paid the Catholic Chaplains of this area a visit. He is flying over the India Burma theatre as the personal representative of Archbishop Spellman. We had dinner with him and an agreeable chat for several hours. The Bishop, although his bones are aging, was full of good humor and cheer. Without doubt this touring with all the rough rides in Army vehicles over dusty roads is fatiguing for a man his age.

Upon returning from this visit with the Bishop, I was elated to the sky when I returned to my room. There was a letter in the familiar hand of Father Beniface, a hand that had been stilled for so many, many months. It was mailed on Mar 6th and I received it a month later. Father did not say much, but remarked, "the good God has been very good to us." Without delay I blamned out a letter to him, hoping that it will travel as rapidly as his did this way.

My work goes on and on. The warm reception that I get from the dispersed Engineer units along the road is truly in the spirit of Benedictine hospitality. Every place serves the best food that they have, and try to make it comfortable in every way. It is inspiring to minister to grimy and dusty soldiers who have just come off the road after a heavy day of labor. With simplicity they kneel on the ground confessing their sins, many times open to the view of all. They attend Mass without the convenience of pews or kneelers. To behold these youngsters, boys, kids, worn away from home, often overcome with homesickness, worship in this simple manner is a sight that moves one. Youngsters who did not want war; yet war has taken them.

Last Sunday after Mass a Sergeant wanted to speak to me. He asked me about a religious Order that he might join after the war. In his mind was the thought of entering the Capuchin Brotherhood. He didn't know whether it might be just a foolish

Check  
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Fr. Conner  
from  
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for  
St. John's  
R.

thought. "The years of war," he said, "have brought home to <sup>me</sup> ~~him~~ forcibly how empty the world is." I gave him a talk about the Benedictine Brotherhood also. My advice was that he should immediately write to his pastor, and in the meanwhile pray that he may find his vocation. I have had others in the Army who spoke the same way. Good young men who wished to study for the priesthood. In every instance I tell them to write to their own pastor.

In a recent letter to you, at least I think so, I requested some Mass intentions. Your letter of the 26th ult arrived today without intentions. I noted that Father Aubrey was again at St. John's. Since returning to the States he has worn a groove through the central part of Minnesota. I admit that I envy him a bit.

The penitential season is here again. The first and last three months of the year are very pleasant, but the mid semester of the year is heat and sweltering moonsoons. The hot season started with a bang on Easter Sunday. With over 500 confessions and more than my share of Masses I sweated like the village blacksmith.

As I look ahead I spy the 19th of May on the calendar. May God grant you many graces and blessings through the intercession of Blessed Alcuin!

Fidelity,

*Coonan, O.S.B.*

P.S. The enclosed cheque is made out to my name. The Finance Dept does this service for any member of the Army anywhere free of charge. The cheque is made out to the person who gives the cash with a right for him to indorse it to any particular individual whom he chooses. This one is indorsed to you ready to be cashed.

C., O.S.B.

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, ball pen, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

*(R. Dahlheimer)*

RECORDS DIVISION

To  
 Rt. Rev. Alouin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
 St. John's Abbey  
 Collegeville, Minnesota

From  
 Cosimo W. Dahlheimer  
 HQ 92 Air Service Group  
 (Sender's address)  
 APO 218 0/0 Westchester, N.Y.  
 18 April 1945  
 (Date)

*Handwritten notes:* 20 April 45

*Handwritten notes:* Arrived at 9:00 20 April 45

Dear Father Abbot,

It seems that I started a vicious circle in my correspondence of the last six months. When I received your last letter with intentions, I immediately wrote again, not remembering that I had requested them in a later letter. Today your V-mail of April 3rd arrived with the GO and intentions. I have already copied them into my Register, thereby assuming the obligation to fulfill these intentions.

Just returned from my roadwork which I started for Monday morning. Will be going out again tomorrow. I must admit that time however goes so rapidly for me before this. Without a doubt I am putting the stress on the active life. It will be a happy day when I will be able to return to the monastic life, which affords a person with the opportunity of a more contemplative life.

Tell Father Jude that I appreciated his letter of some months ago. It is a great encouragement to know that correspondents are interested in those who have gone abroad. The fact that I have not answered it does not mean that I have forgotten. I feel that he has an opportunity to read letters that I write to others.

Sorry to hear that Brother Michael is not well. I suppose that Brother Ambrose is still carrying on, as Brother Ambrose says that Brother Ambrose is missing me.

Sincerely,

*Handwritten signature:* Cosimo W. Dahlheimer





SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 21, 1945

Chaplain Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer O 439 014  
Hq 52 Air Service Gp  
APO 218 c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

My dear Father Cosmas:

There is a letter from you here dated April 11, and then there is another one, a V-mail letter, dated April 15. Both arrived while I was away on my trip to our Mission in the Bahamas. I left April 15 and returned on May 6--just three weeks. The Fathers wanted me to come down to help them solve their problems--mainly concerning the development of community life there and of the school that we opened in January. I left instructions with them to proceed with the building of a monastery--our Chapter two years ago voted \$25,000 for this purpose--and for the development of the school. We selected a site outside of the city on a ridge, an elevation where there will be isolation, fresh air, a view of the sea both to the north and to the south, as also to the east. I hope that they will find a sufficient supply of water there, as I told them to make sure of that before undertaking any work towards locating on that site.

But, pardon me! - I really should have opened this letter with a hearty commendation of your interest in the Order, as manifested by the splendid appeal that you made for Monte Cassino. I did not hear it, nor have I seen the text of what you said. But since your soldiers contributed \$747.79 for the purpose, you must have indeed moved your boys strongly. You could do this on account of the love that you have in your heart for your Order. May the Lord, through the intercession of our holy Father, bless you abundantly for this and increase your love and devotion to your own monastery. I have not yet made a public appeal. This morning I received a letter from Abbot Patrick of Newark, who reports to me that the Editor of TIME would be disposed to make a nationwide appeal through his magazine, if agreeable to us. Yet I hesitate to turn on the green light, since the Apostolic Delegate has indicated to me that he did not think we should make a nationwide appeal at the present time when appeals will be made for more essential needs for the suffering people of Europe.

The rest of your letter also shows that you have your heart in the right spot. I can well understand how your boys have such affection for you that they responded so generously and are so intent on making things comfortable for you when you come their way. I have not seen the attitude of revert simplicity to which you allude as remarkable in these boys, except that some photos that I have seen of our Doughboys at Divine Service have given me that impression.

Lest I forget: On your letter of April 11 there is a notation by Father Prior-- it arrived during my absence,-- that the check you sent was deposited with the Procurator and receipt sent to you, signed by the procurator, in acknowledgment of this money for the rebuilding of Monte Cassino. He made a notation also on your V-mail letter which arrived on May 1 and in which you acknowledged receipt of the 60 Mass intentions I sent you on April 3. Perhaps I had better not enclose any with this present letter, since you should have enough until the first of July and may be getting some elsewhere.

I had a request today from the Abbess of the convent at Veroli, where Sister Fortunata Viti spent her life. She asked for a loan of \$2000 to provide adequate housing for her sisters, since they suffered heavily in this war. The Seniors consented. She will deposit a security with Father Ulric--a set of vestments valued at more than \$5000. I suppose we shall soon be flooded with requests for help from Europe. The Seniors, to

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00151



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY · COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

Page two  
Chaplain Capt. Cosmas R. Dahlheimer O 439 014  
Hq 52 Air Service Gp  
APO 218 c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

my pleasure, expressed themselves as being in favor of generous help, especially to our Benedictine brethren and sisters.

I should like to give you a little news. But you probably know most of it or will soon have it. You probably do not know that the weather has not been very pleasant this month. It seems to have reacted unfavorably on some of our Clerics, especially Fraters Virgil O'Neill and Ronald Holmf, both of whom are in the St. Cloud Hospital, cause of trouble not yet diagnosed. This summer is likely to be a hard one for us--summer school again and a lot of requests for pastoral assistance.

Fathers Owen and Boniface are recuperating nicely and are hoping for a number of men to assist them in the reorganization of San Beda. A notice received yesterday <sup>originally</sup> from General MacArthur lists those that received the Ribbon of Merit for their conduct in the Philippine Campaign; among them is Father Owen.

Commending you to the abiding inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Whom we venerate in a particular way these days, I am

Affectionately yours,



Hq 52nd Air Service Group  
APO 218 c/o Postmaster, N.Y.  
June 6, 1945

Re: Rev Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

The 6th of June is the D-Day of my life. It hardly seems possible that nine years have passed since I received my commission in aeternum. My anniversary of ordination this year was as simple as the handful of colored soldiers of an Engineer Company, who attended my Mass along the dusty Ledo Road just as the morning Sun was struggling over the Burma mountains.

A week ago today, Memorial Day, the three Padres in the APO 218 area put on a Solemn High Mass at an Evacuation Hospital. The Chapel was packed. The men really hunger to attend a fuller expression of the Church's Liturgy. The Acolytes were a full Colonel, Commander of an Engineer Aviation Regiment, and a Major, the commander of an Engineer Battalion. The Colonel, a West Pointer, is a deeply religious man. He pulls his rank every Sunday to have the privilege of serving Mass, and approaches the holy Table every time that he attends Mass. His example of practical Catholicity does more than many sermons. After every Mass he humbly thanks the Celebrant for permitting him to serve his Mass. Father Davis, the Hospital Chaplain, after the Mass remarked, "I am sure that we made history tonight, in that we celebrated the first Solemn Mass in North Burma." Only in the last few years has the first Missionary arrived in North Burma to work among the scattered Kachins nestled in the mountain slopes.

About a week ago the Chaplain of this Group asked me if I ever get deep moods of depression. He has been with this Group only several months and not even six months overseas. His everlasting topic of conversation is about his wife and three children. From what I have heard and seen of married Protestant Minister overseas I can understand the wisdom of the Church in demanding a celibate Clergy. "He who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife." Many times they become discouraged because of the small attendance at their Sunday Morning Worship. Overseas they do not have beautiful Churches, a well trained choir, a grand Pipe Organ (sometimes not even a field organ). When all these accidentals are peeled off, they discover that the substance has disappeared likewise.

Now that Father Bede is back in the States I hope that he will quickly recover from his skin affliction. The heavy humidity of the rain drenched Jungles causes infections of a fungus nature called "Jungle Rot" by Medics. Just recently I had such an infection in the canals of the outer ear, causing a running of the ear. The treatment seems to be very complicated. A daily irrigation of the ear with Peroxide, then swabbing it with a red solution, a green one, a yellow one, in fact all the colors of the rainbow. During the day the ear was plugged with a cotton wick. At first the Doc saturated this wick with sulfa drug, that failing he tried Penicillin, and finally alcohol. The latter was a little embarrassing at times especially when some Officers next to me at table would look at me somewhat askance. Generally I put him at ease by assuring him that it was not my breath but my ears. The alcohol treatment seemed to be the cure though. It ate the infected lining out of the ear. It seems that alcohol has the peculiar potency of eating out the lining.

My Mass intentions are running low. If the Abbey Registrum has any to spare, I would appreciate a goodly number.

Devotedly in St. Benedict,

*Leamas, O.S.B.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

June 16, 1945

Ch (Capt) Cosmas Dahlheimer  
Hq 52nd Air Service Group  
APO 218 - 3 Postmaster  
New York City

My dear Father Cosmas,

Your letter of the 6th of June just came in with the morning mail, and as you ask for Mass intentions, I am going to answer it immediately before my secretary has to leave for his weekend appointment. All of the Fathers will be leaving in the course of the day except Father Innocent and the older Fathers. There have been numerous calls for assistance, and it has come to the point where we must simply refuse to take on any additional requests.

Will you please take care of the following  
Masses:      25 (twenty-five) pro defa. Anna  
                 15 (fifteen)      pro defa. Maria  
                 5 (five)            pro defa. Joanne  
                 5 (five)            pro defa. Isabella  
                 5 (five)            pro defa. Augustine  
                 55 (fifty-five) in toto.

We have a superabundance of Mass intentions, so many in fact that it is necessary to send a considerable number of them, sometimes running over two thousand, to the Holy Father about every two and a half weeks. Whenever you need Mass intentions, please let me know.

Perhaps you have heard by this time that the chapter voted last week to erect a new power house and also authorized the change-over from direct to alternating current. The latter part of the program will not be undertaken at present since it is impossible to get electrical equipment now. As soon as we get the bids out, etc., the work on the new power house, to be situated just west of the present one, will be begun. Unless we begin within a set period, the AFB will withdraw our building permit and negotiations would have to be begun over again.

I am sorry to hear that you had a bit of trouble with "jungle rot" of the outer ear, but I am happy to know that it has been cleared up, even though the only potent medicine seemed to be alcohol. I have not heard from Father Bede for some time, but I trust that his case is clearing up. You did not say what answer you gave the Minister with the family who asked you whether you "ever get deep moods of depression." Yet I am sure that your answer was in the negative. There may be days when things don't go so well, but I don't think you would ever become deeply depressed. How can we when we have our Faith to bolster us up?

Fr. John must leave now to catch his train. He has been acting as my secretary since his return from the University about three weeks ago. Fr. Jude is temporarily stationed in the hospital at Brainerd as chaplain. All the other Fathers are well; Brother Michel is suffering more and more pain; perhaps that is a sign the end is near. Remember him in your sacrifices.

Affectionately yours,

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00154



ΑΤΟ ΒΕΝΙΜ, ΕΛΤΙΒΕΛΛΕΥΟΝ ΤΗ ΑΒΒΕΥΑ ΤΗΣ ΟΥΡΑΝΙΑΣ  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

August 17, 1945

Chaplain (Capt) Cosmas Dahlheimer  
Hq 52nd Air Service Group  
APO 218  
Postmaster - New York City

My dear Father Cosmas,

My thanks to you for your lengthy letter of the 27th of July. You write very well and interestingly, and I appreciate the time and effort you put into this last letter, giving me the story of your short vacation and of the places you have visited. I like very much to read of the reaction your various experiences have given you, and it is my hope and prayer that you will soon be able to return once again to the peace and quiet of a deeper prayer life here at the abbey. I presume the surrender of Japan will affect your remaining in the army, and it is my hope that you will soon be released. Our Bishop has sent out a letter asking all of the pastors to celebrate, next week, three solemn Masses in thanksgiving. We will be having our retreat at that time, and hence we will be able to have the High Masses without any special inconvenience. The Bishop has also asked all other priests to offer three Masses in thanksgiving; I have posted his letter with a postscript granting the Fathers permission to say these Masses.

My sympathy goes out to you in the dysentery that you suffered after your return to your work. I hope that it has entirely cleared up by this time and that it will leave no ill effects with you. Poor Father Bede -- you know of course that he has had jungle rot for some months. He has been in a hospital at Galesburg since May, if I recall correctly. Just the other day he wrote that he had made all plans for a visit here but that every time when he was ready to leave the infection would break out anew. His hope lies in the fact that each new out-break has been less severe and has healed more rapidly. During July his hands were infected and he was not able to celebrate Mass. They have healed again now and he hopes to be able to visit us soon.

Since you ask me for Mass intentions, I am enclosing the following:

Fifty (50) pro defunctis

I have told Father John, who has care of the Mass book for the summer that you have received the others sent you in my last letters.

Just why the envelope of your last letter, or rather, of my last letter to you, should have been stamped with 70¢ worth of air mail stamps, I do not know. At about that time I sent several letters to the Fathers in Manila, and these cost 70¢ for airmail. Perhaps Father John put the wrong postage on the wrong envelope. I do not know how else the mistake could have occurred.

Our summer session closed last Friday, a week ago today. All of the Fathers, and especially the Clerics, are rejoicing. The deacons, however, are still continuing their courses in Dogma and Moral, since the Dean would like to complete these before ordination on the 2nd of September. Were only our own men being ordained, the courses would not have to be completed, for I do not intend to give our men faculties until about December, but the Bishops will want to use their men before that for parish work. Tomorrow the Archbishop is ordaining a large class. After he has appointed these, we may be relieved of sending regular help to some of the parishes in the Cities. Our deacons will continue their courses after ordination and will assist

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00155



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY - COLLEGEVILLE, WISCONSIN  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

Father Cosmas - 2- August 17, 1945

in teaching in the High School. The latter is overcrowded already and I suppose more applications will be coming in within the next few weeks. I do not know just what the college will have, but we may get more applications now that the war is over. I may also send Father Magnus away to school for philosophy; we need a man to take Father Otto's place, and Father Ralph does not wish to return to teach philosophy.

I have been kept very busy throughout the summer, and now the task confronts me of making arrangements for the next year both in the parishes and in the school. I don't know just what it will be possible to do for Manila. The State Department has not answered my request for information about passports for those whom I wish to send to help Fathers Owen and Boniface. They are begging for help, but my hands are tied. Presuming that you have been getting whatever news there is from others and from THE RECORD, I will not write more today. With a prayer that God keep you in His love and grace and continue to bless your work, I am

affectionately yours,

Abbot

je

Hq 2nd Air Commando Group  
APO 493 c/o Postmaster, N.Y.  
Sept 17, 1945.

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

The letter head indicates that I am again changed, but this is the change that will bring me back to St. John's before long. Right now I am in Calcutta while in transit from my former station to the new assignment.

The supervising AIF Chaplain in the Theatre, Father Nolan, recently changed all the older Chaplains in the Theatre to the Tactical Units, who have first priority in returning to the States. How soon these Units will move, I know not. From the rumor vine in its biggest branch here in Calcutta it seems that we will sail at the beginning of October. At any rate it is certain that I will eat my Thanksgiving meal on the same side of the ocean as did the early pilgrims.

Tell Brother Anschar to keep the fatted calf in tow, for the prodigal is coming home. Do not write any more letters, since from now on it means moving from one staging area to another. I may write a note from time to time in case we move slowly.

Also wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter with the fifty Mass intentions. I have assumed the responsibility for satisfving these stipends.

Devotedly,

*Walter J. ...*

Karachi, India  
Oct 18, 1945

Dear Father Abbot,

By this time I should have been back to America, but by a sequence of Odyssean fortune I am still locked in this isle of Ogygia (India).

Originally we were to sail from Calcutta on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, then the 27<sup>th</sup>, and finally we were flown from Calcutta at the beginning of this month to this Western Port of India. Since here, every day begets a maze of rumors. Ships come and left. Finally our group was booked for one due to sail on the 14<sup>th</sup>. This ship broke down around Port Said on its way to India causing some more delay. The rumor mill has now fixed our date for embarkation on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Unless Aeolus conspires against us, we should reach the States around mid-November.

Devotelly,  
Cosmas, OSB

Financial Account for 1945 of Cosmas, O.S.B.

Receipts

On hand Jan 1, 1945.....	25.00
Pay.....	3018.80
Mass Stipends.....	63.00
Per Diem.....	14.30
Travel Allowance.....	17.27

3138.37

Disbursements

Clothes.....	117.65
Books & Newspaper.....	7.50
Post Exchange.....	138.45
Stamps & Stationary.....	22.70
Travel.....	62.20
Souvenirs for gifts.....	35.00
Laundry & Cleaning.....	55.50
Watch Repair.....	4.50
Rations.....	351.25
Barber.....	17.75
Hosts.....	10.00
Charity (India & Burma Missions)	34.85
Charity (Parish).....	5.00
Charity (Home).....	31.25
Charity (Nephew).....	5.00
Films & Pictures.....	17.10
To Abbey.....	2199.65
	<u>3115.35</u>
Sundries & Unaccountable.....	23.02
	<u>3138.37</u>

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PERSONAL ACCOUNT  
of  
Fr. Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
for the year  
1945

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2-7-46

# eals Plans for Expansion of

Former Army Airforce Chaplains—

## Benedictine Priests on Campus

By MARY HUISKAMP

Not in the black hoods of monks, but in the uniforms of chaplains of the army air corps are the two Benedictine priests now on the campus of the State University of Iowa.

Father Cosmas Dahlheimer and Father Aubrey Zellner of St. John's university in Minnesota, both on terminal leave, entered the graduate college of the university this semester to study classical languages.

Their home monastery, St. John's, is a far cry from the shadowed cloisters of medieval days. A flexible monastic order, the Benedictines have successfully adapted themselves to the modern world.

### Order More Active

"Because of the peculiar demands of the pioneer days," said Father Aubrey, "the order had to become more active in the United States than in the Old World."

"The day is past when monks never ventured out of their halls," added Father Cosmas. "For instance, St. John's has 13 chaplains in military service at present."

Father Aubrey and Father Cosmas will receive their discharges at the same time—Feb. 14, but it's not really a coincidence. Their whole lives have run parallel.

Their acquaintance began with small-boy fights when they belonged to feuding gangs in St. Cloud, Minn.

"He came from the other side of the tracks," laughed Father Aubrey.

"Yes, and I've always been afraid I may have hit you in one of those fights," replied Father Cosmas.

They soon became friends, growing up together through prep school, college, and finally, seminary, all at St. John's university. They were ordained at the same time, and both became teachers on the faculty of St. John's.

### Became Chaplains

When the war broke out, Father Aubrey became an army air corps chaplain, leaving the university in 1941. In 1942 Father Cosmas followed his example. Although Father Cosmas was with the aviation engineers and Father Aubrey was with the heavy bombers, they were soon back together.

In 1943 Father Cosmas was sent to Burma with a convoy crew on the Ledo road. There, on the back road to China, he met Father Aubrey. They were stationed within seven miles of each other for several months.

With the torrid climate of Burma, the snakes, the vermin and the disease, life on the Ledo road was a nightmare.

"But no matter how terrific the hardships," said Father Cosmas, "you can stand them when



NOW ON TERMINAL LEAVE as army air corps chaplains, these priests of the Benedictine monastic order, Father Aubrey Zellner, left, and Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, entered the University of Iowa this semester to do graduate work in classical languages. They served for two years in Burma and India while on leave from St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn., where they are members of the faculty. After a year of study at the University of Iowa, they will return to the staff at St. John's.

you have company. Somehow it doesn't seem so bad when you know everyone else is going through the same thing."

Dec. 12, 1942, Father Cosmas said the first mass on the Ledo road. Of his work as a chaplain, he says:

"The job of the Catholic chaplains is not only to listen to the men tell their troubles. Our main duty was to provide religious services."

The fathers objected to the idea that Catholic work is purely humanitarian work, which, they said, seems to be the point of recent religious movies.

"Movies such as 'Going My Way,' and 'The Bells of St. Mary's' don't really do much for the Catholic religion," Father Aubrey said. "Instead of teaching any religion, they glamorize the church and the priesthood."

### Received Promotions

When their work was completed in India, in 1945, the two priests returned together to the United States. Still together, both received promotions to the rank of

major at the same time while on terminal leave.

Now living at the Catholic student center, Father Cosmas and Father Aubrey will do graduate work in education and the classical languages for about a year.

## Mrs. Mary Rohret Funeral to Be Held Tomorrow at Cosgrove

Funeral services will take place tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock at Cosgrove for Mrs. Mary F. Rohret, 87, who died Tuesday night in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Hill Long in Cosgrove.

Mrs. Rohret is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Anna Long of Solon, Mrs. Gertrude Hamer and Mrs. Long of Cosgrove; a sister, Mrs. Anna Norris of Iowa City, and a brother, John Mori of Parnell. Her husband, George L. Rohret, two sons, a daughter, one brother and a sister preceded her in death.

The rosary will be said tonight at 8 o'clock at the Hohenschu mortuary. Burial will take place at Cosgrove.

## Novelist Will Join SUI English Staff

Lt. Col. Paul Horgan, novelist from Roswell, N. Mex., will arrive at the university Feb. 15 to join the staff of the English department as a visiting writer.

Working with Prof. Paul Eng of the English department, he will assist students in the writer workshop by individual consultations about fiction writing.

Horgan won the Harper prize novel competition in 1933 for his novel, "The Fault of Angels." His other novels include "Men at Arms" (1931), "No Quarter Given" (1935), "Main Line West" (1936), "The Return of the West" (1936), "A Lamp on the Plain" (1937), "Far from Cibola" (1938), "Figures in a Landscape" (1940), "The Habit of Empire" (1941) and "The Common Heart" (1942).

Among his other works are an American opera, "A Tree on the Plains," written in 1942, and drama, "Young A. Lincoln," also written in 1942. Articles and fiction have appeared in annual collections of best short stories for 11 years.

An alumnus of the New Mexican Military institute, he has been in the army since August, 1942.



CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 McLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

February 24, 1946

Dear Father Abbot:

In recent communications from the Abby I have been informed that you have returned to the Abbey. I hope that you have accomplished on your trip what you had set out to do. It is almost a month since I have arrived in Iowa, and am just now getting somewhat adjusted to my new routine of life. The first weeks in the classroom were very disconcerting. At first I could not figure out what was the matter with me. I had absolutely now power of concentration. In reading it was like going over so many words, nothing would be retained. Fortunately the head of the Classics Dept just recently returned from the Service. He agreed with me that it will take some time to make the adjustment from the dissipation of Army life. I now realize that my last four years were mostly activity with very little mental ~~activity~~ <sup>concentration</sup>. However, I am now beginning to get the interest again that makes it possible to stay at the books for a longer period of time.

Our, Father Aubrey's and mine, living conditions are the best that could be had. Three of the Diocesan Fathers are assigned to the center and another Davenport Father is studying at the Univ. This gives us a quorum of six presbyters who have interesting and lively conversations. The Fathers here have a high regard for the Benedictine way of life, and ask us many question about the rule. We'll try our best not to spoil that admiration. One of the Fathers just last evening mentioned to me how he marvels at the great prudence displayed by St. Benddict in his Rule.

The schedule of my students <sup>is</sup> is full. At the present I am doing a little side reading in the hopes of discovering some topic for a thesis. I have a course in reading the tragedies of Sophocles, another in Plato. Also a course in historical Syntax. A course in Ancient Art taught by a man from Harvard. In the last lecture he remarked, "The greatest art ever produced is Catholic art." After class he talked to Father Menke and myself, saying that he could not understand why the Church tolerates the inferior art of the present day in the light of the great traditáon she has had in the past. He is an Episcopalian and knows quite a bit about Church art. I had Father Joachim sent me some pictures of Beuronese art of which he had never heard. He thinks it excellent. Among the pictures was the print of our Abbey Church of the ordination rite, used by many as a first Mass card. When he glimpsed at that, he queried without any inhibitions, "Where is that at?" An excellent painting he said, and his ambition is to see it some day.

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 MCLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

Both this art prof and the head of Classic Dept, Doctor Else, are young Harvard men who have just come to this Univ. Both of them have taken digs at the modern ideas of progressive education in which the student chooses what he wishes to study. One of them ranted in class, "How can the student express himself before he has learned anything? If he has any worth while ideas, a course of education imposed upon him will not prevent him from expressing them later on. If on the other hand there are any values in life, let him learn them before he tries to teach others." In Plato class Doctor Else said, "America finds herself in the world lime-light today and we have found that there are no leaders to lead America. What could be a more patent indictment of American education!"

This seems to be about all that comes to my mind for the present.

Devotedly in St. Benedict,

*Loannos, OSB*  
P.S. Kent will soon be starting. I was wondering whether I should attempt the regular fast or not. What is your opinion, Father Abbot?



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

March 2, 1948

My dear Father Cosmas,

On the day when I received your letter of the 24th of last month I received one also from Father Aubrey. Since I am still crowded with work, I am going to write you a longer letter (since you are the Senior), asking you to convey whatever news there may be also to Father Aubrey.

I am glad you are finding yourself again in the classroom. I rather felt that you would have a difficult time of it the first week or so. But that was to be expected after three and more years of Army life. You ask me at the end of your letter whether I thought it advisable for you to attempt the regular fast. I am afraid that you would find that very difficult and not good for your health. I would, therefore, advise you to attempt only a mitigated fast. But if the Spirit should move you to assume the entire burden, my blessing would be with you, as it is also if you act on my advice.

On Wednesday of this past week I called in the outside fathers for a Chapter meeting. To them I told what progress had been made in the Bahamas -- not much to date, but I believe most of the obstacles have now been cleared away and that construction of the new monastery will not be delayed much longer. The Bishop has generously offered to donate for the purpose of constructing the new monastery half of the proceeds of the sale of The Hermitage, if he is permitted to seal it. The Hermitage was a donation from Cardinal O'Connell with a special stipulation that it be used only for religious purposes. I think, however that the courts will permit the Bishop to sell. Then I presented to the Chapter the question of a foundation in Ogden, and the Chapter voted a sum not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars for the construction of a monastery and school in Ogden in accordance with the agreement between the Bishop and myself. Some considered the sum inadequate, but I thought it best to start small, so that the new community would have something to strive for and the diocese something to contribute. Finally, the Chapter consented to accept, with some specific conditions, the offer of Bishop Davis and the wealthy gentleman from Puerto Rico for the foundation of a monastery and school there. I am sure Bishop Davis will accept our conditions and I hope Mr. Roig will also -- these conditions were necessary to guarantee the independence of the monastery and school.

As I am writing to Father Aubrey, I am planning to leave for Manila in a couple of weeks. Commending myself and the community to your prayers, and assuring you of a remembrance in mine, I am

Affectionately yours,

Abbot

Je

# Catholic Student Center

ESTABLISHED FOR THE SPIRITUAL CARE OF  
CATHOLICS AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY

108 McLEAN STREET

IOWA CITY, IOWA

May 17, 1946

Rev. Rev. Alvin Deutsch, OSB,  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

From Father Benjamin's penny postcard, received today, I learned of your recent return to the abbey. No doubt you are happy to be home after your extensive travels during the past four months. Some time ago I was wondering whether you would make it back to the abbey for your nameday due to the uncertainties of present day travelling. I take this occasion of adding my felicitations to those of the Community in wishing you a Blessed Feastday.

There are not many things to say from this side of the fence, for school life is a well ordered routine. The University is winding up the chain of the semester with the profs pouring on their final term papers. School ends as to regular classes on the 30th with a full week of exams following. The summer term opens a few days thereafter. The school Sisters, who have a mother house at Cedar Rapids, rent a frat house on the Campus every summer. Before they may petition the Bishop for permission, the Superior must be able to state the father who will act as their Chaplain. Mother Superior asked me whether

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IOWA CITY, IOWA

I would offer Mass for them daily. To which request I consented.

On Easter Sunday Father Aubrey assisted at a parish about an hundred miles from here. I had a Mass and sermon at the Center, and was Deacon at Monsignor Meinburg's Solemn High Mass in the city parish. Several weeks after Easter Bishop Hayes of Davenport came to the Monsignor's parish for Confirmation. Father Aubrey and I were invited to assist. We found His Excellency very congenial.

By now I feel well adjusted to the routine of studying. I think that I mentioned in a previous letter how restless and distracted I was at first. To keep at the task for a long time was very difficult. Now a period of four hours at a stretch is like old times. My health also seems to be better. Not that I was sick, but my stomach was upset and I ate poorly in my last days overseas. Regular schedule of activity and a good diet has picked me up a little.

My thesis topic has been decided. It is "A Study of Demosthenes' Policy and Opposing Trends." When I submitted it the advisor seemed to be pleased. Work will, however, not be begun on it until the fall semester.

May the feast of Blessed Alvin be a happy day for you!

Devotely,

Boomer, OSB



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY - COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 20, 1946

My dear Fathers Cosmas and Aubrey,

I am sure you will pardon me, if I send but one letter to the two of you together, to thank you both for your letters of the 17th and for your good wishes for the feast of Blessed Alouin. I am still being kept very busy these days, since I have not yet caught up with the correspondence that has accumulated during my absence. And much of my time is taken up with interviewing the novices, the clerics who are ready for solemn vows, the various classes of the ordinandi, and the divinity students. And there are many other callers also whom I must see.

It is a pleasure to learn that you are both enjoying your work, and that you are now finding it easier to concentrate on the matter before you. I am happy that Father Aubrey's strep throat has cleared up, and that Father Cosmas has put on a little weight. I hope that the summer months will not be too hot in Iowa, especially since you tell me that little or no respite is given between the end of the spring quarter and the opening of the summer session. I hope that a longer vacation will be given at the end of the summer before the opening of the fall term. I would be interested in knowing just when the summer session closes, and when the next term opens so that I might know whether the two of you will be able to come up during the interval; I imagine you will, since Father Aubrey said he would be up for the retreat; I presume he means the 2nd one in August.

I don't know whether anyone has written you about my trip to Manila, and the return. I was fortunate in securing priorities on an army plane leaving Manila on the 2nd of May and arriving in San Francisco on the 4th. After spending a day at Salt Lake City and Ogden, I arrived home here on the evening of the 8th. In Manila all the Fathers were well, except that Father Raphael became sick on Wednesday of Holy Week and ran a very high fever (103-104) for over two weeks. The day we left he was feeling somewhat better, but the day after my arrival home, a telegram came from Father Owen stating that his condition was very grave. A few days later another telegram told me that Father Raphael was improving. I trust he is now on the road to recovery. Father Owen is coming home for a visit, and should be here at the end of this month or early next month; Father Boniface will be home sometime next year. At the present he must remain in order to supervise the opening of the 1st year of college in July. The future of San Bede seems assured, though its exact status will depend upon the Holy See, to whom I must now send a report on my visitation, together with recommendations for the future. In Ogden it was decided that, because of the difficulty of getting materials and labor, we would not build this year but that we would try to get all things in readiness for an early start next spring. Nothing definite has yet been decided about Puerto Rico. One of these days we are to have another chapter meeting to decide whether we wish to expand or not. There is an emergency at the present time. Should we meet that? If we do, should we plan to keep a larger college even after the emergency? I am opposed to expansion, but I do realize the emergency. Please remember the matter in your prayers.

Commanding you both to the Lord, and wishing each of you success in your thesis work, I am

Affectionately yours,

je

Abbot

Catholic Student Center  
108 Mc Leen St.,  
Iowa City, Iowa.

July 8, 1946

Rev. Rev. Alvin Stuteb., S.S.

Dear Father Albot,

With the approaching Solemnity of Our Holy Father, it is fitting that I break my abnormally lengthy period of silence. The press of classroom work has thrown my letter writing very much out of gear. The summer course started on June 12th. I am taking 3 courses - The Odyssey, Tragedy, and Renaissance Art. Requirements for an A.M. are that at least 4 credits must be taken in another field. I choose Art since it is such a universal medium of expression. For a degree in Classics it is permitted to take mostly Latin or Greek, or and mixture of the two. I am taking the Greek emphasis. It would be somewhat easier to mix it with Latin, but I am determined to get as much facility in Greek as I can during this year of studies.

After the semester and the opening of the summer's term we had a few days of rest. Father Menke, a diocesan student, and I took a little tour on one of these days. We visited



a church in Santiago Diocesis in a small town called Petesturg. Our art prof had suggested that students could with profit visit that church to note the beautiful wood carving. It is a Gothic structure with four side altars, several confessionals, and a pulpit. All the altars have high panels with excellent carving and statues filling in niches, so also in the pulpit behind words. This wood work was done in Innsbruck, Austria. What I enjoyed most of all, as did Father Means, were the sparkling stained glass windows. The colors were so bright and alive that the figures seemed to have life. Upon closer examination we noted in the lower corner of one window that they were the product of a glassmaker in Cologne.

We also visited New Mellary - my first. The monastery has started construction of a new wing. The Sacristan told us that the numbers of visitors are increasing, most of the recent pilgrims being ex-service men. Thatley I wanted to visit Father Altier, but he was far out in the field. I was told that he is an outstanding farmer and the tractor man. During the winter months he teaches Dogmatic Theology. By quizzing the Rev. Sacristan I was able to hear

that our former confederate is doing excellently as  
a druggist, teacher, and farmer.

Yesterday Father Aubrey and I were at Father Gauthier's  
first Soliman Mass. After the dinner there were  
several speeches among them some prominent  
lay men. One of the laymen <sup>gave</sup> such a high eulogy  
of St. John's that my ears are still tingling.  
Among some of the remarks he made lengthy  
mentions of Father Ministry of Quebec. Apparently  
the two men are good friends. He pointed out  
his son in the war in the waters of the Atlantic.  
Father Gauthier has written that he selflessly  
sacrificed his life. The speaker said that he  
had a talk with the judge shortly after the  
bad news. He said that the judge told him,  
"My boy was trained at St. John's and these  
Benedictines made the young men to be in  
thinking and acting."

In another month summer classes will  
end. Then we will have about a month  
at the Abbey.

May the Feast of Our Holy Father be a  
joyous occasion for you!

Sincerely yours,

Leanne, O.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

July 13, 1946

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Catholic Student Center  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

My thanks for your letter of the 8th with its greetings for the feast of our holy Father. You know that our first retreat was conducted during this week, and so we had a full day on the 11th. But fortunately it was not quite as hot as the two preceding days had been, and I rather think that many of the outside Fathers enjoyed being here again to witness the ceremonies of Profession. On the preceding day I had invested 16 novices, then of our own and six for St. Bede's. Included in our ten are two secular priests (Father Fell and Father Bolton; the latter was ordained last year for Bismarck), and a converted Jew already 45 years of age. I hope that all will persevere.

I think you did well in choosing a course in Renaissance Art. A knowledge of art will serve you in more ways than one. And I am pleased, too, that you are attempting to get as much facility in Greek as possible.

From your letter I gather that you plan to return to the University of Iowa for the fall term. As I recall, when you entered there early this year you thought that you would be able to obtain your Master's degree in one year, which would be in January or February of 1947. I want you to obtain your Master's degree, but I am wondering whether I ought to send you back there this fall for the fall semester or whether it would not be better to keep you here as Dean or Principal of the High School. You know that Father Philibert has not been well for the last couple of years. His condition is not improving and I have therefore relieved him of his work as Dean. I have not yet appointed his successor, though I am confident that you would do well in that position. Would you please let me have your reaction to this proposition? If you were appointed Dean, you might continue for your Master's in the coming summer sessions, though I do not know whether you would be able in such circumstances to obtain the financial aid granted by the G-I. Bill of Rights. Anyway, think it over and let me know how you feel about it.

With greetings also to Father Aubrey,  
and a prayer that God bless you, I am

Affectionately yours,

Je

Abbot

# Catholic Student Center

ESTABLISHED FOR THE SPIRITUAL CARE OF  
CATHOLICS AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY

108 McLEAN STREET

IOWA CITY, IOWA

July 15, 1946

Rt. Rev. Alvin Deutsch, *o.s.b.*

Dear Father Abbot,

Your letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> knocked the wind out of my midriff. Nothing has been farther from my mind than the possibility that my superior would think me capable of handling the duties of High School Principal. Personally I have no desire to have that assignment, but as a word I may not say more than that I feel incapable.

Breaking up my studies would bring up an awkward situation in the graduate school of Classics. At present there are only a few students and the courses are selected according to the needs of these students. The fall semester carries a selection of courses which the head of the department selected with a special view to fill my requirements. Also he stayed here this summer solely for my benefit, since he did want to take a vacation. Next summer Professor Lacey, the Greek prof. most likely will not be here. If I would not have the fall semester, I am sure that he would not be a little used. Any dealings with him after that would be very difficult.

These are my reactions, as you requested me to express them. I am almost certain that in a semester I would get the M.A., but if interrupted it is hard to say what will come then.

Devotely, Lawrence, *o.s.b.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

July 17, 1948

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Catholic Student Center  
105 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

My thanks for your letter of the 15th. I appreciate your prompt reply to my letter, and also your frank expression of your reactions.

I have taken the various points which you mentioned into consideration, and have come to the decision that I will not ask you to discontinue your work for the Master's but will permit you to continue until you have obtained it. I hope that you will have received it by the end of the first semester of next year, that is, by next February.

I do not yet know whom I will appoint as Dean of the High School. You tell me that as a monk you feel incapable of holding the position. I am happy to know that you are so humble, and I hope it will not make you proud to know that I am confident that you would have filled the job successfully.

Begging God to bless you, I am,  
with greetings also to Father Abney,

Affectionately yours,

Abbot

je

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 MCLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

October 4, 1946

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

Your kind remembrance on the occasion of my patronal feast plus your several notes to me in Father Aubrey's letters have finally moved me to write personally. This, I admit, I should have done some time ago. I wish to express my appreciation for remembering me on the feast of St. Cosmas, as also the promise that I will most likely remain at school during the coming year. However long I will be here I will try to use the time profitably at my studies.

My courses this semester are the tragedies of Euripides, the ethics of Aristotle, Survey of Greek Literature, Greek Composition, Major Readings in Greek, and some time on thesis. Fortunately, Professor Else, the head of the department, is an excellent philosopher. For him the philosophical thought of Plato and Aristotle is tops. Several weeks ago he asked a few questions about Benedictinism. That was in the early part of September when papers carried the centenary publicity. Then he remarked to me that a good friend of his after accepting the Catholic faith joined the English Benedictines in Washington. Professor Else is an Episcopalian.

Most probably Father Aubrey has already written to you that we returned to Iowa with Father Leonard Brugman, the director of the Student Center, who spend several days at St. John's. He regretted that he came to the Abbey at a time when you were not home, but he has signified his intention of going north again. At least he says that he was impressed with the Abbey grounds, and moreso with the congenial spirit Of the Fathers. At present the Center is raising funds for the construction of a Chapel on the University grounds. Almost every Sunday, sometimes several Fathers, are away speaking in the parishes of Davenport diocese. On Sept 22nd I was to Mt. Pleasant to speak of the activities of the Center and the imperative need of a Chapel. After Mass I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Roche, Father Stanley's father.

With very best wishes, I remain

Devotedly in Our Holy Father,

*Joannes, O.S.B.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY · COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

October 7, 1948

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Catholic Student Center  
106 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

My thanks for your letter of the 4th instant. I had not taken it amiss that you had not written me earlier, for I realize that you are kept busy with your class work and other tasks. Nor must you take it amiss, if I reply but briefly. My correspondence recently has been rather heavy, and my time has been taken up with visitors. As you know by now, the abbot of Metten was with us for over a week, and in the early part of last week Bishop Davis of Puerto Rico was also here. The Abbot of Metten left last evening to go out to Oregon to see another of his monks who is in this country. I don't know just when he will be returning to Germany.

Father Ulric also is with us, but he will be leaving in a few days, since he received word the other day from the vice-rector that he should return immediately. He will go by plane, while Fathers Jude, Virgil and Richard will sail on the 28th of this month.

Yes, my present plans are to allow you to remain at the University throughout the year, unless something unforeseen should occur. I have no doubt that you will use your time profitably, and I am happy to know that the courses you are taking are both instructive and interesting, and that you find Professor Elze an excellent philosopher.

With every good wish and the prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

affectionately yours,

Je

Abbot

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 McLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

December 15, '46

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

The "prope est jam Dominus" of Matins and the Rose-colored vestments at the holy Sacrifice today are joyful symbols of the Liturgy reminding us that the Saviour is nigh. For me it is a reminder that I am a little behind in my Christmas letter writing. During the week the press of class work allows little time, and the week ends I have devoted towards writing my thesis.

No doubt you are interested in knowing how I am moving along in my work. The thesis has to be submitted by the 14th of January. I am pushing hard to meet that date, but even with the extra days of Christmas vacation it will be a tight squeeze. For a Master's degree 30 credits are required; I will have 50 by the end of this semester. It all hinges on getting my thesis finished for the deadline to get the degree at the end of this semester. The department head has told me that it makes little difference whether I get the degree in January or June. If I would not be studying under the G. I. bill, I would have taken a few less credits during the semester. To be eligible for the benefits it is required to carry a full load of courses.

I would like to know what your mind is on buying books pertaining to the classical field. Up to the present I have spent about \$50.00 for books beyond what was needed for immediate class work. In buying books I limit my choice to the really good ones in the field, for in the Classics as well as any field there is lots of thrash. To avoid duplicating copies which we have in our library I have consulted Father Benjamin as to what our library has.

The publicity department at the Abbey recently sent me the circular on the Benedictine Chinese Institute. Promptly I propagandized the secular Fathers here at the Center. All of them are convinced that it is a worthy project, and Father Menke, a fellow student in the Classics, even send a remittance. I find all the Fathers of Davenport diocese very favorably disposed toward the Benedictines. Father Aubrey and I have been to St. Ambrose College a few times, and have always been entertained very cordially. Archbishop Rohlman was here at the Center at the end of October, shortly after the blessing of the new Abbot at New Mellary. His chancellor, upon learning that I was a .



CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 McLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

monk of St. John's, said that the Archbishop was so sorry that he could not have you as a guest at the banquet the evening before the benediction.

On occasion Father Aubrey and I are asked to give a talk to parish societies about India, especially the work of the missions. This week I spoke to a Women's Guild; Father Aubrey spoke to the Legion of Mary on the topic of convert work in the army.

At this season of the year my wish is that Christ, Our Saviour, may grant you abundant peace. Also accept my congratulations on the coming 25th anniversary of your election to the Abbey. Twenty-five years is a long time to carry the biggest cross in the Community.

Devotedly,

*Thomas, O.S.B.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

December 18, 1946

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

My thanks for your letter of the 15th instant, which arrived yesterday. These are busy days, as you can perhaps imagine, with letters pouring in from all sides. Not that I do not appreciate them, but because of other work, I find myself rather short on time to reply to them all at length. But I know you will understand a brief response.

I hope that you will be able to finish your term paper, or thesis, by the 14th of next month, but that the completion of it will not take all of your Christmas vacation from you. After several hard months of work, I am sure you need a bit of rest.

In regard to the purchase of books, I would prefer to have you purchase them through Father Benjamin, unless you can pick them up there. But if you must send for them, it would be better to have the order go through our library. In such cases you need only inform him of the titles you consider worthwhile.

I appreciate what you have done to publicize the appeal for Father Yang. A number have responded very generously to this appeal, and I trust that more will in the course of time.

Reciprocating your good wishes and the assurance of a remembrance in prayer for a blessed and joyous feast, I am

Affectionately yours,

je

Abbot

P A X !

Die 31 decembris, 1946

Ex hac vita decessit

**VALENTINUS DAHLHEIMER**

Pater RR. PP. Huberti et Cosmae, O.S.B.

Eius requies aeterna piis nostris commendatur orationibus  
et sacrificiis.

R. I. P.

Ex Abbatia S. Ioannis Baptistae  
Collegeville, Minnesota  
Die 3 Ianuarii, 1947

†ALCUINUS, O.S.B.  
ABBAS.



*As liturgica, Mariae Paroch.*

4835

*Cor Jesu*

*Summa*



*Valentine*

CHURCH OF ST. MARY  
305 FOURTH STREET SOUTHEAST  
LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA

Jan 1, 1947

Dear Father Abbot,

Father Kearney summoned me by long distance Monday evening after administering the Last Sacraments to my dear father. I arrived home last evening, but Pa died in the <sup>Dec 31-</sup> morning. God granted him a very happy and peaceful death, being conscious to the end.

Funeral will be Friday morning. Before going back to Iowa City, I will stop at the abbey.

Best wishes for a Blessed New Year!

Devotedly,

Leanne, S.B.

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 McLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

Feb. 9, 1947

Dear Father Abbot,

The desire to finish my thesis has kept me from writing to you sooner. Yesterday I finished the job, and will submit it to my adviser tomorrow. I hope that he will not suggest too many changes, at least not any major ones. Normally, I think, an adviser feels that he has to suggest some changes or he will lose his importance in the advancement of scholarship.

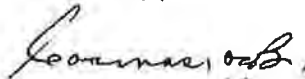
In his recent letter to you Father Aubrey most likely gave you most of the news about our classwork. However, I will presume that he has not told you what classes I am taking this semester. I am registered for courses in Aristotle's Poetics, a Pro-seminar in Classical Research, Horace, Aristophanes, and Medieval Art. The course in Art is a full year study. The second semester covers the mature phase of the Medieval period, treating especially Gothic Architecture. At present the professor is just finishing Romanesque, and pointing out how the Gothic style grew out of the Romanesque. The professor is a specialist in Medieval Art, and has made some very complimentary remarks about that period. In the last class hour he said, "I am not a specialist in Medieval learning, but if the Architecture is any index to the learning of that period, they were men of science and great accomplishment."

The cold spell of the last ten days prevented me from a tentative visit with my sister. Between semesters I had a 3-day period in which I had no exams to write. She is a Notre Dame nun, who at present is teaching at St. Donatus, 12 miles south of Dubuque. Since she was not home for the funeral, I had planned to pay her a brief visit.

Enclosed is my financial statement for the past year. I hope that I have kept the spirit of the vow, even though some items appear rather large. To have a bottle of beer with the Fathers is part of the life at the Center. Since this place struggles along on donations, and the albs are of outlandish size, I decided to buy my own.

In a few days you will attain the age of 70. May God grant you health and good days!

Devotedly,





ATOBNNIM, ELIVVEJLLOD · YEBBA 21KHOUTIAS  
TOBBA HPT 90 EDI90

February 12, 1947

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Catholic Student Center  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

My thank for your letter of the 9th, and for your personal statement which you enclosed with it. I have no fault to find with it; on the contrary, I think you have been conscious of your vow of poverty, and I beg the Lord to bless you for the sacrifices you have made. I understand that you must at times share a bottle of beer with your fellow-priests and have no objection, for I know that you will never go to excess.

I am sorry that it was not possible for you to visit with your sister between the semesters. I hope that during the course of this semester you will have a chance to pay her a visit.

Thanks for the account of your classes for the second semester. I am sure that you will enjoy the course in Medieval Art, and that you will profit greatly therefrom. It should be a sort of recreation for you in contrast to the other courses which you are taking.

By now you have possibly received your thesis back from your adviser. I, too, hope that he will not suggest too many changes or corrections, and that you will be able to take care of those he does suggest without much difficulty.

My present plans are to go to the Bahamas during the first week in Lent and to return for Palm Sunday. On the 26th of this month Abbot Boniface Seng of St. Bernard's Abbey celebrates the golden jubilee of his ordination. An elaborate celebration is being prepared for the 11th of April. Since I won't be able to go down then, I plan to stop at St. Bernard's Abbey on my way to the Bahamas to give my greetings and congratulations to the Abbot; that is, if nothing occurs to make me change my plans. The Mexico affair is not yet quite settled, but I hope that it will be before I expect to leave. This morning I expect Monsignor Giroux, who is on his way East to visit his family. He has written me that because of conditions, we cannot build in Ogden this year. But we want to lay plans for beginning the foundations this fall so that an early start in building can be made next spring, the spring of 1948; school will then open in September of 1948 — if all goes well. You will also be interested in knowing that on the feast of St. Scholastica I received a rescript from the Holy See absolving me from the Apostolic Administratorship of San Beda. The rescript was dated the 23rd of December, but took more than a month and a half to reach me. San Beda will remain with the Congregation of the Primitive Observance, and the superiors of that Congregation are to appoint a new Prior-Administrator for the time being. I do not know who will be appointed, nor just what will happen to San Beda. I have written to our Fathers in Manila



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, WISCONSIN  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

Father Cosmas  
page two  
February 12, 1947

telling them of this rescript. Father Boniface will come home definitely at the end of this school year over there, bringing his things with him, for I have no intention to send him back. The other three will let me know if they wish to remain or come home -- I cannot compel them to remain if they do not wish to do so, even though I know that the need for their help will be very great. If they do wish to remain, I will let them remain possibly for another year. Frankly, I do not favor the appointment of a Prior-Administrator, for I think an Abbot is needed to handle the situation over there. But I commend San Bede to your prayers.

All here are well, except that one or the other of the Fathers has had a touch of the stomach flu, which our students had during the past week. Fortunately, the attacks were not too severe and all recovered after a day or so.

With greetings also to Father Aubrey, and the prayer that both may have a holy Lent in preparation for a glorious Easter, I am

Affectionately yours,

Abbot

je

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 McLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

Feb. 14, 1947

Dear Father Abbot,

Your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> arrived yesterday. Father Aubrey and I enjoyed the lengthy account you gave of monastic affairs. It gives that home-like touch, which makes one feel, no matter how far away, that he is always remembered at the community hearth.

My main reason for writing this brief note is to share the joy that was mine when my adviser returned my thesis. He said that it was excellently and thoroughly done. About all that he noted were a few corrections in punctuation.

The pastor at the Center asked me to give the Lenten sermons, but I refused. I told him that I would gladly do it, if I had the time. But I will not presume to preach without adequate preparation.

May you have a pleasant trip to the Bahamas!

Devotedly,

Erasmus B.



CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 MCLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

March 30, 1947

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.,  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

From the handwriting on the last letter forwarded to me from St. John's I could see that you have returned from your visit to the Bahamas. I hope that you enjoyed your visit and derived some rest and relaxation. Father Hubert has sent me snapshots from time to time of the new monastery buildings. From the photos I would judge that the buildings are well constructed.

Easter recess will begin on Wednesday here at the University. Father Menke and Ferrara, both students staying at the Student Center, are driving to St. John's for holy Week and Easter Sunday. Father Aubrey will travel with them. For a while I was debating with myself whether I should make the trip. But since I had more or less promised the pastor of Ottumwa at Christmas time that I would be willing to assist him during holy Week, I considered it best to abide by my earlier commitments. Both Father Menke and Ferrara are excellent priests, and the former has made a donation to the Chinese Benedictine project.

My school work is coming along fine. My thesis has been typed up in final form. At present I am utilizing my spare moments in reviewing for the examinations at the end of May. Unless you have other plans, I will arrange to attend the 8-weeks summer course, beginning immediately at the end of this semester and terminating on August 6th.

Father Schulte from Dubuque Archdiocese conducted the students' retreat here at the Center recently. When he learned that several Benedictines from Collegeville were here, he sang the praises of St. John's to the other priests at the Center. It is always satisfying to hear such fine encomiums of one's Abbey.

May yours be a very joyful and blessed Easter!

Devotedly,

*Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

April 1, 1947

Reverend Coenias Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Coenias,

My thanks for your letter of the 30th of last month and for your Easter greetings. Although I am rather crowded with work (I haven't yet caught up with the correspondence that came in during my absence) I want to reciprocate with best wishes for a joyous feast to you, especially since I won't have the pleasure of giving my greetings to you personally, since you won't be coming up during these days.

I found all things running smoothly in the Bahamas and all the Fathers in good health, with the exception of Father Daniel; he is again troubled with his hands and will be coming up to the States this summer. If the doctors cannot cure him, it may be necessary that he stay here. The Bishop was in fairly good health. The new buildings are well constructed and at the same time beautiful buildings. I am sure that the community there will find them pleasant living and working quarters. My ambition is to set up the community there as a monastery sui iuris; may I commend it to your prayers, for I believe that the welfare and the future of the mission in the Bahamas hinges thereon.

You may arrange to remain at the University for the 8-weeks summer course, and then come up to the abbey. Since the course ends on the 6th of August, you will be able to make our second retreat, which runs from the 18th to the 22nd of August. I do not know whether it will be possible for me to permit you to continue your studies next fall. Possibly your services will be required here. Because of our own General Chapter in August and of the meeting of the Abbots in Rome early in September, I will have to make all arrangements for next year in the early part of the summer. Before coming to a definite decision in your case, I would like to have you let me know the following: when you will obtain your Master's degree; just what would be required for the doctoral degree after the summer course this summer, that is, what would still be required in the matter of courses, in the matter of residence, and in the matter of thesis? I will be grateful if you will give me that information sometime after Easter.

All here are well. Most of the Fathers will be gone these days; there have been more calls for help this year than formerly, and all available men are scheduled for some parish or other.

Begging God to bless you and your work, and to give you of His peace and joy during this holy season, I am

Affectionately yours,

Je

Abbot

Catholic Student Center,  
108 McLean St.,  
Iowa City, Iowa.

April 13, 1947

Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.  
Collegeville, Minnesota.

Dear Father Abbot,

The visitors to St. John's have returned to the Student Center bubbling over with enthusiasm for the Abbey. My work at Ottumwa was not strenuous; in fact, a few days respite from the books was a refreshing diversion.

As you requested in your recent letter I will give a report of my graduate work. But before starting I wish to make it clear that I have no desire, much less the enthusiasm to continue graduate work. I will obtain the Master's degree at the spring commencement on June 6th, but have done much course work beyond the requirements. The requirements for a Master's degree are thirty credits. By June I will have more than doubled that, and by the end of the summer course I will have 70 graduate credits. For a doctorate 90 credits are required inclusive of the dissertation for which they allow 12 to 18 credits. So by the end of summer I will have the meat of the course work for a doctorate, but should I choose to go on I would have to spend another semester filling in on some technically required courses, study French for language requirement, review for the comprehensive exams. Then it would be another year, perhaps more, for research and the writing of a dissertation.

Now I have spent 3 semesters in graduate work, and to complete for the doctorate I would have to put in the same amount of time. And for what? Just to fulfill the requirement of writing a dissertation which I am sure will not help me a bit in my teaching. So much research has been done in the Classics through the centuries that I am convinced that no worth while discoveries can be made. It is mostly in the dictionary or concordance stage, and I detest making a dictionary. I just cannot convince myself to give another year and a half of my life to a task for which I doubt whether I could fire myself with enough zeal to persevere to the end. The shelves in the Classics library are loaded with theses and dissertations upon which the dust of time lays heavy. Mine will be there after June consigned to the same fate.

I hope that I do not give the impression that I am disparaging learning. I am not. Research in other fields is worth while--Education, History, Science, Mathematics, English, and others. But the Greek field has been plowed so often that all the top soil has been blown away, and no matter how one might research the fruit will be slim. From my way of looking at it, it would be a matter of doing a dissertation for the dissertation's sake. I think the Graduate Dean put it well in a recent letter which he sent to all the Graduate students, inviting them to attend some spring lectures designed for the graduate student. He concluded his lengthy invitational letter with this sentence. <sup>staring</sup> "Take time out from your pursuit of ~~more~~ and more about less and less to attend these lectures." All of us were a bit startled that the Dean of the Graduate School should make such a statement. Perhaps he intended a bit of humor.

If I would continue work, it would mean that I would have to begin investigation on an entirely new problem. At times such a tenuous topic is assigned with the result that after some months of reading the student discovers that there is not sufficient material for a dissertation. That is the pass to which Father Menke is coming. He has read for over two months and it looks as if he might have to change to another topic. Father Aubrey is more fortunate. All the work he did on his Master's thesis can be incorporated into his doctoral study.

Perhaps you may think that I am becoming psychoneurotic, if I say that my health is also a factor to be considered. I have had short spells of stomach upsets. The continual go in the Army followed immediately by this school work has been a grind, and I think that I should have a pause. My eyes have also caused me some trouble of late. Research work would be a greater strain on the eyes than regular course work has even been.

Considering my general health and my age, I must say that I just do not have the desire to stay on at the University beyond this summer. Rather than that I should spent more time, some younger and more enthusiastic monk would do better to pursue studies. At times I also feel that the hyperactivity of the last six years has dissipated a good deal of my spiritual life.

There are other reasons that I might give for not wishing to go on in my studies. I hope that what I have written will give you a sufficient report to make a decision about my future.

Devotedly,

*Seamus, O.S.B.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT  
April 16, 1947

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Catholic Student Center  
108 McLean St.  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas:

You wrote me a very convincing letter. As a matter of fact it was hardly necessary. I had a hunch that you do not care to go on for the doctorate. I am quite in agreement with your sentiments and therefore herewith give you assurance that you may consider your work on the school bench finished, as soon as you have your M.A. You tell me that you will get the Master's Degree at the spring commencement on June 6. Unless you have some special reason for remaining for the summer session I would just as soon have you come home without taking the work of the summer session. Please let me know shortly whether you want to remain for the summer or not, keeping in mind that unless you have some special reason for wishing to take the summer courses, I would rather have you come home. I shall probably have some work for you.

By the time you will have received this letter you will also have received notice that Father Maurus passed away yesterday morning at 2:30 at the hospital at Graceville, where he was chaplain. He will be buried tomorrow. He was always a priestly priest; I have not the least doubt that he went to meet our great High-Priest.

Begging God to bless you and Father Aubrey, I am

Affectionately yours,

Catholic Student Center  
108 McLean St.  
Iowa City, Ia.

April 19, 1947

Dear Father Abbot,

The University has not yet published its program of summer courses. I am almost certain, however, that no courses of special interest to me will be offered. In fact, the head of the department, the only teacher of real ability on the Classics staff, will be on leave this summer, having accepted an invitation from Columbia to be a summer lecturer on their staff.

When I asked to stay on for the summer, I had no definite reason for making that request. Since the summer term followed closely on the semester, I thought that I would take whatever courses might be taught.

Whatever you decide, then, will be very agreeable to me. Should you decide that I terminate my studies at the end of the semester, I would in any case have for the first retreat.

An early reply, whether I should stay for the summer or not, would be appreciated by Father Brangman, the head of the Student Center, since rooms are booked at the Center. Several of the Fathers from St. Ambrose would do summer studies, if they can find a place to stay at the Center.

Devotdly,  
Loewen, P.S.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY · COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

April 22, 1947

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

Your letter of the 19th reached me only this noon for some reason or other. Since you ask for an early reply, I shall answer it at once, even though somewhat briefly. I was down in the Cities yesterday to attend an education meeting at the University, and a great deal of correspondence came in yesterday -- much of it dealing with the situation at San Deán. I am sure you are interested in knowing that Fathers Boniface, Edmund and Raphael set sail for home on the 9th of this month; I expect them to land by the end of the month.

Since there will be no courses offered in which you are specially interested, I think it will be well if you will come home at the end of the present semester -- in time then for the first retreat. I do not yet know definitely whether it will be necessary for you to teach in the summer session here, but even if not there will be plenty of opportunity to assist weekends and possibly also for longer periods. I think the change will be good for you before beginning a full schedule next fall.

Meanwhile, my best wishes to you for these last weeks of the school year. Greetings also to Father Aubrey, and the prayer that God bless you both.

Affectionately yours,

Abbot

je



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY, COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 5, 1947

Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, C.S.B.  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cosmas,

I appreciated your letter of the 1st very much and the sentiments you therein expressed. May the Lord bless you for them.

Yesterday we received word that Monsignor Giroux had died out in Ogden of a heart attack after an illness of about two weeks. Since it is he who had worked so hard for the Sisters' hospital, and also for our project, I feel that I must go out for the funeral on the 8th. I must also discuss with the Bishop our proposed foundation, since there were a number of problems that we had never settled, and Monsignor's death may now add to the difficulties. From there I more or less plan to go down to Mexico City since the Fathers there have been begging me to come down. There is a tremendous amount of work here, and all of it urgent. But you will understand and forgive my being so brief, especially since we will have the pleasure of having you back with us early in June.

With the assurance of a prayer for the success of your examinations, and with greetings also to Father Aubrey, I am

Affectionately yours,

Abbot

je

Father John asked whether you would tell Father Aubrey that he has received his letter in reference to the Ordo for the feast of St. Thomas More. Just now he, too, is crowded with work but hopes to do the Ordo part before the end of May.



CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 McLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

May 1, 1947

Dear Father Abbot,

On the occasion of your silver jubilee of benediction accept a sincere "thank you" from me. Although we freely confess with St. Paul, "by the grace of God I am what I am," yet we readily forget those whom God has placed over us to direct our life.

When I glance back over the years of my life, I am very much aware how much you have been a part of it. My memory flits back to the summer of 1923, the year that I graduated from grade school. My father had lost his small fortune in the recession of the early twenties. Unless you had made the generous offer of permitting me to attend St. John's, I wonder whether I would be a monk and priest today. This favor and charity has always been highly prized by me, as also by my dear parents. The days, months, and years pass by, and in our human forgetfulness we fail to show our gratitude. I hope this occasion

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER  
108 MCLEAN STREET  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

of your jubilee, then, to express my formal  
thanks. And I include a prayer that God  
may bless and reward you for the many  
years of faithful service which you have given  
to St. John's.

Since I will return to St. John's in early  
June, I think that I should remind you  
that my faculties have not been renewed  
in St. Cloud Diocese since my return  
from the Army. I am mentioning this,  
because I surmise you might make  
application for the newly ordained before  
I return.

My exams will be on the week of the  
19<sup>th</sup> of May. I am sure that I'll be  
too busy to send my best wishes for  
your journey so I'll anticipate these  
in this letter.

Devotly,  
Lawrence, O.S.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 5, 1947

Reverend Cesare Nihiliszer, O.S.B.  
108 McLean Street  
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Father Cesare,

I appreciated your letter of the 1st very much and the sentiments you therein expressed. May the Lord bless you for them.

Yesterday we received word that Monsignor Giroux had died out in Ogden of a heart attack after an illness of about two weeks. Since it is he who had worked so hard for the Sisters' Hospital, and also for our project, I feel that I must go out for the funeral on the 8th. I must also discuss with the Bishop our proposed foundation, since there were a number of problems that we had never settled, and Monsignor's death may now add to the difficulties. From there I more or less plan to go down to Mexico City since the Fathers there have been begging me to come down. There is a tremendous amount of work here, and all of it urgent. But you will understand and forgive my being so brief, especially since we will have the pleasure of having you back with us early in June.

With the assurance of a prayer for the success of your examinations, and with greetings also to Father Aubrey, I am

Affectionately yours,

je

abbot

Father John asked whether you would tell Father Aubrey that he has received his letter in reference to the Ordo for the Feast of St. Thomas More. Just now he, too, is crowded with work but hopes to do the Ordo part before the end of May.

# State University of Iowa

## The Graduate College

Know all men by these presents, That

**Cosmas Raymond Dahlheimer**

has completed the Course of Study prescribed by the Faculty of this College of the University and is therefore admitted to the degree of

**Master of Arts**

and is entitled to all the Rights, Privileges, Honors and Marks of Distinction thereto pertaining here or elsewhere.

In Testimony Whereof this diploma is conferred under the authority of the Statutes of Iowa by the State Board of Education. Witness the Seal of the University and the Signatures of its duly authorized officers hereunto affixed at Iowa City, Iowa, this seventh day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred forty-seven.



*Vincent M. Haubler*  
President of the University

*Henry C. Hull*  
President State Board of Education

*Carlyle Jacobsen*  
Dean of the College

Memorandum to the Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B.,  
Abbot of St. John's Abbey:

When you asked me on June 17, 1947 to assume the burden and responsibilities of being Novice Master in our beloved abbey, I protested that by nature I am not equipped to do this all important work. At the time you insisted, however, that I take up this work under obedience with the remark that a change can always be made if my results would not prove satisfactory. Judging by the results and from what others have said, I am convinced more than ever that I am not the man to continue in this position for the future welfare of this monastery and also for my own peace of conscience.

Now I see how much I was at fault at the time you appointed me by not sufficiently stressing to you my anxieties in accepting this most important duty in the monastery. By nature I am not the right man to form and train others. I know that I am inclined to be sensual and easy-going, i.e. to be a laxist. When a reaction sets in, I have a tendency to go to the other extreme, i.e. to be a rigorist. For some reason I just fail to be able to walk the via media, but oscillate between two extremes. Being such by nature I have of late frequently suffered from qualms of conscience because I fear that I am not training the future monks of St. John's correctly. If this had only to do with this present life, it would not be so bad, but on Judgment Day a severe account will have to be given. My policy in training Novices has been to be kind, so I thought. But from the fruits that have been produced it is evident that it has been weakness. Furthermore, the results also show that I am not a good judge of character.

The obvious conclusion seems to be that I ought to become more rigid, since I have been too lenient. However, I just cannot get myself to do such. If the Superior is rigid and severe, the subjects will be driven away or if they stay monastic life will seem to them as something harsh, non-joyous. At present I am so confused as to a modus agendi that I have no confidence in any of my judgments. Surely in such a state it would be harmful for me to continue in this work. From my experiences in the last three years I am convinced that I do not have the qualifications to be a Superior or a Spiritual guide. Hence I hope, Father Abbot, that you will see fit to establish me as just a simple monk in this great community over which you preside.

Your devoted son in St. Benedict,

*Seamus Dahlheimer, O.S.B.*  
Novice Master

August 29, 1950

ST. JOHN'S ABBEY  
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

June 2, 1952

Memorandum to the Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B.:

During the 13 years that Father Basil was Novice Master 159 men entered our Novitiate. Of these 130 made profession--a loss of 29 men in 13 years. During the 5 years that I have been in this important Office 83 men entered our Novitiate. Of these 52 made profession--a loss of 31 men in 5 years. In his 13 years as Novice Master Father Basil lost less of the vocations than I have in my short period of 5 years.

I am presenting these figures to you, Father Abbot, because I am sure that you are not aware of these heavy losses. I must say that these statistics seriously bother me. I am so often molested with this gnawing thought, "It can hardly be reasonable that almost 40% of those whom God sends to the Novitiate should fall by the way-side". The conviction is becoming stronger and stronger in me that I do not have the gift or personality to bring vocations to maturity. This conviction comes not only from these facts and figures, but also from the conduct of the men after they leave the Novitiate. During the Novitiate they seem to hold aloof from the Master, because, as it seems to me, they fear him. When they enter the Clericcate they are very free to consult their new Superior. This shows that they do want to see a director, who can help them. It indicates to me that these very same men must have felt that their Master was unapproachable. Most of those who quit during these five years discussed their problems very little with me. Generally they dropped in casually on some day saying, "I have decided to quit." It seems to me that, if a Novice does not discuss his problems with his Master as they arise, there is something wrong with the Master rather than the Novice.

In addition to these reasons, there is another one which is of a very private nature which I do not wish to state here. I am humbly presenting these figures and my own convictions to you, Father Abbot, in order that you may seriously deliberate whether it is for the good of this community that I continue in my present assignment.

Your devoted son,



Dominican House of Studies  
River Forest, Ill.  
June 28, 1953

Dear Father Abbot,

Father Gommeyer and I arrived safely at 2:00 p.m.  
We stayed overnight at the Franciscan Sisters' Hospital at  
Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Father Gommeyer's sister is a  
Franciscan nun stationed at that hospital.

I'm settled in a small contemplative room on the 3rd  
floor. Classes begin tomorrow morning at 8:30.

—Devotedly in St. Benedict,  
—Josephus, O.S.B.



INSTITUTE OF SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY

Dominican House of Studies

RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS

July 6, 1953

Dear Father Abbot,

Happy Feastday, Father Abbot! It will be my good fortune to spend July 11<sup>th</sup> in a Benedictine Monastery. Three Fathers from Marmon are attending the Institute. They drive in every morning, and have invited me to spend the week end with them. The Benedictines are well represented here - one from St. Vincent's, 2 from St. Benedict's, one from Assumption, 3 from Marmon, and 3 from St. Procopius. The only other Order that has more in total number than the Benedictines are the Passionists who have 12. ~~Fr. Godfrey Poage~~, the Passionist, who gave a paper on Recruiting at Notre Dame last summer is also attending. In all there are 72 Friars and Brothers - 24 in the Second year course and 48 in first. Most of them are Novice Masters, Asst Novice Master, Spiritual Directors in Major and Minor Seminaries, Professors in Seminaries, and a few in Parochial work.

The course is very excellent. It is more than just a review of theology. Much is given in Ascetical and Mystical Theology together with history of Spiritual Theology and the function of Superiors and other Spiritual Offices in the Church. One course which is very excellent is Father Philippe's course





## INSTITUTE OF SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY

Dominican House of Studies

RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS

in history of spirituality. This summer he is able to cover only up to the rise of the Mercurian Orders. Although I had read in Montalembert, Cassan, and a few other authors, his lectures fill in some dark spots. This morning he gave a good lecture on how Plato and Plotinus' conceptions of contemplation influenced the early Greek Fathers, and illustrated how Christian contemplation radically differs from that of Plato. After listening to these experts a person becomes more sure of himself. Another excellent course is the Psychology of Asceticism. It gives a person a greater insight into personality, character, and the reason why some souls find the ascetical struggle more difficult than others. I am taking 8 of the 13 courses offered in first and second year. It is a bit arduous with four classes in the morning 8:30 - 12:20, and one at 7:30 pm. But I am not complaining. In fact thank God and you for giving me this opportunity.

The big advantage is to become acquainted with good bibliography, building up a greater confidence for my own work, and meeting many other priests in spiritual work.

Father Richard has written several letters about the Novice. I am happy that all is going well. May you receive many graces and inspirations through the intercession of Our Holy Father Benedict! Your devoted son,  
Lorenz, O.S.B.

Fest of Our Holy Father  
July 11, 1953

Dear Father Abbot,

It was a joy to celebrate the solemn liturgy of this great feast amidst Benedictine brethren. However, it wasn't by any means as solemn as St. John's. After the solemn High Mass at 8:30 the rest of the day was like a week day. My mind was continually reverting to St. John's where the Novices were professing their vows, and the young Confreres making their solemn Oblation.

All the Fathers here do week end work except Father Abbot and Father Prior. Father Abbot has asked me whether I would care to sing the High Mass at 8:30 on Sunday morning. I told him that I would be very happy to do so. After all he is honoring me by inviting me to sit next to him at table.

The community has a very beautiful building. I could hardly believe that the whole construction was less than half a million. The windows in each room are similar to St. Mary's Hall, but higher. It makes the whole outside wall of the room one piece of glass except the bottom 3 feet.

Several clerics wrote me a short letter for the feast day. I was sorry to hear of Father Adolph's attack of weakness. May God cure the sick brother!

With best wishes, I remain

Your devoted son,  
Cosmas, O.S.B.



INSTITUTE OF SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY

Dominican House of Studies

RIVER FOREST . . . . . ILLINOIS

July 5, 1954

Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B.

Dear Father Abbot,

After a week all is going well, except that I have been a bit under the weather. Several nights ago I was a bit careless in letting the cool breeze blow into my room. As a consequence I contracted bronchitis which causes me to ache in most of my muscles.

The enrollment in the school is not as large as last year. The Dominicans had expected that the enrollment would go beyond their limited facilities, and therefore they did not advertise. The Benedictines are well represented. St. Benedict's has three, St. Procopius four, Marmon two, and St. Vincent's one.

Father Richard dropped me a note today with a few remarks about the new Novice. From his description it appears that Nov. Vincent might find the life a bit arduous. I received notice of Father Jerome's death. May he, through God's mercy, rest in everlasting peace!

My plan is to be at Marmon Abbey again this year for the feast of Our Holy Father. May you, Father Abbot, have a joyous feast, and may St. Benedict intercede for you in your arduous work!

Humbly and devotedly in St. Benedict,  
Joanna, O.S.B.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworkachal, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegewille, Minn.

MARMION ABBEY  
AURORA, ILLINOIS

July 17, 1954

Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B.

Dear Father Abbot,

As you can see I am spending this week end at Marmion Abbey. I wanted very much to be here last week, but my health did not permit. Since July 4<sup>th</sup> I have not been in the best condition. For about a week I was running a fever around 100. When the Prior at the Dominican House found out, he called in a doctor. Doctor Hill is a brother of Bishop Hill of Bolivia, Kansas. He said that I had Glandular Fever. His prescription was that I take anti-pain pills, attend classes, and spend the rest of the day in bed.

After taking pills for about 3 days my stomach got so upset that I discontinued the use of pills - fever or no fever. Outside of occasional attacks of nausea I am getting along fairly well. By not being able to study, I am not getting as much out of the course as last year. The doctor ordered me to have a blood test which was taken last Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Apparently all must be all right since the doctor has not called about the results.

I am optimistic that a few days of monastic routine out in the country will give me a

pick up. I must say that about a week ago  
I was on the verge of giving up studies and  
returning to St. John's. Now about two weeks  
of study remain, and trusting in a stabilized  
condition of health, I should be able to  
finish off.

Father Richard and the Peregine are keeping  
me informed about the new Novices.

Best wishes, Father Abbot, and may you  
continue in the joy of God's Spirit, I remain

Humbly in St. Benedict,  
Lourdes, Ont.

The Abbey  
Sept 29, 1957

Rt Rev. Fredwin Sworsbas, O.S.B.

Dear Father Albert,

The ordination rite has just been concluded. The short period remaining before lunch can surely be spent profitably in writing a brief note.

Just of all I wish to thank you for the card received yesterday - the day school started. It was all the more appreciated because I realize how difficult it is for you to find time with your busy schedule. You stated that you hoped the Novices are well and persevering. Apparently you didn't hear yet that Fr. August Sandberg left on Sept 5th, two days after Fr. Godwin made profession. Fr. Sandberg told me that he writes regularly to you. I asked him to mention this fact in his next letter. Otherwise all seem to be well. The Prior of Valerius wrote that he has another candidate for the Novitiate. He wrote that he had mentioned this second candidate to you by correspondence. I answered him that if you had made such arrangements, he should comply with such instruction. Because I on my own, so I wrote, could not grant such permission.

Undoubtedly, you must have been informed about the sad event involving Fr. Michael. I don't know the details, and since it is not my responsibility to be concerned about him at present, I will refrain from saying anything. However, it was not a little upsetting to me for the reason that I should have seen that there was something wrong with this young man something so terrible, couldn't develop in his personality within two months after leaving the Novitiate. It is disturbing that I should not be able to know these men better. Maybe it is the large number which makes it possible for such individuals to hide in a group, or it may also be possible that they are reluctant to discuss their problems or tensions with their Superior. Whatever it is, I do hope that such a thing will not happen again.

With the arrival of the foreign sisters there are a lot of new faces to get acquainted with.

Several Sisters - Citus and Thoms - had having-up surgery. Father Raymond is regular in his visits to the sick table. Father Polycarp surely seems to be losing ground physically and mentally, although not a problem to anyone.

May you enjoy the rest of your trip, and return rested and in good health to St. John's. Devotedly in St. Benedict,  
Sworsbas, O.S.B.

Gesmas Dahlheimer - O.S.B.

St. John's Abbey

Collegetville, Minn

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COLLEGETVILLE  
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Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B.  
Collegio di Santi' Angelo  
Via di Porta Livenale 19  
Roma 49, Italia

FIRST FOLD

AIR LETTER • AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

SECOND FOLD

ATTENZIONE!  
CONSULTATE PRESSO GLI  
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POSTE ROMANE  
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# THE RECORD

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 76

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1963

NUMBER 10

## Father Cosmas Elected Prior at Saint Maur's

### Saint John's Begins 107th Year With Mass and Class Sept. 12

The 107th school year will begin at 8 a. m., Sept. 12, when Father Arno Gustin, OSB, president of St. John's University, offers the Solemn Mass in the abbey and university church. Classes for the 1963-64 school year begin at 10 a. m.

With 13 new or returning faculty members added to the staff, there will be more new faces on the campus than just the newly arrived freshmen and transfer students.

Father Lanfranc LeMay, OSB, director of admissions, announced on Aug. 23 that he expects 375 freshmen and 50 transfer students to enter St. John's this year. Father Schott and the new dean of men, among these will be 12 foreign students from such varied parts of the world as Hong Kong, Mexico, Colombia, Canada, Japan, Israel and the Bahamas.

The total expected enrollment for this year, according to Mr. Robert Scheetz, registrar, is 1,260. This is an increase over the total of 1,150 college students of last year.

Freshman orientation will be on Sunday, Sept. 8. Sejourohn Herrick, chairman of the orientation committee, with junior Max Schott, his assistant, are in charge of the four day program of lectures, discussions, tours and tests. The corps of counselors under the direction of Herrick, Schott and the new dean of men, Father Finian McDonald, OSB, will introduce the freshmen to life at St. John's.

Prior Cosmas Dahlheimer, OSB



Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, OSB, novice master and professor of Greek at St. John's, was elected conventual prior of the newly independent St. Maur's priory, South Union, Ky., on Aug. 13.

Born in St. Michael in 1908, Father Cosmas was educated at St. John's from prep school through ordination. The first five years of his priesthood were divided between parish work at St. Mary's in St. Cloud; teaching at the school conducted by St. Peter's abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada; and a college prefect at St. John's.

During World War II Father Cosmas served as an army chaplain in North Africa, Burma and India. A major on his discharge in 1946, he began his graduate studies in classics at Iowa State university, where he received his master's degree in 1947. On his return to the abbey he was named novice master.

With his election, Prior Cosmas becomes the independent superior of St. Maur's, founded as an

### Boston Irish Take Over Kitchen

Father Florian Muggli, OSB, procurator, announced on Aug. 7 that Crofty Brothers of Boston will take over the management of the kitchen and cafeteria on Aug. 29.

Crofty Brothers is a food service management company that began in 1930. In the 33 years since their beginning they have grown into a nation-wide food service organization. Among the more than 130 colleges, hospitals and industrial factories which they serve are Regis college, Trinity college and William and Mary.

the assistant manager and the chef will be local people.

The company will buy their food through the ordinary supply channels used by St. John's. They do, however, have their own food sources which are used when more economical. Last year, for instance, Crofty Brothers bought a million and a half pounds of coffee for the institutions they serve.

### St. Maur's Now on Its Own

This summer St. Maur's was granted independence by Rome with permission to elect its own superior. Prior Cosmas is thus the superior of the first of the five St. John's missions in Japan, Bahamas, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Kentucky to become independent.

As an independent priory, St. Maur's is now in line to become an abbey, the goal of each Benedictine foundation. The present independent status, however, is the same as that of an abbey.



Fr. Daniel Made

### CALENDAR

- Sept. 8—Reception of new students
- Sept. 9—Freshman Orientation





**ST. JOHN'S MONK HONORED**—Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworzach, OSB, abbot of St. John's Abbey congratulates Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer, OSB, on his election as prior of the independent priory of St. Maur, South Union, Ky. The priory was founded as an interracial monastery subject to the abbot of St. John's in 1947. (Times photo)

## Rev. Dahlheimer to Head St. Maur Priory

COLLEGEVILLE, Minn.—Rt. Rev. Baldwin Dworzach, OSB, abbot of St. John's abbey, received notice Wednesday that

one of the priests of his community, Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer, OSB, has been elected prior of the independent priory of St. Maur, South Union, Ky.

This priory was founded as an interracial monastery subject to the abbot of St. John's in 1947. Since then it has received many vocations of its own and a number of priests and brothers of St. John's abbey have transferred their vows to that house.

Members of the prior poll voted to Rome for the status of an independent priory in 1952 and the petition was granted on July 16.

Father Dahlheimer has been professor of classics and master of novices at St. John's abbey since 1947. He came to St. John's as a freshman in high school in 1921 and took all of his college and priesthood studies there. In 1942 he entered the United States Air Force and served in various places in this country and India until he was discharged with the rank of major in 1947. He then used his rights under the GI bill to continue his studies in classical

languages at the University of Iowa, where he received his MA degree.

St. Maur's priory, of which Father Dahlheimer will be superior, serves as the seminary for the diocese of Owensboro, Ky., whose bishop is Most Rev. Henry Sonnenschein, formerly spiritual director of St. John's seminary, the diocesan seminary of St. Cloud.

Although St. John's has five dependent priories which are conducted as separate institutions in most respects, St. Maur's is the first priory to achieve independent status since 1911, when St. Peter's abbey in Saskatchewan became an abbey.

SAINT MAUR'S PRIORY



SOUTH UNION, KENTUCKY

September 11, 1963

Rt. Rev. Abbot Baldwin Dworschak, C.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot,

After about two week here I thought that I should write for the purpose of informing you how things stand with me. It is regretful that I am unable to give a sparkling account. My problem has been sleep. Ever since I came here I have been in bed at night but the continual noise of car and especially diesel trucks have kept me awake. The infernal noise seems to be augmented in the quiet of the night. I had always hoped that it would improve since most people say that one gets used to it after a few nights. Although I have never suffered from insomnia before I do know that I am a light sleeper. Even at home a noise by the students over my room used to wake me. However, then a person knew that it would soon subside, and thus one could go back to sleep. Not so this truck business. It is like being stretched out on the rack.

As the days went on I was developing vertigo in the head. It was impossible for me to do any work during the day. My mind just would not work. The other night I experienced such a strain of nerves that I didn't know what would happen. The fear was indescribable. I prayed to the Blessed Virgin to rescue me from this horrible pressure and depression. Then and there I decided that I must seek some medical aid. The doctor had a longer talk with me yesterday in which he described the outlook. He admitted that the physical and psychic strain is great. His procedure: He gave me bottles of pills, heavy sedatives, which practically knock me out at night. So last night I did not hear the noise and had a quite comfortable sleep. But I had a hang over this morning. The doctor said that this treatment will only be permitted for three weeks, lest it become habit forming. He hopes that by getting some sleep during this time my physical and nervous energy might be restored.

If, after going off the drug, the noise will continue to harass me I don't know what will eventually happen. Not to cross any bridges before I get there this must wait. The only thing I can do is pray, and depend on the doctor. Much as I disliked to bring this to your attention since you have more worries than one man can tolerate. In view of our independent status there is nothing that you can do about it. It must be solved from this end and the presiding Abbots of the Congregation. I would very much appreciate your prayers. In all my life I have never been so emotionally disarranged which creates such a complete sense of helplessness. In every other problem one could fight back in some way. But when a man almost feels prostrate there is just no resource to call upon except God. I have prayed hard, at least I think so, at night and many times in the day asking Him to rescue me from this deep pit.

Most of the doctor's conversation centered on my past life as to my proclivity to worry. I have to admit that by temperament I am a worry cat. Problems disturb me especially at night, and when they are insolvable it makes it all the worse. The horrible accusation comes back to me that I am a man of weak faith.

With every good wish to you, Father Abbot, and begging a continued remembrance, I remain  
Devotedly in St. Benedict,

*P.S. Excuse the typing mistakes - poor concentration.  
No need to answer this letter. It is only a report. (over) Coarua, O.S.B.*

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00211

I wrote this letter in the morning. The Novices came here at 2:30 extending your good wishes and the Community. I appreciate this thoughtfulness on your part, Father Abbot. They also mentioned that the Community gave them a fine send off.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY · COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

September 14, 1963

Very Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Maur's Priory  
South Union, Kentucky

Dear Father Prior,

I am glad that you wrote because it is always better to share your problems with others. I would have advised you to do exactly as you did, to see a doctor and let him tell you what you should do to gain relief from your nervous tension and also how to get some sleep. You must be in good physical condition in order to meet your everyday problems and to be able to meet the members of the community who come for help. I hope that you will insist on changing the horarium soon so that the morning isn't so difficult; if it is necessary to make the chapel cooler in order to use it for Matins in the evening, I wouldn't hesitate to install air conditioners. You are living in an area where weather conditions must be met, just as we must put up with the long winter weather.

There is not much others can do for you except pray, and that is very important, of course. However, a certain amount of time will have to pass before you will see an adjustment take place. It may be a month or two, but it should not be longer I think. In the meantime, it will be imperative that you be able to sleep in a normal way or at least a normal amount so that you are yourself. The problems which you then handle will not seem insuperable, and you will gradually find the solution for each one in turn.

Responsibility is a cross. No one could have walked into your present position without feeling this cross. You will come to depend more and more on the help of God and on your daily Mass to give you support for the day. Make only those decisions which you must make at this time; use the present time to adjust to the situation and to get to know better what is happening. Be kind to those who have complaints and ask them to be patient and to trust in God. Don't take any disturbance in the community in a personal way; try to realize that it rarely happens that a breach of discipline is caused by resentment against the superior. Such a person needs and wants help and understanding.

Fr. Frederic is ill with pneumonia; Fr. Silvan is the new Prior in Nassau. Bishop Bartholome will not go to the Council and will only gradually get back to his schedule of activities. Fr. Emmanuel must take it easy for two months, and during that time Fr. Rupert is at Wayzata. Fr. Gregory wrote that the Delegate told him to stay on at St. Procopius, perhaps until next July or August. Both Fr. Columban and Fr. Bernard have injuries to their backs and are more or less incapacitated. Fr. Lanfranc is happy the college enrollment is up.

You may be certain that I will increase my prayers for you that the present trial will soon be lightened. I'm confident you can succeed with the grace of God.

Fraternally yours,

SAINT MAUR'S PRIORY



SOUTH UNION, KENTUCKY

Oct. 9, 1963

Dear Father abbot,

In the same ~~letter~~ mail with your letter there came a letter from Bishop Soaneker. The letter was somewhat disturbed at the possibility that I might leave. The Bishop thought that the St. John's monks have so many good things that as a result they are spoiled. Their mind must be to endure hardship when they leave the home place. It is true that Kentucky is a bit more missionary, but the worst part is the noise.

At the present time I feel very ill at ease. I have not celebrated holy Mass since I got here two weeks ago. While taking electric shock treatment it is not permissible to celebrate holy Mass.

I am glad that you wrote to Dr. Holtz. From what I have heard he is not in a hurry to release his patients. From the way I see it my time in Kentucky has for the most part been wasted. As long as people at home pray for me I am hopeful that all will turn out as God wills.

Thanks for the money!

Gratefully,  
Soaneker, O.S.B.

Our Lady of Peace Hospital  
2020 Newburg Rd.  
Louisville, Kentucky

Rt. Rev. Abbot Baldwin, O.S.B.

Dear Father Abbot:

Pardon the writing material. It is the best  
I could find.

For some time I felt the press to write  
to you, but never knew how to begin.  
The fact is that I am confined to this  
hospital with little hope of getting freed.  
The doctor tells me that my annoyance  
with noise is the nature of my sickness.  
He says that other people get used to it.  
Whenever I tell the doctor that sharp noise  
has always bothered me, he just doesn't

believe me.

Some patients have been here by the months. I fear that this may also happen to me, unless someone can intercede for me. The doctor I was given is Dr. Louis Foltz - 1058 Alta Vista Rd., Louisville, Ky.

I am sorry that I am unable to write more. This is a rather tedious and monotonous place.

With all my heart I beg my confreres at St. John's to remember me in prayer. I could use a little spending money, or should I write to St. Mary for this?

Sent \$100.00 Oct. 7  
Cordell C. L. Dr. Foltz

Dwight D. Dyer,

Leominster, Mass.





SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINN., 55450

Dear Father Cosmas,

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

I hope that you will not dwell too much on the letter from Bishop Soenneker. He could hardly have said what he did about St. John's except in a very general way, and what he said certainly does not apply to you, nor could it possibly apply to your attitude toward your responsibility. I think it is unfortunate that he expressed this personal opinion of St. John's at such a time when it would seem to apply to your problem. I am sure that no manner of hardships found at St. Maur's would have been too much for you nor for anyone else that might have been elected Prior from St. John's. If you had gone there to give a retreat or to visit the community, I am quite certain that you would have found yourself quite at home with the others. Please put out of your mind what Bishop Soenneker wrote.

It is natural for you not to feel happy about not being able to offer Mass daily. Anyone would feel that way. Offer up this sacrifice so that the Council will make wise decisions pertaining to the manner of celebrating Mass in the future.

Fr. Frederic has been found to have tumors in the lymph glands; this seems to be something similar to what Joe Benda had. Fr. Emmanuel is not assistant at St. Bernard's, and Fr. Columban is back at his parish after an operation of a slipped disc of his spine. Fr. Walter has been offered a trip to Europe by and he will be leaving on October 19th. Bishop Bartholome is slowly improving.

Be assured of the continued prayers of the community here at St. John's. There will surely be steady improvement in a short time and real progress after that.

Dear Father Abbot,

Oct. 20, 1963

Time is surely dragging along of late. I sure hope that within another week I might be out of the hospital. As far as I know most of my treatment is finished. I'll make it a point to talk to the doctor this week. So far the doctor has avoided me, but I have heard by the grapevine that he is satisfied with my progress. What I want most of all is permission to offer the holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Ever since leaving St. John's my luck as far as health is concerned has not been too good. It would give me a lot of pleasure if I could visit at St. John's for a while.

A person cannot help but miss the place if he has been a monk there for such a long time. Then, too, it would be a pleasure to visit in the Novitiate Quarters. How is Father Daniel doing?

From the few letters that I have received from Fathers + Brothers it appears that the Johnnies are doing quite well in football again this fall.

Bishop Sommerer wrote me a letter from Europe at the beginning of this month. He received the information from Father Alexander. The Bishop assured me in the letter that he will remember

me daily in prayer. The Bishop expressed the thought that St. John's are a bit spoiled because they have everything so nice at home. The Bishop advised me to look upon Kentucky as missionary territory and to have the mind to make great sacrifices for the Church in this State.

With best wishes to you, Father Abbot,  
and to the Community, I am

Devotedly in St. Benedict,

Joannes, O.S.B.



1963

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY - COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 55453

Dear Father Cosmas,

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

22

Since you did not refer to my letter of October 12th, I am not sure that received it. I was certainly glad to hear from you today and to learn that you feel you are making definite progress. You will certainly be most welcome to come to St. John's when you are free to do so, and my guess is that such a visit would be a great help to you in every way. Father Daniel does not say much about his problems if he has any. I have allowed him to get away for a few days to give a retreat. He wanted to do this very much, and I felt this break would do him good. Dr. Higdon wanted to speak to the novices, and I will also give them a conference while Fr. Daniel is gone. The novice from St. Procopius was a bit shaky recently, Fr. Gregory told me.

Yes, the college team won its crucial game last Saturday 28-0. Concordia was undefeated until then, and they fought hard until worn out. We play both Macalaster and St. Thomas away the next two Saturday's. John is afraid of overconfidence, of course.

Fr. Pius is a very sick man, since yesterday. It is just a general weakness of old age. Fr. Burton went to Graceville to take over the work. Fr. Frederic is out of the hospital at Rochester and staying with his brother George; he will need more shots to relieve him of his lymph gland trouble. Fr. Walter left Saturday for Europe with Dr. and Mrs. O'Keefe; he will return November 10th. We will install the Madonna given by the Mabon's next Thursday; it is a 12th century statue said to be of great value because of its age. Now we too have our own Madonna, as do so many of the Benedictine abbeys of Europe. We are having discussion meetings now on liturgical changes and then we are putting these into practice; we now say the table prayers in English. I am going to allow discontinuing use of the hood at office. The next committee will discuss the Opus Dei. The fathers, clerics and the Brothers in perpetual vows are present.

*Our Lady of Rose Hill  
2020 Newburg Road  
Jouanville*

Oct. 23, 1963

Dear Father Abbot,

It is four weeks today that I entered the hospital. Just an hour ago I had my first talk with the doctor - Dr. Folby. Over the weeks he had given me electric shock treatments. In all I had six of these - the last one five days ago.

My greatest joy is that I'll be permitted to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass again, beginning tomorrow. I really missed this privation over the past four weeks.

The doctor tried to enlighten me as to what my problem is. Although I listened to him, I sceptically quizzed him as to his conclusion.

My problem, so it appeared to me on the surface, was the inability to sleep at night due to the noise of trucks on the highway. The doctor says that I have an obsessive compulsive personality which makes such

people find fault with some objective fact which happens to be associated with a job which they have. In other words, he says that my psychic make-up breaks the responsibility which is connected with the position of authority. Instead of admitting this I have found the noise of trucks on the highway intolerable. I didn't want to admit this analysis. Therefore I asked him whether there wasn't the possibility that if one has lived in quiet surroundings for years that such an individual in middle life would be unable to adjust to noise. His only answer was that other people at the Priory adjusted to the noise.

The doctor did admit that I'll have to face up to the problem. He thought that I would never be satisfied in future unless I returned to St. Thomas (within about a week - during this time up to about the

13<sup>th</sup> of November during which he'll talk to me every several days). He hopes that after I return I'll face the situation objectively. If I don't adjust so that the noise will continue to bother me, he will want me to have several more talks with him. He says that it could turn out that I'll have to give up the job.

I must admit that I am a sort of confused individual at present. My memory always used to be very good, but it is difficult to remember or recall most things which have happened the past few months. For the life of me I cannot recall when the election of the Prior occurred or when I came to St. Mawr's.

I am writing this at present in order that you, as my former abbot, will remember this situation in your prayers. If I would not be a profitable Superior for St. Mawr's



surely I should not continue in that Office.  
I have not profited the Community in the  
last few months and have suffered personal  
ill-effects.

I would appreciate the prayers of the St. John's  
Community for this serious decision which  
will have to be made within a fortnight  
perhaps. Maybe it would be more prudent  
not to state for whom these prayers are  
lest my friends at St. John's would  
be disturbed.

How are things at home and how has  
our football <sup>team</sup> fared during this season?

To be honest, Father Albot, I am a bit  
nervous or tense now that I know what  
an important decision faces me in the  
near future. All the more so because I know  
how much Bishop Sennicker is concerned  
(worried) about it.

Devotedly,  
Cosmas, O.S.B.

Dear Father Abbot

and - Oct. 25

Oct. 24, 1963

It is not my intention to plague you with a letter every day, but I do want to tell you how ~~happy~~ happy I am today. The first Mass that I celebrated since Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, this morning, as I was going to chapel, one of the nurses just happened to remark to me, "Father, what makes you so happy?" I didn't think I looked any different than other times. She, however, assured me that I did. Therefore, I told her, "I am so happy that I will soon offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass." And by coincidence it was one of my namesdays. I received the name 'Raphael' for confirmation.

Last night I lay awake for some time thinking about Mass this morning, and also the other thought about how the noise will affect me when I return to St. Maur's. So I must admit that I

It is like a cloud over the mind  
through which I can't see.

am a bit preoccupied with this. Or more truthfully I am a bit worried. Again I ask that you pray for me that this will turn out according to His will. (The mail clerk has just delivered your letter of Oct 22. I'll pause to read it). I want to acknowledge receipt of your letter of Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, which I had failed to do. This was due to mental confusion. I must say that never in my life have I experienced the confusion, doubt, & uncertainty which I do now. It was much worse several weeks ago. I wish I knew what it was. In general, I just lack confidence in anything that I do. E.g., I just wonder how I'll face up to the responsibility when I return to the Monastery. The football team really seems to have power this year, judging from the size of the score. Dispensing with the hood, I think, was a very sensible arrangement. Thanking you for the Community's prayers. Please let them continue. Devotedly,  
Carmel, O.S.B.

Dear Father Abbot,

Oct 28, 1963

Your kind letter arrived today. Tomorrow will be two months since I left St. John's. I must say that this short period has been the most confused, mystified, even dark period in my life. Humbling, depressing, nothing has gone right, yet one faith. Realize that everything has a purpose. It is for this reason that I have asked for so many prayers. In this dark night, filled with so much mental fright and debility, I must humbly and confidently expect God to enlighten and to move me in the right direction.

And right now the apprehension at times becomes even greater, for the reason that I have good hopes that I may be released from the hospital within the week. I say "good hopes" because often the doctor promises release within a short time and then the patient has to wait.

Part of the mystery is how I ever got into this institution. If I would have known what the place was, I am sure that I would never have come. It was suggested to me by Father Bernardino that I ought to go to a rest home near Louisville conducted by the Sisters of Charity for those who are

under strain. For three or four days before coming here I was seriously planning to come to St. John's for a bit of respite, and especially to get some sleep which was impossible due to noise from the highway.

There is no need to repeat the doctor's analysis, namely - that it is not the noise but my psychic composition and attitude towards authority's responsibility. The doctor has spoken about psychic strain, mental fatigue, mental worry, etc. He did indicate that in all probability I might have been quite worn down before I came to Kentucky, since I actually landed in the hospital less than four weeks after arrival. The doctor insisted that I was severely depressed upon admittance. I found it hard to accept this fact, since I have always felt that I am not by nature a depressed person. The doctor's favorite technical phrase to describe my psyche is "obsessive-compulsive" psyche with a tendency towards peripetosity. He adds that such temperaments bear Superior's responsibility with difficulty. When I objected that I had a part of responsibility for 16 yrs., he was quick to demolish this objection by this remark. "Yes, I know

that a novice Master's job is a serious responsibility, but it is not the final responsibility as is that of a Major Superior."

Therefore, I feel right now like Hercules at the crossroads. I must make a decision which I wish I would not have to make. Which is the right road? My chief concern is for St. Mary's. I want them to have a good Superior. I asked the doctor whether I should make the decision before I leave the hospital (since he said that I must make the decision - he will not). To which the doctor replied that I could make it now, but he suggested that I might be unhappy in the future if I didn't first return to St. Mary's before deciding. The doctor has been trying to build up courage in me. He does not say that it is impossible for a person of my temperament to be a Superior. What he wants to make clear is that I did not get nervously unstrung or mentally fatigued because of lack of sleep caused by external noise. He keeps on insisting that the cause is interior. If I see this and accept it and set my mind, the doctor says that there could be the possibility

that I might be successful. For this reason he thinks that I would not be contented in future if I decided now, his advice is that I return to St. Thaur after release and go to work as usual. If, however, I be bothered with the noise, or better yet, if I experience a wearing down of my psychic strength, I must decide to move out of there. My thinking at present is this: If things don't go well upon returning to the monastery, I'll come to St. John's for a visit without saying any more to the monks at St. Thaur. Depending on what shall happen while at St. John's, I'll have to decide the future. Right now the possibility of resigning the Priorship causes a lot of psychic disturbance, so much so that I hate to think about it. To repeat - not because I want to cling to that office, but for the following reasons:

1. I want St. Thaur's to have a good Prior, capable Prior. Right now I often wonder what they are thinking now. I am sure that none of them expected that their newly elected Superior would perform thusly in his first months in office. I ask myself - what do Subjects think or

say among themselves if their Superior has spent weeks in a mental or Psychiatric Sanitarium. Are they as confident in his future judgments? Will they accept his counsel & advice, or instruction and correction with the same childlike and uncritical heart?

2. Bishop Soames' wishes and viewpoints as he expressed them in his letter of early October also make me dreadful. Here are a few quotes from that letter. "You did not see it (the Priorship) so it was God's will and with His will come His grace. It is not pleasant but I know you do not see what is pleasant but pleasing to God. In a way the monks at St. John's are spoiled - they have so many good things there that it is hard to leave." "Kentucky is mission and pioneer territory which is a challenge for you." "I am confident that you will do good work there for the Lord. Just sit back the first year and observe - not even plan - and then all will go well." Past statements of the Bishop have been troublesome. It is obvious that any other procedure but to remain as Prior would be very offensive to him.



There are other reasons but it is so hard to remember them while writing. But the two given are the chief ones. These two cause me to worry at times. Also, even these two might be in conflict with each other, i.e. the monks might rather have a Superior out (although they would never express it) and the Bishop wants him in.

This is the kind of muddle through which I go. If I could only be free of the whole business. There are many more things that I would like to talk about but these few are the chief ones and sufficient for now. Probably this will be the last letter from Louisville (I hope so). Maybe I'll be on my way to St. Mour by the time you get this.

Your letter indicates that other St. John's monks are sick. And may Father Cuis' soul rest in Peace! Bishop Leonard sent me a card from Rome today.

Another important thought comes now which should have been stated above. The doctor made it clear that if one has been mentally or psychically fatigued he may have to lay off from usual mental work for a while - more physical activity. How true! While here I have found reading or studying very tiring. I must end with this sheet. "Lord, show me the way" is my prayer. Devotedly, Coamus, O.S.B.

Abba:

If you wish to let any other monk read this letter, I have no objection. I am thinking that perhaps Father Salpator might be interested.

Also, I think it would be good to hold this letter for a while - just as a record of what I was thinking today. In case I might turn up at St. John's it might be helpful to have such recordings on hand.

b, o, b.

✓

INFORMATION FOR THE ARCHIVES OF SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY, COLLEGEVILLE

NAME: Cosmas Raymond Dahlheimer  
 (Religious) (Baptismal) (Family)

BIRTH: St. Michael Wright Minnesota November 20 1908  
 (City) (County) (State) (Month) (Day) (Year)

YOUR PATRON SAINT: St. Cosmas NAMEDAY: September 27

TRIENNIAL VOWS: St. John's Abbey July 11, 1930 Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch  
 (Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

FINAL VOWS/OBLATION: St. John's Abbey July 11, 1933 Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch  
 (Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

ORDINATION: St. John's Abbey June 6, 1936 Most Rev. Joseph F. Busch  
 (Place) (Date) (Bishop)

FATHER'S FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE: Diamond Lake (near Champlain), Minnesota

FATHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: German ancestry

FATHER'S RELIGION: Catholic DATE OF DEATH: December 31, 1946

HIGHEST LEVEL OF FATHER'S EDUCATION: Four years in Country School

FATHER'S OCCUPATION: deceased Retired farmer  
 (Now) (When You Entered Monastery)

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S BIRTHPLACE: St. Michael, Minnesota

MOTHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: German ancestry

MOTHER'S RELIGION: Catholic DATE OF DEATH: November 30, 1953

HIGHEST LEVEL OF MOTHER'S EDUCATION: Full elementary and a teacher's certificate

YOUR CAREER BEFORE ENTERING THE MONASTERY: student

EDUCATION	SCHOOL	FROM	TO	MAJOR	DEGREE	DATE
	St. Michael Parochial, St. Michael	1915	1920			
ELEMENTARY:	Holy Angels, St. Cloud	1920	1923			
SECONDARY:	St. John's Prep, Collegeville	1923	1927		Diploma	June 1927
UNDERGRADUATE:	St. John's College, Collegeville	1927	1932	Philosophy	A.B.	June 1932
THEOLOGY:	St. John's Seminary, Collegeville	1932	1936			
	State Univ of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa	Jan '46	Jun '47	Classics	A.M.	'47
GRADUATE:	Chicago Univ, Chicago, Ill.	Summers of '40	& '41	Classics		
POST-DOCTORAL:						
OTHER:	Spiritual Institute (Dominicans) River Forest, Ill.	Summers of '53	& '54			

[Over Please]

DATE FILLED OUT: June 4, 1964

James Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
(Signature)

LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL THE MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS (lasting six months or more) YOU HAVE RECEIVED SINCE PROFESSION AND ORDINATION. Give (a) the type or nature of the work, e.g., assistant pastor or plumber or math teacher in Prep School, (b) the location, (c) the duration, (d) any special achievements or items of note, e.g., built parish hall in 1948.

Instructor in Typing - St. John's Prep, Collegeville, 1930-1932  
Teacher of Classics - St. John's College, Collegeville, 1932-1936, 1937-1940, 1947----  
Teacher of Classics - St. Peter's College, Sask., Canada, 1936-1937, 1940-1941  
Prefect of Collegé Students - St. John's College, Collegeville, 1937-1940  
Military Chaplain, U.S. Air Force, Midland, Texas; North Africa; India; Burma Mar 1942-  
Novice Master, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, June 1947-August 1963 Feb 1948-

1971-04-01. Pastor, Marie Louise, Minn.

GIVE YOUR PARENT'S PRESENT ADDRESS, IF LIVING.

LIST YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE ORDER OF THEIR BIRTH. INCLUDE YOURSELF. For those still living give their present address; for those who have died write "deceased." Put an asterisk before those whom you want contacted immediately and directly by the Abbey when you die.

linnesota

IN THE REMAINING SPACE AND ON AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NECESSARY PUT DOWN ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF YOURS THAT YOU THINK SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY RECORDED.

Prior of St. Maur's Priory, South Union, Kentucky - August 1963-November 1963  
Parish work:

St. Bernard's, St. Paul, Minnesota June 1936-September 1936  
St. Mary's, St. Cloud, Minnesota May 1937-August 1937



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

September 30, 1965

Dear Father Abbot,

A lot of cards and letters appeared in my mail box over the last few days, but this noon the most unexpected one arrived. Thanks, Father Abbot! All the more appreciated because you took time out from a busy schedule. Any monk of St. John's, if he has his eyes half way open, knows that your daily and first concern is for their spiritual welfare. I pray God that He may give you the strength to serve St. John's for many years yet.

The first Novice left today. Perhaps Father Daniel will write to you about this matter. Since it was a Brother Novice I thought that I should mention it in this letter. It was Brother Novice Father \_\_\_\_\_ tells me that you had spoken to him about this man before he entered the Novitiate, and that you were much inclined against having him enter the Novitiate. Father Daniel tells me that this Novice was hanging around in a professed Brothers room for a longer time several nights ago. Apparently there was nothing seriously happened, yet there were some tender affections exchanged. The professed Brother is Bro \_\_\_\_\_ I have not talked to Brother \_\_\_\_\_ about this matter. In my judgment I felt it best not to do so, but I thought it would be good for you to do so upon your return.

From what I can see all is going well with the Venerable Brothers. Brother Aloysius is getting more feeble. Several weeks ago it looked as if he would not live long anymore. He was spending most of the time in bed. Lately he has perked up a bit. Brother Bonaventure is pushed around in a wheel chair. One of Brothers takes him over to the Press building every morning. The Brother complains a lot of arthritic pain, not only in his knee but also in his back. Brother Ansgar too has heavy pain in his left arm where it joins the shoulder. He can get very little movement in that joint. His nights are sleepless for the most part, but he can and does rest several times during the day. I have advised him to get some medication to ease the pain, but he wants as little to do with doctors as possible. Brother Paul is getting very much slower, but he will not hear of letting someone else take his work or even to help him.

Brother Dunstan returned from Puerto Rico about a fortnight ago. At present he is at home and after that he will go to Red Lake for a month's vacation in connection with his Silver Jubilee. What he will be ready to do after that I don't know. I suggested that he might help Brother Hubert in the Carpenter Shop, but he objected, "My asthma". A letter today from Brother Elmer indicates that he is ready to return to the Abbey by the middle of October.

September has been a monsoon month. We had 22 days of drizzle and rain. In the last 24 hours almost three inches. At least one monk is happy about all this--Father Conrad.

Please convey my thanks to Fathers Ulric and John for their remembrance. Thanks again to you, Father Abbot! May God bless and keep  
Benedictus in St. Benedict. *Conrad*

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00239

CHAPLAINS' HOUSE  
Saint Benedict's Convent  
Saint Joseph, Minnesota

June 10, 1969

Rt. Rev. Abbot Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Dear Father Abbot:

As you requested, I will accept my new assignment to do parochial work in the parish of St. Augustine in St. Cloud.

Trusting in God and relying on your continued prayers, I am confident that God will prosper my work.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

*Francis Dahlheimer, O.S.B.*



P  
E  
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L

Full Name: Fr Cosmas Dahlheimer B 1908 P 1930 Ord 1936

Social Security No. Yes Birthplace: St Michael Minnesota

Hospital Insurance: yes (through Diocese) Nameday Date: Sept 27

Nearest Relative for emergency (address, phone): Fr Hubert Dahlheimer

Present parental home address: Deceased -

College Degrees (with name of school): BA (St. J.) Major

Graduate Degrees (with name of school): MA (Catholic Univ. of America) Major:

Special skills, arts, crafts, athletics: Handball

Experience: Administrative Business Chaplaincy Farming Industry Library  
Educational Mechanics Missionary Pastoral Teaching Counselling Social

Other:

Languages: Spanish Italian German French Russian Polish Other:

Hobbies, Sports, Recreation: Handball & Card playing

Number of brothers: 2 sisters: 2 (decd) Your rank among them: 4th

Full Name: Fr Cosmas Dahlheimer

Code: G Y R P

Visits: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Health Record in general (past and present):

Very good all his life - *Endicott operation (1936)* *Knee operation (1932)*  
*Water on knee*

Your preferences for future work:

*Chaplaincy - but preferably nursing home to small hospital  
 or small parish*

Work you would like excluded:

Other comments or suggestions:

Places you worked since  
 your Profession:

Type of work:

From: To:

Places you worked since your Profession:	Type of work:	From:	To:
1. <i>St James, Lebanon</i>		<del>1936</del>	
2. <i>St Paul St Bernard's</i>	<i>Summer pastoral under Fr Raymond Bond</i>	1936	
3. <i>St Peter, Mount St. Charles</i>	<i>Taught French, Latin &amp; German</i>	1936	1937
4. <i>St Cloud, St Mary's</i>	<i>Summer pastoral under Fr Worman</i>	1937	
5. <i>St John's Abbey</i>	<i>Teaching &amp; Preparation at St John's</i>	1937	1940
6. <i>St Peter, Mount St. Charles</i>	<i>Teaching</i>	1940	1941
7. <i>St John's Abbey</i>	<i>Teaching till Mar 42</i>	1941	1942
8. <i>U.S. Army Force</i>	<i>Military Chaplain: West Texas, Africa</i>	Mar 42	Feb 46
9. "	<i>India Burma</i>		
10. <i>St. Ann's</i>	<i>3 Semesters, Brockton, MA</i>	Feb 46	June 47
11. <i>St John's Abbey</i>	<i>Teaching &amp; Ministry Director</i>	47	'63
12. <i>St. Ann's, Kentucky</i>	<i>Edited Parish - but resigned after 3 mos</i>	1963 (Sept)	to Dec 1963
13. <i>St John's Abbey</i>	<i>Teaching &amp; Director of Bros</i>	1963	1966
14. <i>St Ann's St Joseph</i>	<i>Chaplain &amp; Teaching at St John's</i>	1966	1969
Comments:			

Full Name: Fr Cosmas Dahlheimer

Code:  
 G Y R P

Visits:  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00242

St Cloud - St Augustin

Partout bord to Dr Peter St Helvie

1969 -

9 February 1970

The Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, C.S.B.  
443 - 2nd Street Southeast  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota 56301

Dear Father Cosmas:

Because of my stay in the Saint Cloud Hospital for eleven days, I have neglected to acknowledge receipt of your Personal Account before this. I am sure that I now have greater sympathy for those who must undergo surgery and must learn how to be a good patient - cooperative with all those who are trying to be helpful. I am very grateful that my operation was a success and will never forget those who prayed for me.

Thank you for the surplus income you were able to send to Saint John's for 1969. I know this represents a real effort on your part to live according to the spirit of poverty, a spirit so much in harmony with the demands of a Christian in our age.

The Lenten season will soon begin. May this holy season be the specific means of helping you to realize definite plans of spiritual renewal for yourself and, through you, all the people for whom you are responsible. This would add greatly to your joy and your success as a priest.

Thank you for your visit at the hospital; I wish it could have been longer. I had an opportunity to see the administration of the hospital under its new management, and I must say I was impressed.

May God bless you and your work.

Devotedly yours,

Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B., abbot

BD/ev

13 January 1971

The Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Saint Augustine's Rectory  
443 - 2nd Street Southeast  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota 56301

Dear Father Cosmas:

This will acknowledge receipt of your Personal Account.

As I am sure you know, the community here at Saint John's Abbey is very much aware of the substantial support which comes from the surplus income of the Fathers and the Brothers on parishes and chaplaincies. The financial statement each year indicates that the amount of revenue is increasing in spite of the fact that the cost of living is going up. In some instances I am sure that this increase represents an ever more conscientious living of the spirit of poverty.

The revenue for the past fiscal year from "expositi" was \$202,529.00 before expenses were deducted.

Mass Intentions in excess of those you need are still most welcome. For various reasons such intentions are almost disappearing in other parts of this country and abroad, and the excess we have are sometimes the means of support in the abbeys to which the intentions and stipends are sent.

We had a very interesting meeting of the community last night on the Prep School, but I think we may be hard pressed to make a definitive decision. This afternoon at the Senior Council meeting we will try to decide if we are ready to meet as a Chapter next Tuesday for a decision of some kind.

My daily prayer for you is that this year will be one of many blessings for you and especially joy and peace in your life and in your apostolic work.

Devotedly yours,

Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B., abbot

BD/ev

The Church of St. Augustine

443 2nd Street S. E.  
St. Cloud, Minn.

June 4, 1971

Rt. Rev. Abbot Baldwin Dworschak, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota

Dear Father Abbot:

Now that you are about to resign as our Superior, I want to say THANK YOU in capital letters. A quarter of a century is a long time to be a Major Superior, and doubly so in the years in which you were our Father in Christ.

Only God and you know the many physical and mental agonies you endured. You would be the last to complain or to reveal them to anyone, because you understand so well that God demands suffering from His servants.

You have demonstrated to all of us--and for this we are very grateful--an admirable patience, kindness, and graciousness in dealing with the community members. No matter how tired, or how sick you might have been at any time, you always welcomed any monk with a smile. Your record as a self-effacing servant, I am sure, will be the outstanding memory of your stewardship.

Much more could be written, but I do not have the eloquence of a Father Roland. I was so happy that he rose and spoke so spontaneously what I am sure most of us felt at the moment that you declared your intention to resign.

You literally sacrificed your life, your health for the Community. I am convinced that God blessed St. John's and will continue to bless it because you so meekly offered your daily sacrifice to Him.

May you have many years of calm and a more relaxed pace in living. God bless you, Father Abbot!

Fraternally in St. Benedict,

*Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.*

P.S. Please do not bother to reply to this letter. You have so many things to do.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
56321  
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 15, 1973

Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
St. Augustine's Church  
443 Second Street, S.E.  
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301

Dear Father Cosmas,

Father Daniel has spoken to you about a change of appointment and he told me you would be interested in going back to your first love, that is, back to St. Bernard's as assistant there. I will be grateful if you would accept this appointment. I know the good work you have done at St. Augustine's and I know that Father Aloysius is not happy that you are leaving the parish. However, he is willing to forego the help you have been giving him.

I am sure Father Vernon will welcome you to St. Bernard's and I hope you will be happy there in your work, as you have been in the past. I have written Father Vernon concerning another new man-- Father Mel, since I am withdrawing Father Mathias and Father Cyprian is continuing his schooling. You know Father Mel and I am sure you will be able to work together well. Although he appears to be "far out" at times he has been deeply committed to his work and has really spent himself for all classes of people.

I am not sure as to just when the changes will be made, but I will appreciate your letting me know as soon as possible whether this appointment to St. Bernard's is agreeable to you.

With all good wishes, and the prayer that God bless you and your work,  
I am

Devotedly,

Abbot

JE:fp

The Church of St. Augustine

445 and Street S. E.  
St. Cloud, Minn.

May 17, 1973

Right Reverend Abbot John Eidenschink, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Mn 56321

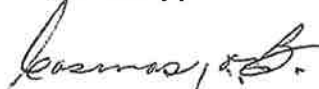
Dear Father Abbot:

Your letter came in the mail yesterday just before I was leaving to see someone at St. Joseph. When I came to the Abbey in order to see you, your secretary, , told me that you were abed with heavy pain. I was sorry to hear that your back and leg problem is getting worse rather than better. It is not hard for me to imagine what any agony it is for you to do all the work incumbent upon an Abbot with such a load of suffering. I hope and pray that some alleviation will be found soon. In my hospital rounds yesterday I discovered that Father is back in the hospital with his recurring ailment.

All I wanted to say to you yesterday was that I accept the assignment that you have arranged for me. As I see it now I am thankful that you have been so considerate in giving what looks to me as a return to where I had three months of pleasant work in the first months of my priesthood. If Father Vernon, the pastor, is happy to receive me, I'll do what I am able for the people of that parish.

Thanking you for this assignment, and the kind words you had about my work here at St. Augustine's, I am

Devotedly,







SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA  
56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

June 8, 1973

Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
The Church of St. Augustine  
443 Second Street, S.E.  
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301

Dear Father Cosmas,

Thank you very much for your letter of May 17 and for your willingness to accept the assignment at St. Bernard's. This is just a brief note to let you know that I am asking the Archbishop to make the assignment effective as of June 19. Father Mathias will not be leaving for St. Bernard until June 30, but I would think there would be no inconvenience since Father Cyprian has already gone, if you move down on the 19th or around that day, if another day should be more convenient for you.

I am asking Father Richard to report to St. Augustine's on June 19. If there should be some difficulty about that date, please arrange a suitable date with Father Richard himself. I will write him to the same effect.

In the hope that you will be very happy in the work at St. Bernard's and prayer that God continue to bless you and your work, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot  
JE:fp

CHURCH OF ST. BERNARD

197 W. Geranium Ave.

ST. PAUL, MINN. 55117

Jan 10, 1974

R. Rev. Abbot John Eidenschied, OSB  
Dear Father Abbot:

Enclosed is my financial statement for the  
year 1973:

During the year I sent 2 cheques to  
the Business Office. The enclosed cheque is  
the third for the year. \$1200. Total of \$3300

From several confreres, who visited the abbey  
and then stopped here, I heard that you inquired  
about my health. Accept my sincere thanks  
for your concern. I know that you have a very  
compassionate heart for the sick, not only in  
recent years as abbot but all the years of your  
monastic life. Let me say that my period  
of sickness was a great grace. Now I am again  
able to do my work, thank God.

No need, Father Abbot, to acknowledge this  
financial statement. You have plenty other work  
to do.

Devotedly,

Seamus Dahlheimer OSB.

January 11, 1974

Dear Father Cosmas,

I would follow your advice that there is not any need to acknowledge receipt of your personal statement for the past year and the check of \$1260 which you enclosed, but I want to let you and the others at St. Bernard's know that Father Conrad is much weaker. This morning for the first time in some months he was not strong enough to concelebrate Mass; he was not able to dress himself, and yesterday the doctor judged that, because of weakness, the end may be near. I will re-anoint him this afternoon at 4:30.

And so this does give me the opportunity to thank you for your statement and for the sacrifices made to enable you to send a total of \$3300 to the community for its support during the year. May God bless you in return.

With greetings to all, and every good wish -- I rejoice in that you are again feeling well and able to carry on your work --

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

1977

INFORMATION FOR THE ARCHIVES OF SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

NAME: COSMAS (Religious) RAYMOND (Baptismal) DAHLHEIMER (Family)

BIRTH: St. MICHAEL (City) WRIGHT (County) MN (State) Nov 20 (Month) 1908 (Day) (Year)

YOUR PATRON SAINT: COSMAS NAMEDAY: SEPT 26

TRIENNIAL VOWS: St. JOHN'S (Place) July 11, 1930 (Date) ABBOT ALVIN DEUTSCH (Before Whom)

FINAL VOWS/OBLATION: St. JOHN'S (Place) July 11, 1933 (Date) ABBOT ALVIN DEUTSCH (Before Whom)

ORDINATION: St. JOHN'S (Place) JUNE 6, 1936 (Date) JOSEPH BUSCH (Bishop)

FATHER'S FULL NAME: -

FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE: CHAMPLIN, MN.

FATHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: GERMAN AMERICAN

FATHER'S RELIGION: CATHOLIC DATE OF BIRTH: July 14, 1860

HIGHEST LEVEL OF FATHER'S EDUCATION: 6th grade

FATHER'S OCCUPATION: RETIRED FARMER (When You Entered Monastery) DECEASED (Now)

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: -

MOTHER'S BIRTHPLACE: St. MICHAEL, MN.

MOTHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: GERMAN AMERICAN

MOTHER'S RELIGION: CATHOLIC DATE OF BIRTH: SEPT 12, 1868

HIGHEST LEVEL OF MOTHER'S EDUCATION: GRADES + TEACHER CERTIFICATE

YOUR CAREER BEFORE ENTERING THE MONASTERY:

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EDUCATION	SCHOOL	FROM	TO	MAJOR	DEGREE	DATE
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ELEMENTARY:	ST. MICHAEL PAROCHIAL MN.	1915	1920			
	HOLY ANGELS, ST. CLOUD	1920	1923			

SECONDARY:	ST. JOHN'S PREP	1923	1927		DIPLOMA	1927
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UNDERGRADUATE:	ST. JOHN'S UNIV.	1927	1932		B.A.	1932
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THEOLOGY:	ST. JOHN'S SEM.	1932	1936			
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	CHICAGO U.	SUMMER OF 1940	1941	CLASSICS		
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GRADUATE:	STATE UNIV OF IOWA	1946	1947	CLASSICS	M.A.	JUNE 1947
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POST-DOCTORAL: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER:	DOMINICAN SPIRITUAL INSTITUTE	SUMMER OF				
	RIVER FOREST, ILL	1953	1954			

LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL THE MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS (lasting six months or more) YOU HAVE RECEIVED SINCE PROFESSION AND ORDINATION. Give (a) the type or nature of the work, e.g., assistant pastor or plumber or math teacher in Prep School, (b) the location, (c) the duration, (d) any special achievements or items of note, e.g., built parish hall in 1948, or Danforth grant in 1960.

1. GREEK TEACHER in St. JOHN'S Unit 1932-1936
2. LANGUAGE TEACHER in St. PETER'S COLLEGE, MÜNSTER, SASK ~~1936-1937~~; 1944-44
3. CLASSICS TEACHER and PREFECT in St. JOHN'S Unit 1937-1940
4. MILITARY CHAPLAIN in U.S. AIR FORCE 1942-1946 with  
ADVISE in West Tera, No. Africa, India, and Burma
5. CLASSICS TEACHER and NOVICE MASTER at St. JOHN'S 1947-1963
6. CLASSICS TEACHER and BROTHER MASTER at St. JOHN'S 1964-1966
7. CHAPLAIN at St. BENEDICT CONVENT, COLLEGE, + HIGH SCHOOL 1966-1969
8. ASSISTANT PASTOR at St. AUGUSTINE'S, ST. CLOUD 1969-1973
9. ASSISTANT PASTOR at St. BERNARD'S, ST. PAUL 1973-1980
10. CHAPLAIN, CONVENT OF St. SCHOLASTICA, ST. CLOUD, 1980-

GIVE YOUR PARENTS' PRESENT ADDRESS, IF LIVING.

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LIST YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE ORDER OF THEIR BIRTH. INCLUDE YOURSELF.  
For those still living give their present address; for those who have died write "deceased." Put an asterisk  
before those whom you want contacted immediately and directly by the Abbey when you die.

7  
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1  
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IN THE REMAINING SPACE AND ON AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NECESSARY PUT DOWN  
ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF YOURS THAT YOU  
THINK SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY RECORDED.

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June 9, 1978

Dear Mrs. ,

Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B., a member of St. John's A  
ABBEY presently serving as one of the Assistants at St.  
Bernard's Parish, has informed me that your husband, Mr.,  
1, gave him his car, a Chevrolet Impala, on his  
death bed.

This was certainly very generous of Mr. and, though I  
am sure that Father Cosmas has expressed his gratitude to  
you, I also wish to express my gratitude, in the name of our  
monastic community, to you. We do appreciate very generous  
and very useful gift.

And as I express our gratitude, I also wish to extend my  
sympathy to you in the death of your beloved husband and to  
assure you that I will remember him in Mass and in prayer.  
May God grant him eternal rest, -and may He bless you and help  
you to bear this loss. With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.  
Abbot



THE REVEREND COSMAS DAHLHEIMER, O.S.B.

22 June 1978

Dear Father Cosmas:

Just a note to let you know that Bishop Speltz has approved of your appointment as associate pastor at Saint Joseph and has granted you the faculties of the Diocese. I asked him to make the appointment effective on July 15th since Father Dunstan Moorse will not arrive at Saint Bernard's until that date. I look forward to your being at Saint Joseph's because it means that we will see you more often.

In the hope that you will be happy in your work there, and with every good wish, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

07/23/78

JE/ev

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00257

3 April 1979

Dear Father Cosmas:

Just a brief note to thank you for sending your Lenten Inventory and the addresses of your nearest relatives. I am grateful also for your responses to the two questions as part of the Lenten Resolution for this year.

Last evening I anointed Father Cornelius. Though his condition is not critical, he is steadily growing weaker. I commend him and all of us to your prayers.

A blessed and joyous Easter to you!

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE/ev

The Reverend Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.  
Church of Saint Joseph  
Post Office Box 9  
Saint Joseph, Minnesota 56374

INFORMATION FOR PERSONNEL FILE

NAME COSMAS DAHLHEIMER, O.S.B. Present Date Sept 75, '84

PRESENT work assignment (s)

Chaplain at St. Scholastica Convent, St. Cloud, Minn 56301

PAST work assignment (s) (General Data)

TEACHING - St. John's

CHAPLAIN - St. BENEDICT'S CONVENT - St. JOSEPH, MINN

PARISH MINISTRY

a) St. AUGUSTINE'S - St. CLOUD

b) St. BERNARD'S - St. Paul

c) St. JOSEPH - St. JOSEPH.

FUTURE work interest (s)

NONE

return by 11-1-84

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00259

CHURCH OF ST. BERNARD

COPY

Rectory  
197 W. Geranium  
488-6733

Business Office  
1160 Woodbridge  
488-6733



St. Paul, MN. 55117

High School  
170 W. Rose Ave.  
489-1338

Grade School  
1167 Albemarle St.  
489-8086

October 2, 1984

TO: Mr. [REDACTED]

This morning at 7:00A.M. Mr. Simons, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] met in my office concerning his academic performance at St. Bernard's High School. The meeting was set up due to the fact that [REDACTED] had not completed the work given to him on September 26, 1984, (when his father, [REDACTED], and I met) and I was concerned about the direction he was planning on taking this fall quarter.

With his performance last year, I had real concerns about his academic progress and maybe some drug related problems. Lacking 3 1/2 credits at the present time, any more failures would put [REDACTED] in impossible academic situation here at St. Bernard's High School

I suggested that [REDACTED] write down what he planned on doing the rest of this quarter. This did not meet with the approval of his parents. Their suggestion that we take [REDACTED]'s word was agreed upon. He agreed to work hard and get help especially with his British Literature. A meeting will be held at 2:40P.M. today to arrange for [REDACTED] to seek help if he so desires.

I stated that "if he fails another subject, he would not be allowed to continue at St. Bernard's." [REDACTED] asked if that was my decision or the schools. I stated it was mine. She mentioned that she would go higher up if necessary to keep [REDACTED] here, since she had invested a large sum of money.

Therefore with this remark, and not having a written performance statement for [REDACTED], I felt and did mention that I would write down some items concerning his performance. Therefore:

- A) [REDACTED] must pass all his subjects this quarter
- B) One part of this is that he not miss more than seven day of school.
- C) [REDACTED] must seek his own help, which can be given immediately after school by a teacher.

I assume his "word" means that these goals will be attained.

I thanked [REDACTED] and wished [REDACTED] "good luck". Hopefully we can all work for the betterment of [REDACTED], but he must do his part!

Sincerely,

*Mr. Hansen*  
Mr. Hansen, Dean of Students

cc: Mr. Simons  
[REDACTED] ✓  
Father Brennan

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: October 23, 1987  
MEMO TO: Archbishop Roach  
FROM: Fr. Kevin McDonough  
SUBJECT:

On Friday afternoon, October 23, 1987, [REDACTED] of St. Paul came to the Chancery. They asked to speak to the Archbishop and so they were referred to Mert Lassonde. Mert told them that the Archbishop was unavailable and asked if anyone else could be of help to them. At that point, they gave him a general indication of their particular concern. They told him that their son had just reported that he had been touched in an improper manner by a priest. When Mert heard that that was the case, he called Fr. Austin Ward and [REDACTED] sat down with Fr. Ward.

Fr. Ward began to interview them. He called on me and I was present throughout the greater part of the interview as well. The story which they told us is as follows:

Their 20-year-old son, [REDACTED], reported that about 10 years ago a Fr. Cosmos D. (they did not know his last name), a Benedictine priest working at St. Bernard's Parish, St. Paul, had [REDACTED] sit on his lap and kissed him on the lips. [REDACTED] reported this to them in a very emotional discussion at their home on Friday, October 23. His parents are convinced that this childhood incident is connected to many of the behavioral problems that [REDACTED] has experienced over the years. They reported that [REDACTED] was expelled from St. Bernard's School in the 10th grade; that he has had problems with juvenile and adult law enforcement authorities.

Both Fr. Ward and I assured [REDACTED] several times that we took their concern very, very seriously and want to follow-up on the problem they are raising. I asked that they would speak with [REDACTED] and see if he would be willing to talk with me in their home. I am currently attempting to set up an interview with him. We told them that we want to help them to know about the various community health resources which may be available to help their son. We also told them that we want to follow-up on the reported behavior of the priest in order to see that a proper response is made.

The reported incident occurred approximately ten years ago, according to the parents. They have no direct knowledge of sexual abuse in the case. Because of this, both Fr. Ward and I are convinced that they statutory provisions requiring the reporting of certain incidents do not apply to this case. However, we are taking it very seriously and intend to follow-up. I will keep you informed as I obtain further information. Based on that information, we will be able to make a recommendation to [REDACTED] for proper community health resources and we will be able to determine what steps should be taken in regard to the priest.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00261

1988  
 #6075 - current Envelope  
 April 14 81, 1.2.  
 DATE 1970 - Jan.

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ INITIAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

SIBBAND'S NAME	BIRTH DATE		PLACE OF BIRTH	CON- VERT	BAPT.	FIRST COMM.	CON- FIRM.	OCCUPATION SCHOOL	Attend Mass	Easter Duty	Enve- lopes	VALID MAR.	
	MO.	DAY										YR.	Yes
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Sh. P.		✓	✓	✓	printer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	"		✓	✓	✓	hang	✓	✓			
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	"		✓	✓	✓	2 - 1	✓	✓	310		
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	"		✓	✓	✓	AA. B	✓	✓			
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]											
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]											
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]											
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]											
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]											
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]											

(Use reverse side if necessary.)

MARKS: her par,  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

The Chancery

October 30, 1987

Right Reverend Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
Abbot  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

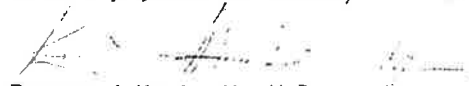
Dear Abbot Jerome,

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of Monday, October 26, I want to send you some written information concerning allegations about a priest purported to be a member of St. John's Abbey. According to those making the allegations, the priest's name is Father Cosmas D. They do not recall his last name.

Abbot, in our conversation on Monday, I told you that I was attempting to attain further information from the family. So far we have been unable to meet, although I have an appointment set with them in the near future. Rather than wait until I have further information, I have wanted to send to you the information we now have on hand in order to help you in your consideration of the matter. For that reason, I am including a copy of a memo which I sent to Archbishop John Roach on Friday of last week.

As soon as I am able to meet with the parents again, I will inform you in writing of the results of their conversation. My own strong desire to assist you in this question has been reinforced by Archbishop Roach's personal directive that I be of any service to you that you may require. Please do not hesitate to call or write for further information.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend Kevin M. McDonough  
Chancellor  
Episcopal Vicar

KMM:ggr

Enc.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00263

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

The Chancery

November 11, 1987

Right Reverend Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
Abbot  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Dear Abbot Jerome,

I want to update you on the course of my conversations with [REDACTED]. Please accept my apologies for the delay in sending you further information.

I met with [REDACTED] again on Friday, October 30. They gave me the following information: First of all, they reported that their son has been unwilling to talk with me or with anyone else outside of the family about the alleged incident of ten years ago. Second, they themselves had no further information directly concerning the alleged incident.

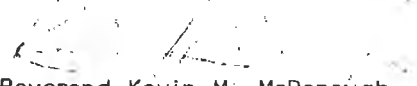
Furthermore, they reported that they talked to their older son who is roughly the same age as their son [REDACTED]. That son could remember no inappropriate behavior on Father Cosmas' part in his own personal regard.

Finally, they showed me a letter that they had received as part of a disciplinary action which St. Bernard's School had taken with their son [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] are convinced that many of [REDACTED]'s teenage behavior problems stem from the alleged incident with Father Cosmas. I am including a copy of the letter that they gave to me for your information.

I asked that they would continue to remain in communication with me if they thought I could be of any further help. I also gave them the name of a psychologist who has been of some help to my own family in a similar situation. I gave them his name simply so that they might know about another and potentially useful community resource.

Father Abbot, this is all the information that I have. If any further conversation arises in regard to this matter, I will let you know as soon as possible. Please let me know if I can be of any further help.

Sincerely yours, in Christ,

  
Reverend Kevin M. McDonough  
Chancellor  
Episcopal Vicar

KMM:ggr

Enc.

OSB DAHLHEIMER\_00264



Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Office of the Abbot

16 November 1987

The Reverend Kevin M. McDonough  
Office of the Chancellor  
The Chancery  
226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

Dear Father Kevin:

Thank you for your letter of 11 November 1987 and the update of your conversations with [REDACTED]. You obviously have approached this case with promptness and professionalism.

I am happy that you continue to take [REDACTED]'s comments seriously and follow up with them in visits and conversations. It would be unfortunate not to get as much information as possible about the case.

It seems that Saint Bernard's High School acted properly in discussing the issues with [REDACTED], but in spite of the warning of the administration their son did not meet the standards of the school. I suspect they are angry about this situation.

I have not proceeded to discuss the case with anyone since I wanted more information. If you think that it would be well to discuss this matter with the persons involved, I would be glad to do so. For now I will wait for further information and communication from you.

Thank you for your evident concern!

Blessings and peace in the Lord!

Sincerely yours,

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.

JT/ev

Phone 612 363-2544

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

The Chancery

November 20, 1987

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321


Dear Abbot Jerome,

I want to thank you for your letter of November 16. I appreciate your support and our good communication in this matter.

You noted in your letter that you would await further information and communication from me. Permit me simply to say that I do not anticipate further information in the near future. If, however, I do receive that information, I will be in touch with you immediately. In regard to any legal or abbatial responsibilities that you might have to discuss this matter with any of the persons involved, I am incapable of advising you. However, from a pastoral point of view, it seems to me that [REDACTED]'s concerns have been adequately addressed for the present. From my perspective, it seems unnecessary for you to be in touch with them about their concerns.

My prayers are with you in your community responsibilities. Many blessings on all the Johnnies!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Reverend Kevin M. McDonough  
Chancellor  
Episcopal Vicar

KMM:ggr

ADDRESSES OF CLOSEST RELATIVES

Name of Monk: COSMAS DAHLHEIMER

Date: August 1, 1989

1) \* Name: [REDACTED]

Spouse: [REDACTED]

How Related: BROTHER

Address: [REDACTED]

City and State: [REDACTED], Zip Code: 56338

Telephone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Work \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

2) \* Name: + SISTER [REDACTED]

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased

How Related: SISTER

Address: GOOD COUNSEL HILL

City and State: MANKATO, MN, Zip Code: 56002

Telephone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Work \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

3) Name: + [REDACTED]

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

How Related: BROTHER

Address: ST. JOHN'S ABBEY

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

4) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

How Related: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\* To be notified FIRST in case of death or serious illness.

(OVER, PLEASE)

**PAXI**

Die 30 novembris, 1953

Ex hac vita decessit

**MARIA MAGDALENA DAHLHEIMER**

Mater RR. PP. Cosmae et Huberti, O.S.B.

Eius requies aeterna piis nostris commendatur orationibus  
et sacrificiis.

R. I. P.

Ex Abbatia S. Ioannis Baptistae  
Collegeville, Minnesota  
die 30, novembris, 1953

+ BALDUINUS, O.S.B.  
ABBAS.

*Rudolph G. Dahlheimer*

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
OF MONASTIC PROFESSION

July 11, 1990



Rev. Benjamin Stein, O.S.B.  
Rev. Fabian Wegleitner, O.S.B.  
Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer, O.S.B.

MONKS OF SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY  
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

Never departing from His school, but  
persevering in the monastery according  
to His teaching until death, we may by  
patience share in the sufferings of Christ  
and deserve to have a share also in His  
Kingdom.

Rule of Benedict - Prologue

"You have not chosen me, but I have  
chosen you." —Jn. 15. 16.

*A Remembrance*

of my

*First Solemn Mass*

celebrated in

*St. Michael's Church*

*June 7, 1936*

*St. Michael, Minnesota*

Ordnained Priest by the  
Most Rev. Joseph F. Busch, D. D.  
Abbey Church, Collegeville, Minn.  
June 6, 1936

*Cosmas R. Dahlheimer,*  
*O.S.B.*

May the priceless blessings which Thou  
hast so liberally bestowed upon me, O gen-  
erous Lord, be shared by all who have lov-  
ingly assisted me in ascending to Thy Holy  
Mount.

**SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY QUARTERLY**  
**(Summer, 1990, Volume 8, Number 3, page 11)**

**Father Cosmas (Raymond) Dahlheimer**, former novice master of many confreres and friends of Saint John's in the unusual explosion of possible vocations here in the late 1940's —1960's, certainly has had an unusually important role in the modern life of the Church in Minnesota and our region — so numerous, over 240, were the religiously inclined young men whom he taught the elements of a special Catholic way of life during 19 years.

He was born in Saint Michael, Minnesota on 20 November 1908, attended elementary school there and, in 1923, enrolled in the Preparatory School. Six years later he entered the novitiate and after the usual courses of theological studies, was ordained a priest in 1936. "Then, I had my first taste of pastoral work, at Saint Bernard's Parish in Saint Paul."

He was scheduled to teach that fall in the Prep School, but a sudden change in plans was made in late August. At the request of Abbot Severin of Saint Peter's Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada, Abbot Alcuin sent him to teach there for several years. On his return to Saint John's, he taught Classics in the college and served as prefect in the former Saint Gregory's Hall.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor at the onset of World War II, Father Cosmas immediately volunteered to be an Air Force Chaplain. His armed service

experience was about equally divided into states side service in west Texas and in overseas duty in the India-Burma theatre, with a two month transit layover in North America.

Following his separation from the service in early 1946, he studied at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, for several semesters of graduate work. Returning to Saint John's in 1947 with his Master of Arts degree in Greek, he was again surprised by Abbot Alcuin's decision; that his principal new activity would be as Master of Clerical Novices and, sometimes, Brother Master.

Along with these major duties for much of 1947 – 1966, he also regularly taught a variety of course in Greek, in all of 30 years. Traditionally in those years, divinity students were required to master four years of Greek, but this requirement was waived in the early 1960's and, with that waiver, Father Cosmas was given various assignments away from the abbey.

Thus, from that time until 1988, he served as chaplain to Saint Benedict's Convent and College; as associate pastor of Saint Augustine's Church, Saint Cloud; again at Saint Bernard's Church, Saint Paul; and Saint Joseph's Church, Saint Joseph.

During his time as chaplain of Saint Scholastica Convent in Saint Cloud, a nerve problem developed in his feet that necessitated his retirement at the abbey.

Friday, June 17, 1994

## More sex abuse suits filed against abbey

Lawsuit alleges abuse of two young boys

By John Welsh  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Two more lawsuits have been filed against St. John's Abbey, bringing to 10 the number of lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of boys or young men by members of the monastery.

The lawsuits filed this week in Stearns County District Court accuse the Rev. Richard Eckroth of abusing two young boys ages 7 or 8 at St. Augustine's Church in St. Cloud about 20 years ago.

Eckroth had been assigned by the abbey as associate pastor at the church. Most recently he had been assigned to St. John's mission in the Bahamas.

When the allegations surfaced, he was brought home by Abbot Timothy Kelly and underwent psychological evaluation, said the Rev. Daniel Durken, the abbey's spokesman. He currently lives at the monastery.

According to the lawsuits, the abuse took place at the rectory and at a cabin owned by the abbey. Eckroth threatened at the time that he would kill the boys if they reported the abuse, the lawsuits said.

The victims' attorney, Jeff Anderson, said Eckroth used his position to befriend children by passing out candy, inviting children swimming and inviting them to the lake cabin.

Both victims have suffered severe emotional distress because of the abuse, the lawsuit said. According to Anderson, one of the victims was an altar boy who had two younger brothers who were

■ We want to reaffirm our pledge to respond to allegations of this manner as quickly as we can. Our first concern is to offer care and counseling to the victim. ■

**The Rev. Daniel Durken**  
ST. JOHN'S ABBEY SPOKESMAN

abused by another St. Augustine's priest, the Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer. A suit against Dahlheimer, who also served in the parish in the early 1970s, was filed in Stearns County earlier this year.

Since 1990, six priests and two religious brothers have been accused of sexual abuse in the 10 lawsuits filed. Four suits have been settled out of court, two have been thrown out because of statute of limitations and four cases are still pending.

"We are saddened by the allegations," said Durken. "We want to reaffirm our pledge to respond to allegations of this manner as quickly as we can. Our first concern is to offer care and counseling to the victim."

In the last year, St. John's has taken a leadership position in combatting clergy abuse.

It has established the Sexual Trauma Institute and later this summer will host a national support meeting for survivors of clergy abuse.

**Father Cosmas Dahlheimer** was born in St. Michael, became a Benedictine monk in 1930 and was ordained a priest on June 6, 1936. He taught Greek at St. John's University and at St. Peter's College, a Benedictine school in Muenster,



Saskatchewan, Canada.

With the outbreak of World War II, he became a chaplain in the United States Air Force and served at military bases in West Texas, North Africa, India and Burma. After the war he studied classical languages at the University of Iowa, receiving the master's degree in 1947 and then continuing his teaching at St. John's.

From 1947 to 1963, Father Dahlheimer served as master of novices of the abbey. He was the master of Benedictine brothers (1964-66) and chaplain of St. Benedict's Monastery and College, St. Joseph (1966-69). He then took up pastoral ministry and served as assistant pastor of St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud (1969-73); St. Bernard Church, St. Paul (1973-78); and St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph (1978-80).

His final assignment before his retirement in 1988 was as chaplain of St. Scholastica Convent, St. Cloud. He is retired at St. Raphael's Health Center at St. John's.



**Father Cosmas Dahlheimer**

Father Dahlheimer was born in St. Michael, Minn. His assignments have been: teacher of Greek and Latin at St. Peter's College, Saskatchewan, Canada, 1936-38; and teacher of the same

subjects at St. John's University, 1938-41 and 1947-66. He was a U.S. Army Air Corps chaplain during World War II with duty in Texas, India and Burma, 1941-46. He was master of novices from 1947-63, and master of Benedictine brothers, 1966-69.

He was chaplain of St. Benedict's Monastery and College, St. Joseph, 1966-69, and chaplain of St. Scholastica Convent, St. Cloud, 1980-88. He was an assistant pastor at St. Augustine Parish, St. Cloud, 1969-73; St. Bernard Parish, St. Paul, 1973-78 and St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph, 1978-80. He currently lives at St. Raphael's Retirement Center, St. John's Abbey.

**Wilfred Dahlheimer, 96**

Pierz

April 16, 1905-May 11, 2001

Services will be 11 a.m. Monday at St. Rita's Catholic Church, Hillman, for Wilfred J. Dahlheimer, 96, formerly of Hillman, who died Friday at Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina.

Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Shelley-Virnig Funeral Chapel, Pierz, and one hour before services Monday at the church.

Wilfred Dahlheimer was born near St. Michael to Valentine and Mary (Gerber) Dahlheimer. In 1927, the family moved to a farm in Leigh Township and began farming. He married Leona Thiede on May 10, 1939, in St. Augustine's Catholic Church, St.

Cloud. The couple farmed in Leigh Township until 1967 and then continued to reside on the farm and raise cattle until 1990, when they moved to Kamnic Apartments in Pierz. He resided at Park Health Center in St. Louis Park for the past few months. He was a member of St. Rita's Catholic Church, where he was a former church council member, and a former member of the Leigh Township Board and Hillman School Board.

Survivors include his daughters, Clarice Dahlke of Deerwood, and Phyllis Meyer of Minnetonka; brother, the Rev. Cosmas of St. John's Abbey, Collegeville; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife in August 1991; and brother and sisters, the Rev. Hubert, Sister Clarice and Roseline Brown.

when you know everyone else is going through the same thing." He was promoted to the rank of major before his separation from the military in 1946.

Cosmas' sixteen-year term (1947-1963) as Master of Clerical Novices was the second longest in the history of the abbey. He taught novices numbering in double digits "all the hard and rugged ways by which the journey to God is made" (*Rule*, chapter 58) but emphasized the balance of worship and work. Over 250 novices and 35% of the current membership of the abbey learned from his words and example.

From 1963-1988 Cosmas was chaplain to the monastics and students of Saint Benedict's Monastery and College, associate pastor of parishes in St. Cloud, St. Paul and St. Joseph, and chaplain of Saint Scholastica Monastery.

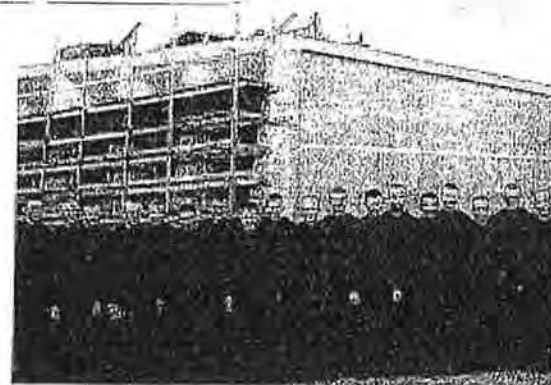
Cosmas' desire to spend his retirement in the peace-filled routine of monastic life was not realized. His suffering was complicated by the advance of Alzheimer's disease. He knew more grief than the grace provided by the final Instrument of Good Works in Saint Benedict's *Rule*: "Never to despair of God's mercy." May he rest in peace!



**Cosmas Raymond  
Dahlheimer, OSB**  
November 20, 1908 –  
February 21, 2004

For several years after his ordination in 1936 Father Cosmas taught at Saint Peter's Abbey, Muenster, Saskatchewan, Canada. He returned to Saint John's, taught Latin and Greek in the college and was a prefect of students. When the United States entered World War II, Cosmas became one of the sixteen priests of the abbey to volunteer as a military chaplain.

He served in the India-Burma theatre where torrid conditions made life difficult. Applying his experience of community life, Cosmas remarked, "No matter how terrific the hardship, you can stand them when you have company. It doesn't seem so bad



Cosmas (r.) and the 1959-60 class of clerical novices

**Father Cosmas  
Dahlheimer, OSB, 95**

Collegeville

Nov. 20, 1908-Feb. 21, 2004

Funeral services for Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, OSB will be at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, in Saint John's Abbey Church with interment later in the abbey cemetery.

A prayer service will be held on Monday, February 23, at 7 p.m. in the Abbey Church.

Born in St. Michael, Minn., to Valentine and Mary Magdalen (Gerber), Raymond grew up in a household of native Minnesotans for whom German was still used frequently at home. He attended elementary schools in St. Michael and St. Cloud until 1923 when he enrolled in the Saint John's Preparatory School. Six years later he entered the monastery and after theological studies, was ordained a priest in 1936.

He was scheduled to begin teaching in the Prep School in the fall of 1936, but at the request of the Abbot of Saint Peter's Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada, his superior sent Father Cosmas to teach there for several years. On his return to Saint John's he taught classical languages in the college and served as a residence director.

At the outbreak of World War II, Father Cosmas volunteered to become a chaplain in the Army Air Corps. His time was divided about equally between States-side service and in overseas duty in the India-Burma theater. In 1943 he was promoted to captain.

Following his separation from the US Army in early 1946, he studied classical



languages at the University of Iowa, Iowa City. Returning to Saint John's in 1947 with a

masters' degree, he was again surprised by the superior's decision: his principal new activity would be as Master of Novices, responsible for the initial training of potential monks. Father Cosmas also taught a variety of courses in Greek or Latin for almost 30 years. When the requirement for seminarians to study Greek and Latin was waived in the early 1960s, Father Cosmas was given various assignments away from the abbey, including being Prior of Saint Maur's Priory in Kentucky for one year.

From the mid-1960s until 1988, Father Cosmas served as chaplain to Saint Benedict's Monastery and College; as associate pastor of Saint Augustine's Church, Saint Cloud; again at Saint Bernard's Church, Saint Paul; and Saint Joseph's Church, Saint Joseph. During his time as chaplain of Saint Scholastica Convent in Saint Cloud, he developed health problems that necessitated his retirement at the abbey.

The final years of his life were clouded by the advance of Alzheimer's disease and persistent allegations, which he denied, of the sexual abuse of minors many years before. He was unaware of the penalties imposed upon him by the US bishops in June 2002. Father Cosmas was the last to die in his family that included two brothers and two sisters.

# St. John's priest's obituary upsets sexual abuse survivor

Abbot says notice was meant to be sensitive, acknowledge history

By David Unze  
dunze@stcloudtimes.com

A survivor of sexual abuse by a recently deceased St. John's Abbey priest is critical of information the abbey included in the priest's published death notice.

Abbot John Klassen said the obituary was presented the way it was in an effort to be sensitive to the victims and to acknowledge a painful part of the abbey's and the priest's past.

The Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer, 95, died Saturday and was buried Tuesday after a funeral at the abbey church.

His death notice was published in Sunday's

Times and contained a reference to the allegations that Dahlheimer sexually abused young people while he was parish priest in the 1970s.

Dahlheimer was one of more than dozen abbey monks or priests who faced restrictions on their activities and movements because of allegations of sexual abuse, he said.

Allen Vogel and his brother

accused Dahlheimer of abusing them and were part of a landmark settlement between survivors and the abbey in 2002.

Part of the settlement included an admission from Abbot John Klassen that he believed Dahlheimer abused the Vogels, sometimes Dahlheimer repeatedly denied.

## Abbot's notice was meant to be sensitive, acknowledge history

Dahlheimer's paid obituary notice, which was submitted to the Times with Klassen's approval, said: "The final years of his life were clouded by the advances of Alzheimer's disease and persistent allegations, but for St. John's, to mask what happened out there."

In addition to acknowledging personally to the Vogels his belief that

See OBITUARY, 4B

### From Page 1B

## Obituary

Dahlheimer had abused them, Klassen made a similar acknowledgment in Times articles in April 2001.

He didn't intend to offend sexual abuse survivors or anyone else with the wording in Dahlheimer's obituary notice, he said.

"I am not, and St. John's Abbey is not, backing away in any shape or form from an acknowledgment of what happened to either Allen or Michael Vogel," Klassen said in an inter-

We needed to acknowledge that this was part of this man's life.

John Klassen  
Abbot of St. John's Abbey

view Tuesday.

The decision to address the allegations in the obituary notice was difficult, he said.

He chose to do so because the allegations against Dahlheimer were widely reported in the media and because of a sensitivity to

and respect for the victims. The abbey community also needed to recognize and admit that it happened, said the Rev. William Szentarek, abbey spokesman.

"We needed to acknowledge that this was a part of this man's life," Klassen said.

Vogel admits his interpretation of the two sentences in the notice might differ from how others might interpret them. He wonders why the abbey had to mention the allegations in Dahlheimer's notice at all.

"I just didn't think it was necessary for them to make mention of it whatsoever," Vogel said. "It doesn't make any sense. Is that the legacy he wanted to leave behind?"

**FATHER COSMAS  
DAHLHEIMER**

**COLLEGEVILLE** — Benedictine Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, 95, died Feb. 21 at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville. The Mass of Christian Burial was Feb. 24 at St. John's Abbey Church, Collegeville, with burial in the abbey cemetery.

Father Dahlheimer was born Nov. 20, 1908, in St. Michael, Minn., to Valentine and Mary Magdalen (Gerber) Dahlheimer. He entered St. John's Abbey in 1929 and was ordained a priest in 1936.

After ordination, he taught for several years at St. Peter's Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada. On his return to Minnesota, he taught classical languages at St. John's University and served as a residence director of St. John's Preparatory School.

At the outbreak of World War II, Father Dahlheimer volunteered to become a chaplain in the Army Air Corps, serving in the United States and India-Burma theater.

He became master of novices at St. John's in 1947 and was responsible for the initial training of potential monks throughout the 1950s and half



of the 1960s.

Father Dahlheimer taught a variety of courses in Greek and Latin at the university for almost 30 years. He also served in several assignments away from the abbey, including as prior of St. Maur's Priory in Kentucky for one year.

From the mid-1960s until 1988, Father Dahlheimer served as chaplain to St. Benedict's Monastery and College, St. Joseph; associate pastor, St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud; associate pastor, St. Bernard Church, St. Paul; associate pastor, St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph; and chaplain, St. Scholastica Convent, St. Cloud. In 1988, he retired to St. John's Abbey.

**Update**  
24 March 2004

**Last Name**                      **First Name (Religious Name)**  
Dahlheimer                      Cosmas

**Date of Birth**  
20 November 1908

**Date of First Profession**      **Date of Final Profession**      **Date of Ordination**  
11 July 1930                      11 July 1933                      6 June 1936

**EDUCATION**

B.A.                      1932      St. John's University (Philosophy)  
  
Ordination              1936      St. John's University (Divinity)  
  
M.A.                      1947      University of Iowa (Classics)

**ASSIGNMENTS**

Typing Teacher  
St. John's Prep School                      1930 – 1932  
  
Associate Pastor  
St. Bernard's Parish  
St. Paul, Minnesota                      1936 (June – September)  
  
Associate Pastor  
St. Mary's Church  
St. Cloud, Minnesota                      1937 (May – August)  
  
Associate Pastor  
St. Ann's Parish  
Bena, Minnesota                      1939 (Summer)  
  
Instructor/Associate Professor  
Classics Department  
St. John's University                      1932 – 1936; 1937 – 1940; 1947 – 1963

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

**Classics Instructor**  
**St. Peter's College**  
**Muenster, Saskatchewan**  
**Canada**

1936 – 1937; 1940 – 1941

**Prefect of College Students**  
**St. John's University**

1937 – 1940

**Chaplain**

**United States Air Force**

**Midland, Texas; North Africa; India; Burma 1942 – 1946 (March – February)**

**Novice Master**

**St. John's Abbey**

1947 – 1963 (June to August)

**Prior**

**St. Maur's Priory**

**South Union, Kentucky**

1963 (August – November)

**Brother Master**

**St. John's Abbey**

1964 – 1966

**Chaplain**

**St. Benedict's Monastery and College**

**St. Joseph, Minnesota**

1966 – 1969

**Associate Pastor**

**St. Augustine's Parish**

**St. Cloud, Minnesota**

1969 – 1973

**Associate Pastor**

**St. Bernard's Parish**

**St. Paul, Minnesota**

1973 – 1978

**Associate Pastor**

**St. Joseph Parish**

**St. Joseph, Minnesota**

1978 – 1980

**Chaplain**

**St. Scholastica Convent**

**St. Cloud, Minnesota**

1980 – 1988

**Retired**

**St. John's Abbey**

1988 (December 12) – 2004



INFORMATION FOR THE ARCHIVES OF SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

DATE: JANUARY 1, 1990

NAME: RAYMOND COSMAS JEROME DAHLHEIMER  
(Baptismal) (Religious Where Different) (Middle) (Last)

BIRTH: ST. MICHAEL WRIGHT MINNESOTA NOVEMBER 20 1908  
(City) (County) (State) (Month) (Day) (Year)

YOUR PATRON SAINT: ST. COSMAS NAMEDAY: SEPTEMBER 26

TRIENNIAL VOWS: ST. JOHN'S ABBEY JULY 11, 1930 ALCUIV DEUTSCH  
(Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

FINAL VOWS/OBLIGATION: ST. JOHN'S ABBEY JULY 11, 1933 ALCUIV DEUTSCH  
(Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

ORDINATION: ST. JOHN'S ABBEY JUNE 6, 1936 JOSEPH F. BUSCH  
(Place) (Date) (Bishop)

FATHER'S FULL NAME: [REDACTED]

FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE: DAYTON, MINNESOTA

FATHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: GERMAN

FATHER'S RELIGION: CATHOLIC DATE OF BIRTH: JULY 14, 1960

HIGHEST LEVEL OF FATHER'S EDUCATION: ELEMENTARY

FATHER'S OCCUPATION: RETIRED FARMER DECEASED  
(When You Entered Monastery) (Now)

FATHER'S ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: [REDACTED]

MOTHER'S BIRTHPLACE: ST. MICHAEL, MINNESOTA

MOTHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: GERMAN

MOTHER'S RELIGION: CATHOLIC DATE OF BIRTH: SEPTEMBER 12, 1968

HIGHEST LEVEL OF MOTHER'S EDUCATION: ONE YEAR BEYOND ELEMENTARY (FOR TEACHER TRAINING)

MOTHER'S OCCUPATION: HOUSEKEEPER DECEASED  
(When You Entered Monastery) (Now)

MOTHER'S ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR CAREER BEFORE ENTERING THE MONASTERY: STUDENT

EDUCATION	SCHOOL	FROM	TO	MAJOR	DEGREE	DATE
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	<u>ST. MICHAEL, MN</u>	<u>1915</u>	<u>1920</u>			
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ELEMENTARY:	<u>ST. CLOUD CATHEDRAL</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>1923</u>		<u>DIPLOMA</u>	<u>1923</u>
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SECONDARY:	<u>ST. JOHN PREP</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1927</u>		<u>DIPLOMA</u>	<u>19<del>27</del><sup>27</sup></u>
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UNDERGRADUATE:	<u>ST. JOHN'S UNIV</u>	<u>1927</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>PHILOSOPHY</u>	<u>B.A.</u>	<u>1932</u>
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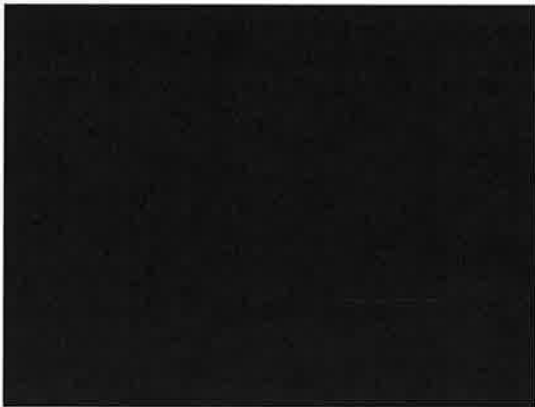
PRIESTHOOD STUDIES:	<u>ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY</u>			<u>THEOLOGY</u>	<u>ORDAINED</u>	<u>1936</u>
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GRADUATE:	<u>UNIVERSITY OF IOWA</u>	<u>JAN 1946</u>	<u>JUN '49</u>	<u>CLASSICS</u>	<u>M.A.</u>	<u>1949</u>
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POST-DOCTORAL: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE ORDER OF THEIR BIRTH. INCLUDE YOURSELF



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IN THE REMAINING SPACE AND ON AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NECESSARY PUT DOWN ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF YOURS THAT YOU THINK SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY RECORDED.

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DATE OF FORM: 1990

LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL THE MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS YOU HAVE RECEIVED SINCE PROFESSION AND ORDINATION. Give (a) the *type* or *nature* of the work, e.g., assistant pastor or plumber or math teacher in Prep school, (b) the *location*, (c) the *duration*, (d) any *special achievements* or items of note, e.g., built parish hall in 1978. or Danforth grant in 1980.

GREEK TEACHER, ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE 1932-1936

LANGUAGE TEACHER, ST. PETER'S COLLEGE, CANADA 1936-1937 and 1940-1941

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE (CHAPLAIN) 1942-1946 (Service in West Africa, India, & Burma)

GRADUATE STUDIES AT UNIV. OF IOWA 1946-1947

NOVICE MASTER 1947-1963

BROTHER MASTER 1964-1966

CHAPLAIN AT ST. BENEDICT'S CONVENT AND COLLEGE 1966-1969

ASSISTING PASTOR AT ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH 1969-1973

ASSISTANT PASTOR AT ST. BERNARD PARISH 1973-1978

ASSISTANT PASTOR AT ST. JOSEPH PASTOR 1978-1980

CHAPLAIN AT ST. SCHOLASTICA CONVENT IN S. CLOUD, MN 1980-1988

Retired to St. Raphael's Retirement Center, 1988, Dec. 12.



FATHER COSMAS RAYMOND DAHLHEIMER, OSB  
*Monks of Saint John's Abbey  
Collegeville, Minnesota*

Born: 20 November 1908  
Professed: 11 July 1930  
Ordained: 6 June 1936  
Died: 21 February 2004

FATHER COSMAS RAYMOND DAHLHEIMER, OSB  
1908-2004

Born in St. Michael, Minnesota, to Valentine and Mary Magdalen (Gerber), Raymond grew up in a household of native Minnesotans for whom German was still used frequently at home. He attended elementary schools in St. Michael and St. Cloud until 1923 when he enrolled in the Saint John's Preparatory School. Six years later he entered the novitiate and after the prescribed courses of theological studies, was ordained a priest in 1936. His first experience of pastoral work that summer was at Saint Bernard's Parish in Saint Paul.

He was scheduled to begin teaching in the Prep School in the fall of 1936, but a sudden change of plans was made in late August. At the request of Abbot Severin of Saint Peter's Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada, Abbot Alcuin sent him to teach there for several years. On his return to Saint John's he taught classical languages in the college and served as prefect in Saint Gregory's Hall, a residence in the Quadrangle at the time for prep students.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor that led President Roosevelt to declare war on Japan, Father Cosmas immediately volunteered to become a chaplain in the Army Air Corps. His time with the armed forces was divided about equally between States-side service in West Texas and in overseas duty in the India-Burma theater

with a two-month transit layover in North America. In 1943 he was promoted to captain.

Following his separation from the US Army in early 1946, he studied classical languages at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, for several semesters of graduate work. Returning to Saint John's in 1947 with a masters' degree, he was again surprised by Abbot Alcuin's decision: his principal new activity would be as Master of Clerical Novices and, sometimes, Brother Master.

Father Cosmas was the second longest-serving Novice Master in the 120 years since a novitiate had been established at Saint John's. He served for 16 years and gave the initial instruction in monastic life to 35% of the current membership of the abbey. Over 250 novices were trained under his leadership.

Father Cosmas also taught a variety of courses in Greek or Latin for almost 30 years. When the requirement for seminarians to study the classical languages was waived in the early 1960s, Father Cosmas was given various assignments away from the abbey, including being Prior of Saint Maur's Priory in Kentucky for one year.

From the mid-1960s until 1988, Father Cosmas served as chaplain to Saint Benedict's Monastery and College; as associate pastor of Saint Augustine's Church, Saint Cloud; again at Saint Bernard's Church, Saint Paul; and Saint Joseph's Church, Saint Joseph. During his time as chaplain of Saint Scholastica Convent in Saint Cloud, he

developed health problems that necessitated his retirement at the abbey.

The final years of his life were clouded by the advance of Alzheimer's disease and persistent allegations, which he denied, of the sexual abuse of minors many years before. He was unaware of the penalties imposed upon him by the US bishops in June 2002.

Father Cosmas was the last to die in his family that included two brothers and two sisters. One sister, Clarice, joined the School Sisters of Notre Dame, and his older brother, Father Hubert OSB, preceded him into the monastery.

The Liturgy of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Father Cosmas at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 24 February, in Saint John's Abbey Church with interment in the abbey cemetery.

We ask each community member to offer two Masses according to the manner of his participation in the priesthood of Christ. We commend our brother, Cosmas, to your prayers.

Abbot John Klassen, OSB, and the  
monks of Saint John's.

**Homily for Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, OSB**

**Readings:**

Benedict's admonition  
that we are to "keep death daily before our eyes" is often quoted.  
It is one thing to speak those words,  
it is another to really understand their meaning.  
While we can imagine many things in the future,  
death itself is not representable.  
As Pascal has written:  
"All I know is that I must die,  
but what I ignore most of all is that same death that I cannot avoid."  
How can we present to ourselves who live in space and time  
what it might mean to be outside space and time?  
Of all the thresholds we ever cross in our lives  
this is the one that is most heavily loaded with meaning,  
the most gripping,  
for it marks the passage from one state of being to another.  
It is the end of our life in this time and space.  
We take seriously the tragedy of death.  
Jesus weeps at the tomb of Lazarus  
and in Gethsemane is filled with horror at what awaits him.  
Death is not "just a part of life."  
Job's words reflect the harsh reality of loss --  
he wishes that his words of wailing will be cut in a rock with iron.  
With Father Cosmas dying at the age of 96 after a long illness and much suffering  
the harshness and finality of death is hidden from us.  
It seems to be a blessing, a release and it is.  
We see the tragedy of death more clearly when parents lose a young child  
or a spouse is taken suddenly, without warning,  
leaving a huge hole.

Job 19.1,23-27  
I Cor. 15.34-49  
John 6.37-40

Father Cosmas was born in St. Michael, Minnesota on November 20, 1908.  
He attended elementary schools in St. Michael and St. Cloud until 1923  
when he enrolled in the Saint John's Preparatory School.  
Six years later he entered the novitiate  
and after the prescribed courses of theological studies,  
was ordained a priest in 1936.

He was scheduled to teach that fall in the Prep School,  
but he encountered the first of a number of sudden changes of plans in late August.  
Abbot Severin of Saint Peter's Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada, asked for help  
and Abbot Alcuin sent Father Cosmas to teach there for several years.

On his return to Saint John's he taught Classics in the college and served as a prefect.  
After the attack on Pearl Harbor  
Father Cosmas immediately volunteered to become a chaplain in the Army Air Corps.

In addition to service in west Texas  
he also served in the India-Burma theater,  
where he lived in the heart of the jungle with the engineer corps.  
In 1943 he was promoted to captain.  
Following his separation from the U.S. Army in early 1946,  
Father Cosmas studied classical languages at the University of Iowa,  
for several semesters of graduate work.  
He told me many times that his real love was chemistry  
but that he never had the opportunity to pursue it.  
Returning to Saint John's in 1947 with a Masters degree,  
Abbot Alcuin again surprised him,  
this time by asking him to be Master of Clerical Novice.  
Along with these major duties,  
for most of the years between 1947-1963  
he also regularly taught a variety of courses in Greek.  
He was a fine teacher who particularly loved teaching Plato.

Father Cosmas was an esteemed novice master for sixteen years.  
He was the second longest serving novice master in the 120 years  
since we had our own novitiate.  
Over 250 novices were trained under his leadership  
and approximately 35% of our current membership had him as novice master.  
He worked hard over many years to deepen his understanding of monastic spirituality  
and the Rule of Benedict.  
Father Cosmas was an affectionate person with genuine balance  
in the way he approached monastic life.  
There were many strong currents of thought about  
what novitiate needed to be  
and he strove to take the middle course;  
to develop a sense of monastic spirituality  
in the context of pastoral service to the Church.  
Against an exaggerated piety, he told his novices, "just be normal."

In 1963 Cosmas was chosen prior by confreres at Saint Maur Priory  
in South Union, Kentucky.  
With the greatest reluctance he accepted the position,  
responding out of a deep sense of obedience that he had taught to novices for all those years.  
In a few months the responsibility of the office  
overwhelmed him with stress and emotional torment.  
I think most confrere who knew him would say  
that he never really recovered from this trauma.  
Upon return to Saint John's Father Cosmas served in a variety of pastoral positions:  
as chaplain to Saint Benedict's Monastery and College,  
as associate pastor of Saint Augustine's Church,  
as associate pastor at Saint Bernard's Church,  
and Saint Joseph's Church.



During his time as chaplain of Saint Scholastica Convent in Saint Cloud, he developed health problems that necessitated his retirement at the abbey in 1988.

In the last years of his life

Father Cosmas suffered from the advance of Alzheimer's disease that attenuated the joy of human interactions with so many of the confreres he had mentored.

He was also confronted with persistent allegations, which he denied, of the sexual abuse of minors many years before.

This situation was a source of deep grief to Cosmas, as well as to the community.

When Saint Paul speaks to the Athenians about the resurrection they scoff at him and say,

“well, we will have to talk about this on another day.”

The resurrection is a promise of sublime courage and hope.

It locates redemption at exactly the place where there is only end, only darkness.

With the resurrection, pain, mutilation, death, and decay give way to life, the fullness of life that we so desire for Father Cosmas and for ourselves.

In the incarnation we have been given a vision of a God whose care for us is so heartbreakingly thorough that he became one of us, suffering what we suffer, dying as we do,

to show us that even what we fear most has been conquered by a love that we are called to show one another.

We cannot but hope that even what we fear most, death, has been conquered by this great love of Jesus,

Thus the harsh reality of death can be faced – and lived – daily, in a variety of ways.

Cosmas lived this reality and so do we, each day.

We can face death because of the tender love of God, revealed in Christ, who once died but is now risen.

It is revealed each day in your love, you the members of Christ's Body.

Filled with the knowledge of this love, we can say with Saint Paul:

“our life is already hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ our glory appears,

we also shall be raised with him in glory.”

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

February 24, 2004

Abbot John Klassen, OSB  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, MN 56321

March 1, 2004

Dear Father,

I sat next to you at Father Cosmas Dahlheimer's funeral lunch, this past week. I thought that was very nice that you took the time to eat with us, his relatives.

I am still "stunned" and puzzled that as we remembered Father Cosmas, that AT HIS FUNERAL, it was necessary to speak of his "misconduct".


I'm still trying to figure that out in my mind as I ponder over the little booklet that reviewed his life.

What would Jesus do? Maybe He would "stoop over and write in the sand." Who among us is without sin?

Would another's obituary read... "besides the last days of His life being clouded with Alzheimers, OH BY THE WAY, HE WAS IN JAIL REPEATEDLEY FOR DRUNK DRIVING."<sup>99</sup>.....I don't know, I guess I love and cherish my family name and the faith that has been transmitted to us, too much of a blessing. We are all sinners and fall short of the glory of God.

Please help me clarify this. A response from you would be greatly appreciated.

God's blessings be with you.



March 9, 2004

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I am sorry it has taken me a few days to respond to your letter. I was out of my office for a series of meetings and have only now had the chance to catch up on my correspondence.

I can assure you that I agonized about whether or not I should refer to the allegations of misconduct that were brought against Father Cosmas. I faced much the same dilemma when I preached at the funeral of my brother, who was an alcoholic, a few years ago. What finally convinced me to mention both my brother's alcoholism and the allegations brought against Father Cosmas was the fact that both were public knowledge, and that not to say anything would appear as a form of denial. In both cases I believed it would be better to acknowledge these failings, but to do so in a way that would make it clear that none of us was in a position to pass judgment, because all of us stand before God as sinners in need of mercy.

Having said that, I do apologize for the pain I caused you and may have caused other members of the family. I again want to assure you that Father Cosmas's many years as novice master and teacher brought copious blessings to the members of our community. We are grateful to God for his life and ministry in our midst.

Yours in Christ,

Abbot John Klassen, O.S.B.

**Skudlarek, William**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2006 2:53 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Klassen, John  
**Subject:** RE: SJA Feedback - Praise for Fr. Cosmas

Thanks, very much, [REDACTED] for sharing your happy memories of Fr. Cosmas. I'm forwarding a copy of this reply with your original message to Abbot John Klassen.

--  
Bro. Richard Oliver OSB + roliver@csbsju.edu Abbey Web Office +  
www.saintjohnsabbey.org/ Collegeville, MN 56321-2015 + www.osb.org/ Tel. 320-363-3939;  
fax -2504 www.employees.csbsju.edu/roliver/

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2006 2:43 PM  
**To:** Info OSB  
**Subject:** SJA Feedback

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] on Thursday, January 19, 2006 at 14:43:00

---

realname: [REDACTED]  
email: [REDACTED]  
MessageType: Praise  
Subject: Other

SubjectOther: Father Cosmas Dahlheimer OSB

Comments: I was thinking about my childhood and remembering the people who made an impression upon me. Father Cosmas Dahlheimer OSB was one of the kindest, gentlest, most trustworthy caring persons I have ever had the pleasure to meet. I decided to do a web search to find out how to contact him and was saddened to hear of his passing along with the accusations. This man I considered my friend and looked up to him.

In his time at St. Bernard's here in St. Paul he was always the person you could go to if you had a problem or just wanted to talk. I will miss him deeply and will always keep the things he told me and our friendship in my heart. I just wanted you to know that.

**Skudlarek, William**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 20, 2006 9:31 AM  
**To:** Klassen, John  
**Subject:** FW: SJA Feedback - Praise for Fr. Cosmas

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 20, 2006 9:28 AM  
**To:** Oliver, Richard  
**Subject:** RE: SJA Feedback - Praise for Fr. Cosmas

Thank you for the response. I just felt you all needed to hear how good of a person he was. I feel all of you are taking a real hard hit on a lot of this. I think a lot of the problems would go away if we as parents would be more involved with our kids and the people we have contact with.

Thank you again and I am keeping all of you in our prayers.

[REDACTED]

--- "Oliver, Richard" <ROLiver@CSBSJU.EDU> wrote:

> Thanks, very much, [REDACTED] for sharing your happy memories of Fr. Cosmas.  
> I'm forwarding a copy of this reply with your original message to  
> Abbot John Klassen.

>  
> --

> Bro. Richard Oliver OSB + roliver@csbsju.edu Abbey Web Office +  
> www.saintjohnsabbey.org/ Collegeville, MN 56321-2015 + www.osb.org/  
> Tel. 320-363-3939; fax -2504 www.employees.csbsju.edu/roliver/  
>

> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** [REDACTED]  
> **Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2006 2:43 PM  
> **To:** Info OSB  
> **Subject:** SJA Feedback  
>

-----  
>  
> realname: [REDACTED]  
> email: [REDACTED]

**FULL AND FINAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

**FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF** the payment of [REDACTED] and No/100 Dollars (\$ [REDACTED]), the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, [REDACTED] (hereafter "Releasor"), has released and discharged, and by these presents does for himself and for his heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, release, acquit and forever discharge Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer OSB and the Order of Saint Benedict and The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and any other School owned and/or operated by Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University and/or The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, or any School or facility where Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer OSB worked together with any and all present and former Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University and The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, priests and religious women in or associated with the Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University or The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, all other priests and nuns, Brothers, and each and every one of the aforementioned parties' former and current Agents, Administrators, Members, Predecessors, Servants, Heirs, Executors, Faculty Members, Volunteers, Staff Members, Priests, Teachers, Schools, School Principals, School Administrators, Directors, Officers, Employees, Agents, Representatives, Successors and Assigns associated with any of them, and any insurers, re-insurers, risk pooling trusts, and self insurers, and all other persons, firms and corporations against whom any

liability, direct or indirect, might be asserted, (hereafter individually and collectively "Releasees"), of and from all known and unknown actions, causes of action, claims for relief, claims, demands, rights, damages, costs, expenses, compensation, loss of services, loss of income, loss of consortium, loss of enjoyment of life, emotional distress, mental anguish, medical expenses, funeral expenses, rights of contribution, rights of indemnity, rights of subrogation, rights of reimbursement and all consequential and incidental damage on account of, or in any way growing out of, all known and unknown injuries, including death and property damage, and all other damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive or whether property or personal, together with all known and unknown consequences from all such injuries, death and damages resulting, or to result, from any act, omission, matter or thing occurring prior to the date of this Release, including, but not limited to any claim of whatsoever kind arising from or relating to or resulting from any and all alleged sexual molestation, sexual abuse, battery, assault, verbal abuse, physical abuse, and intimidation, inflicted upon [REDACTED], by Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer OSB or any other former or current teacher, staff member, faculty member, religious member, volunteer, or employee including but not limited to sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, sexual molestation, battery, physical abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, intimidation, negligence, negligent hiring, negligent supervision, negligent retention, negligent entrustment, negligent failing to warn, breach of fiduciary duty, conspiracy,

fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress, negligent infliction of emotional distress.

THIS RELEASE INCLUDES ALL PRESENT AND FUTURE CLAIMS OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN AT THE PRESENT TIME, WHETHER TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT, WHETHER EXPECTED OR UNEXPECTED, WHETHER ECONOMIC OR NON-ECONOMIC, WHETHER COMPENSATORY OR PUNITIVE AND WHETHER PRESENTLY OR LATER DISCOVERED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ALL INJURIES, INCLUDING DEATH, AND DAMAGES OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER PROPERTY OR PERSONAL, RESULTING, OR TO RESULT, FROM THE MATTERS REFERENCED ABOVE.

Releasor expressly represents, warrants and agrees as follows:

1. Releasor has relied wholly upon Releasor's own judgment, belief and knowledge of the nature, extent and duration of any injury, loss or damage resulting or to result from the matters referenced above, and Releasor's own evaluation of all claims of whatsoever kind which were or could have been asserted as a result of any of those matters; and Releasor was not influenced to any extent whatever in making this Release by any representations or statements regarding those or any other matters, which may have been made by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.
2. Releasor elects to and does assume all risks for injury, including death, loss



or damage claims of whatsoever kind, whether known or unknown at the present time, whether expected or unexpected, whether temporary or permanent, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive, whether presently or later discovered, and whether as a consequence of or incidental to some known or unknown injury, including death, loss or damage, and includes within the scope of this Release all such claims of whatsoever kind against Releasee. Releasor hereby expressly waives all rights Releasor may have and further agrees that Releasor's acceptance of the consideration for this Release satisfies all rights and claims of whatsoever kind Releasor now has or may have had or may in the future have arising out of any of the matters referenced above.

3. Releasor will indemnify, hold harmless and defend at Releasor's own expense, Releasee from all past, present and future liens and claims of any person or entity, including, but not limited to, any insurer, attorney, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, medical care provider, mortuary or other person or entity who may assert a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind howsoever designated in any amounts paid or to be paid in settlement of or compensation for any injury, death, loss or damage, whether economic or noneconomic, whether compensatory or punitive and/or whether personal or property, including, but not limited to, medical care, legal representation, public assistance, maintenance, rehabilitation, medical assistance, general welfare, lost income, insurance and/or

property damage resulting or to result from any of the matters referenced above.

4. The consideration aforesaid is intended to cover all past, present and future medical, legal and other expenses, and Releasor is signing this Release for and on behalf of all insurers, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, attorneys and government agencies who now have or may have had or may in the future have a claim for subrogation, indemnity, reimbursement or other interest in any of the proceeds from the settlement however that interest may be designated.

5. Releasor understands that none of the Releasees know the full extent of any obligations Releasor may have to pay, reimburse or re-pay any insurers, attorneys, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and/or others; and, therefore, Releasor will first deposit any settlement checks into Releasor's attorney's trust account so that the consideration for this Release may be disbursed by Releasor's attorney in the proper amounts to the appropriate persons as their interests may appear or exist.

6. Releasor will satisfy any judgment rendered against anyone or more of the Releasees as a result of any past, present or future lien and/or claim asserting a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind whatsoever in any of the proceeds from the settlement or as a consequence of any matter referenced above. No further amount will be paid by

Releasees or by anyone on Releasees' behalf at any time for any such purpose.

7. The consideration referenced above is intended to be full compensation for all known and unknown injuries, death, losses and damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive and whether personal or property, sustained or to be sustained as a result of the matters referenced above; and Releasor has waived and assumed the risk of any and all claims of whatsoever kind which presently or in the future may exist, but of which Releasor does not know or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence or otherwise and which, if known, would materially affect Releasor's decision to sign this Release.

8. The terms specified in this Release are accepted as a complete compromise of matters involving disputed issues of law and fact; and Releasor has assumed the risk that the facts or law may be other than what Releasor may believe.

9. Releasor will not enforce any judgment against any or all of the Releasees in the event any Releasee is assigned any liability in any lawsuit or other proceeding involving any matter referenced above.

10. Releasor has not, directly or indirectly, assigned, encumbered or otherwise transferred any interest in any action, suit, debt, claim, cause of action, sum of money, agreement, damage, or demand intended to be released and discharged by this Release; and no other person or entity has any interest of any kind in any of the released claims.

11. This Release shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota and any action to enforce the terms of this Release shall be commenced in the District Court for the State of Minnesota, Seventh Judicial District, Stearns County.

12. Releasor and his attorney agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend Releasees, their counsel and insurer from any and all claims by any and all government agencies/entities, State or Federal, for conditional payments, liens, subrogation or indemnification interests of any kind or nature arising out of an incident that occurred in 1970 through 1972 at St. Bernard's Church in St. Paul, MN .

13. In any action brought to enforce or interpret the terms of this Release (including the defense of any action brought by any entity described in paragraph 5 above in pursuit of their right of reimbursement from the Releasor), the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover all costs and expenses incurred in such action, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

14. This Release represents a compromise and settlement of a disputed claim. Any payment referenced above is not to be construed as an admission of liability on any Releasee's part. All Releasees expressly deny any liability to the Releasor.


15. Releasor has had the benefit of the advice of counsel of Releasor's own choice in the negotiation and execution of this Release. This Release shall be construed liberally to carry out its objectives and shall not be construed against

any party.

16. No promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made to Releasor by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.

17. Minnesota law shall govern the interpretation of this Release.

18. This Release contains the ENTIRE AGREEMENT and the terms of this Release are contractual and not a mere recital.

Dated this 24 day of March, 2011. 

STATE OF MINNESOTA     )  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY     )

On this 24 day of March, 2011, before me personally appeared Thomas Zappa, known to me to be the person who is described herein and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that s/he executed the same.



Therese A. Gahler  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL AND FINAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

**FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF** the payment of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and No/100 Dollars (\$ [REDACTED]), the receipt and sufficiency of  
which is hereby acknowledged, [REDACTED] (hereafter "Releasor"), has released  
and discharged, and by these presents does for himself and for his heirs, personal  
representatives, successors and assigns, release, acquit and forever discharge  
Father Cosmos Dahlheimer and Father Richard Ekroth, and the Order of Saint  
Benedict, and any other School owned and/or operated by Order of St. Benedict  
and/or St. John's University and The Diocese of St. Cloud or any School or  
facility where Father Cosmos Dahlheimer and Father Richard Ekroth, worked  
together with any and all present and former Order of St. Benedict and/or St.  
John's University and The Diocese of St. Cloud priests and religious women in or  
associated with the Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University and The  
Diocese of St. Cloud, and all other priests and nuns, Brothers, and each and every  
one of the aforementioned parties' former and current Agents, Administrators,  
Members, Predecessors, Servants, Heirs, Executors, Faculty Members,  
Volunteers, Staff Members, Priests, Teachers, Schools, School Principals, School  
Administrators, Directors, Officers, Employees, Agents, Representatives,  
Successors and Assigns associated with any of them, and any insurers, re-  
insurers, risk pooling trusts, and selfinsurers, and all other persons, firms and  
corporations against whom any liability, direct or indirect, might be asserted,

(hereafter individually and collectively "Releasees"), of and from all known and unknown actions, causes of action, claims for relief, claims, demands, rights, damages, costs, expenses, compensation, loss of services, loss of income, loss of consortium, loss of enjoyment of life, emotional distress, mental anguish, medical expenses, funeral expenses, rights of contribution, rights of indemnity, rights of subrogation, rights of reimbursement and all consequential and incidental damage on account of, or in any way growing out of, all known and unknown injuries, including death and property damage, and all other damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive or whether property or personal, together with all known and unknown consequences from all such injuries, death and damages resulting, or to result, from any act, omission, matter or thing occurring prior to the date of this Release, including, but not limited to any claim of whatsoever kind arising from or relating to or resulting from any and all alleged sexual molestation, sexual abuse, battery, assault, verbal abuse, physical abuse, and intimidation, inflicted upon [REDACTED], by Father Cosmos Dahlheimer and Father Richard Ekroth, or any other former or current teacher, staff member, faculty member, religious member, volunteer, or employee including but not limited to sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, sexual molestation, battery, physical abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, intimidation, negligence, negligent hiring, negligent supervision, negligent retention, negligent entrustment, negligent failing to warn, breach of fiduciary duty, conspiracy, fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress, negligent

infliction of emotional distress.

THIS RELEASE INCLUDES ALL PRESENT AND FUTURE CLAIMS OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN AT THE PRESENT TIME, WHETHER TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT, WHETHER EXPECTED OR UNEXPECTED, WHETHER ECONOMIC OR NON-ECONOMIC, WHETHER COMPENSATORY OR PUNITIVE AND WHETHER PRESENTLY OR LATER DISCOVERED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ALL INJURIES, INCLUDING DEATH, AND DAMAGES OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER PROPERTY OR PERSONAL, RESULTING, OR TO RESULT, FROM THE MATTERS REFERENCED ABOVE.

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2. Releasor elects to and does assume all risks for injury, including death, loss or damage claims of whatsoever kind, whether known or unknown at the



present time, whether expected or unexpected, whether temporary or permanent, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive, whether presently or later discovered, and whether as a consequence of or incidental to some known or unknown injury, including death, loss or damage, and includes within the scope of this Release all such claims of whatsoever kind against Releasee. Releasor hereby expressly waives all rights Releasor may have and further agrees that Releasor's acceptance of the consideration for this Release satisfies all rights and claims of whatsoever kind Releasor now has or may have had or may in the future have arising out of any of the matters referenced above.

3. Releasor will indemnify, hold harmless and defend at Releasor's own expense, Releasees from all past, present and future liens and claims of any person or entity, including, but not limited to, any insurer, attorney, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, medical care provider, mortuary or other person or entity who may assert a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind howsoever designated in any amounts paid or to be paid in settlement of or compensation for any injury, death, loss or damage, whether economic or noneconomic, whether compensatory or punitive and/or whether personal or property, including, but not limited to, medical care, legal representation, public assistance, maintenance, rehabilitation, medical assistance, general welfare, lost income, insurance and/or

property damage resulting or to result from any of the matters referenced above.

4. The consideration aforesaid is intended to cover all past, present and future medical, legal and other expenses, and Releasor is signing this Release for and on behalf of all insurers, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, attorneys and government agencies who now have or may have had or may in the future have a claim for subrogation, indemnity, reimbursement or other interest in any of the proceeds from the settlement however that interest may be designated.

5. Releasor understands that none of the Releasees know the full extent of any obligations Releasor may have to pay, reimburse or re-pay any insurers, attorneys, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and/or others; and, therefore, Releasor will first deposit any settlement checks into Releasor's attorney's trust account so that the consideration for this Release may be disbursed by Releasor's attorney in the proper amounts to the appropriate persons as their interests may appear or exist.

6. Releasor will satisfy any judgment rendered against anyone or more of the Releasees as a result of any past, present or future lien and/or claim asserting a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind whatsoever in any of the proceeds from the settlement or as a consequence of any matter referenced above. No further amount will be paid by

Releasees or by anyone on Releasees' behalf at any time for any such purpose.

7. The consideration referenced above is intended to be full compensation for all known and unknown injuries, death, losses and damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive and whether personal or property, sustained or to be sustained as a result of the matters referenced above; and Releasor has waived and assumed the risk of any and all claims of whatsoever kind which presently or in the future may exist, but of which Releasor does not know or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence or otherwise and which, if known, would materially affect Releasor's decision to sign this Release.

8. The terms specified in this Release are accepted as a complete compromise of matters involving disputed issues of law and fact; and Releasor has assumed the risk that the facts or law may be other than what Releasor may believe.

9. Releasor will not enforce any judgment against any or all of the Releasees in the event any Releasee is assigned any liability in any lawsuit or other proceeding involving any matter referenced above.

10. Releasor has not, directly or indirectly, assigned, encumbered or otherwise transferred any interest in any action, suit, debt, claim, cause of action, sum of money, agreement, damage, or demand intended to be released and discharged by this Release; and no other person or entity has any interest of any kind in any of the released claims.

11. This Release shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota and any action to enforce the terms of this Release shall be commenced in the District Court for the State of Minnesota, Seventh Judicial District, Stearns County.

12. Releasor and his attorney agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend Releasees, their counsel and insurer from any and all claims by any and all government agencies/entities, State or Federal, for conditional payments, liens, subrogation or indemnification interests of any kind or nature arising out of an incident that occurred in approximately 1967 through 1969 and in 1971 in the Sanctuary at St. Augustine's and at a camp on Lake Bemidji.

13. In any action brought to enforce or interpret the terms of this Release (including the defense of any action brought by any entity described in paragraph 5 above in pursuit of their right of reimbursement from the Releasor), the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover all costs and expenses incurred in such action, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

14. This Release represents a compromise and settlement of a disputed claim. Any payment referenced above is not to be construed as an admission of liability on any Releasee's part. All Releasees expressly deny any liability to the Releasor.

15. Releasor has had the benefit of the advice of counsel of Releasor's own choice in the negotiation and execution of this Release. This Release shall be construed liberally to carry out its objectives and shall not be construed against

any party.

16. No promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made to Releasor by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.

17. Minnesota law shall govern the interpretation of this Release.

18. Releasee, The Order of Saint Benedict, agrees to perform the following non-monetary actions:

A. Website. The Order of Saint Benedict will more prominently display sexual abuse information and the website will be structured to provide a place to post a mutually agreeable letter describing this settlement and survivors' stories.

B. Safety Violations. The Order of Saint Benedict will continue to bring safety violations with minors to the attention of the External Review Board for their review.

C. Confidentiality agreements. The Order of Saint Benedict herewith abrogates any confidentiality agreements that might exist in settlements it has entered in to subject to the right of the other settling party(ies) to maintain that confidentiality agreement if he, she or they desire to do so and agrees to pose this on the Abbey's website.

D. Abbey Policy on Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Questionnaire. The Order of Saint Benedict will institute a policy of requiring all members of the Abbey working on outside assignments or with minors or in an Abbey leadership position to sign an Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Abbey Policy on Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation and a Background Questionnaire Concerning Sexual Abuse.

E. Public statement of misconduct. If allegations against a monk who is or has served in a parish are found to be credible, a prepared statement will be read at all the Sunday masses if approved by the Diocese in which the parish is located. If the allegation involves an incident that took place in a parish, a parish meeting for the parishioners will be held if approved by

the Diocese in which the parish is located. The meeting should be limited to parishioners. Along with the pastor who chairs the meeting, the Abbot, a representative of the diocese, and the sexual abuse victim's advocate should be present.

19. This Release contains the ENTIRE AGREEMENT and the terms of this Release are contractual and not a mere recital.

Dated this 24 day of MARCH, 2011.



STATE OF MINNESOTA )

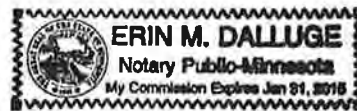
COUNTY OF Ramsey )

On this 24th day of March, 2011, before me personally appeared Michael Suess, known to me to be the person who is described herein and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that s/he executed the same.

Erin M. Dalluge  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 1/31/2015

722681



## Sketch of my life - Vocational

After my elementary studies, I enrolled in St. John's Prep in 1923, the Novitiate in 1929, and after completion of College and Theological studies was ordained in 1936. During that summer I had a taste of pastoral work at St. Bernard's in St. Paul.

Scheduled to teach in our Prep School, a sudden change was made in late August. At the request of Abbot Servin of St. Peter's Abbey in Canada, Abbot Alcwin sent me to teach there for several years. Returning to St. John's I taught Classics in our College, and acting prefect in the old St. Gregory's Hall.

After Pearl Harbor I immediately volunteered for a military chaplaincy. My four years as an Air Force Chaplain were about equally split with Stateside service in West Texas and overseas in the India-Burma theatre with a two month transit layover in a staging area in North Africa.

After repatriation from service in early 1946 I attended the University of Iowa for several semesters of graduate studies. Returning <sup>to St. John's</sup> in 1947 with an M. A. in Greek, to my great surprise Abbot Alcwin said that my principal duty would be as Vicar Master of the community.

Besides this primary duty I regularly taught several courses in Greek. Traditionally, <sup>for 3000</sup> divinity students were required to have four years of Greek. This requirement, however, was waived in the early sixties.

With decline of student interest in Greek I was given various assignments away from the Abbey — three years as chaplain at St. Benedict's Convent and College, four years at St. Augustine in St. Cloud; five years at St. Bernard's in St. Paul, and two years in the parish in St. Joseph.

In 1980 I became chaplain for Benedictine Sisters at St. Scholastica in St. Cloud, a convent for the retired and elderly Nuns. This assignment was suddenly terminated in 1988 due to a nervous affliction.

Dahlheimer, Cosmas

Dahlheimer, Cosmas

(Brother to Fr. Hubert Dahlheimer)

Ordained June 6, 1936.

Spent summer 1936 at St. Bernard's, St. Paul to replace Fr. Christopher who had  
sent to St. Peter's Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada to teach Greek, Latin  
(in operation removal of gall bladder)

(1) 1936-1937

Left in Sept 17, 1936 - April 30, 1937. But will teach Greek I, Latin II, Roman II  
+ Benedictine ~~History~~

He arrived in Minneapolis on May 2, 1937 - when his mother was seriously ill. He did not  
return to Canada, but was apt. to assist at St. Mary's in St. Cloud - because

Fr. Werner was ill in St. Joseph's Hosp., St. Paul. He was there from May 10(c) to Aug. 11,  
1937 when the Benedictines had to leave St. Mary's.

(3) 1937-1940

Prof. + Prefect at St. John's - 1937 - 1940.

(Greek + Latin) (St. Gregory's Hall - College Study Hall)

Summer 1940 - Chicago U. (Latin)

(1) 1940-1941

Sept 12, 1940 - left again for St. Peter's Abbey, Sask, Canada - to June 3, 1941

when he returned to St. John's to attend the Summer Session at Chicago U.  
(Classics)

(1) 1941-42

at Abbey, Sept. 3, 1941 - March 9, 1942 (Teacher Latin + Greek)

Chaplain (1st Lieutenant): Air Corps Advanced Flying School, Midland, Texas.

March 10, 1942 -  
captain

1945 - Nov - returned home to Abbey -

Dec. Promoted to Major.

1946 - Jan - student at Iowa University.

1947 - June - Novice master.

1947 - Sept. Novice master; Latin 31 (1 sem); Greek 31 (1 sem);  
Greek 41 (2 sem); 42 (1 sem). Confessor to Semis.

1948 - Sept - Master of Novices; Greek 22; 31; 41; 42.

1949 - Sept - Master of Novices; Confessor to students; Greek 31; 41; 42; Latin 32.

1950 - Sept - Master of Novices; Students confessor; Seminary Confessor;  
Greek 11-12; 41; 42. 6 hours Mass.

1951 - Sept - Master of Novices; Students Confessor; Greek 11-12; 41; 42.  
Seminary Confessor. Excuses at times.

Sept. 1952 - Master of Novices; Greek 11-12; 21-22; Seminary Confessor

Sept. 1953 - Master of Novices; Greek 21; 22; 42; Latin 34 (2 sem)

Seminary Confessor; Summer School of Ascetical Theology in

Prater Forest, Dominican House of Studies - Summer 1953-1954

Sept. 1954 - Master of Novices; Greek 21-22; 31-32. Seminary Confessor.



Sept. 1955 - Master of Novices, Seminary Confessor.  
Sept. 1956 Master of Novices; Instructor for Lay Brother (Bro. Novices attend his lectures)  
Candidate + Novices. Greek 43, Sem. Confessor  
Sept. 1957 Master of Novices. Instructor of Lay Bro. + Novices Sem. Confessor  
Sept. 1958 Master of Novices + Lay Bro. Instructor. Sem. Confessor  
Greek 43.  
Sept. 1959 Master of Novices + Lay Bro. Instructor, Sem. Confessor  
Greek 32.

### Military Chaplains

The purpose of this questionnaire is two-fold; 1) To supplement partially complete data in the archives on military careers of chaplains, 2) To furnish a skeleton for an article on Military Chaplains to appear in the Scriptorium.

Please try to be as complete as possible, especially on the last question. Personal comments have a particularly strong appeal to reader interest. Since the article must be finished by Feb. 1, the deadline for copy, I would appreciate the return of this questionnaire as soon as possible. Thank you for whatever cooperation you are able to give in this matter.

1. Name: *Cosmas R. Dahlheimer*
2. Date of birth: *Nov 20, 1908*
3. Place of birth: *St. Michael, Minn.*
4. Education (Grammar, H.S., College, Post-grad.): *Grammar: St. Michael x Holy Angela - St. Cloud - High School St. John's 1927; College St. John's 1932 - Ordained 1936 Chicago Univ. Summer of 1940 & 41.*
5. Special activities at school (sports, etc.):
  
6. Degrees: *B.A. 1932*
7. Date of profession: *July 11, 1930*  
Date of ordination: *June 6, 1936*
8. Occupations prior to military service (Assignments & dates-parish, mission, abbey): *Sept 1936 - May 1937 St. Peter's Abbey - Canada - Teacher & Prefect  
Sept 1937 - May 1940 St. John's - Teacher in Classics & Prefect of Greg Hall  
Sept 1940 - June 1941 St. Peter's Abbey - Canada - Teacher  
Sept 1941 - Mar 1942 St. John's Prep Instructor*
9. Induction into service: Date: *Mar. 10, 1942*  
Place: *Midland Army Air Field, Midland, Texas.*
10. Branch of service--general and unit: *Army Air Corps - Bombardier Training Field*
11. Military posts in the U.S. & positions held:  
*Asst Post Chaplain at Bombardier Field, Midland Texas Mar 1942 - Apr 1943  
Post Chaplain " " " " Apr. 1943 - Oct 1943*
12. Overseas duty: Date & port of embarkation: *Nov 4, 1942, Newport News, Virginia*  
Date & port of overseas arrival: *Feb 12, 1944, Bombay, India  
with 2 months delay in N. Africa*
13. Military assignments (Post, area, regional chaplain?), campaigns, itinerary:  
*- 3000 hours as Attached Chaplain located 175 miles west of Beltrabto from*

13. Military assignments (Post, area, regional chaplain?), campaigns, itinerary:
- 305<sup>th</sup> Service Sq., Attached Chaplain, located 120 miles north of Calcutta from -  
MAY 1944 - Jan 1945
  - 1880<sup>th</sup> Aviation Engineer Bn in Burma (Ledo Road), Battalion Chaplain from  
Jan 1945 to Mar 1945
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Service Gp / Assistant Chaplain, with responsibility for Catholic Personnel  
along a 100 mile stretch on Ledo Road, Mar 1945 - Sept 1945.
14. Date & port of overseas return to U.S.: Oct 1945 - Karachi India
- Date & port of arrival to U.S.: Nov. 11, 1945 - New York
15. Separation from service: Date: Feb. 14, 1946  
Place: Camp Me Coy, Wagoner
16. Decorations & citations: Victory Ribbon - American Theatre Ribbon - Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with 2 bronze stars
17. Assignments after separation: Graduate School Iowa Univ Feb '46 - June '47 - M.A. degree  
Novice Master & Teacher in Classics since 1947
18. Present occupation or position: Novice Master & Teacher in Classics
19. Comments regarding your experience as a military chaplain, i.e., religious work with troops, observations of other lands and people, special maneuvers, invasions, etc. (On back or on separate sheet(s))

My whole State-side service was spent at a Lombardier field deep in the heart of Texas. An early and lasting impression in this work is the suddenness with which death strikes, coupled with the total casualness amounting to almost indifference in which such accidents were accepted by those associated in such work. Life and death walk close together, and men are as expendable as the materials which they use.

The Texan is a warm-hearted, hospitable host; his life is wide open like the vast planes on which he lives. The invitations to barbecue dinners or steak fries are too numerous to mention.

Overseas--Arriving in India seemed to me like a glimpse into ancient history--ox carts, primitive plows, and intimate life between man and beast. Cows were not fenced; it is not uncommon to find a bullock walking on main street in Calcutta. Goats, sheep, and dogs mingled freely with the teeming multitude in railway stations. A group or family of monkeys could be seen sitting under a spreading shade tree chattering or scolding about something. In a word, India is alive, is teeming. The continent is overpopulated with men and every genus of creature that God has made. Life span is short, but India seems to defeat this living and early death by fertility. Life is so sacred that an Indian will not take the life of any creature, consequently vermin thrives. A sick and suffering animal will never receive a merciful coup de grace. With a belief in reincarnations a liberation from one existence is not an escape, but perhaps a transition to a worse life. Also death is not death, but a change of existence. When death does take place it is interesting how the remains are disposed of. Even here the Indian sees the finger of the deity. Even before the carcass is cold, a flock of vultures moves in, coming apparently from nowhere. When I first saw this, I understood what the Greeks meant when they called the Vultures "living Tombs".

One outstanding trait of the Indian, perhaps of the oriental, is his sense of reverence for authority--almost a slavish ~~sense~~ attitude. How could the American soldier help but feel important if the Indians were continually greeting him with a curtsy and deep reverential bow. This was in direct contrast to what I saw in North Africa. The Arab ~~was~~ concedes nothing to the non-Arab. The Arab does not hesitate to kill, rob, and steal; he hates anyone who is not a Mohammedan.

Burma--My tour of duty in Northern Burma from January 1945 to Sept of the same year was the most interesting. Here I lived close to nature, right in the heart of the jungle. Camping along a clear, cool stream in a thick mass of undergrowth was the life of the American Engineer

on the Ledo Road. My assignment with a Engineer unit was terminated after six weeks and I was attached to a Service Group in Myitkyina, which for a while was Amarcas busiest air center. With this assignment came the order to look after all Catholic personnel for a stretch of over 100 miles along the Ledo Road, from Myitkyina to Bhamo. On Sundays I offered Mass for the large installations at the four large air strips in Myitkyina; on weekdays I went on the road taking care of the engineer companies scattered along the Ledo Road. I felt like one in charge of a small diocese. In this primitive atmosphere Mass was generally offered with bare requirements. Here in the jungle the Altar was some packing crate borrowed from the supply tent, a small collapsible clerk's desk, or the hood of a Jeep. If ever I realized the Importance of the Holy Mass, it was in Burma. Truly God's delight is to be with the children of men. If they live in the jungle He wants to be there, even if all external grandeur and liturgy must be dispensed with.

Father Abbot -

Mr. [REDACTED] willed his car - a Chevrolet Impala - to me on his death bed. The car has 16438 miles on the speedometer.

Father James Reidert suggests that you send a note of thanks to the widow for making this gift to St. John's Abbey.

The widow's address:

MRS. [REDACTED]

Thanks!

James B.

Parishes - Missions - Chaplains

CITY	CODE	ASSIGNMENT NAME	NAME	POSITION	DATES	NOTES
MUENSTER	SA	ST. PETER'S ABBEY	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	M	1936 - 1937	
ST. PAUL	MN	ST. BERNARD	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	A	1936 (JUNE - SEPTEMBER)	
ST. CLOUD	MN	ST. MARY'S (IMMACULATE CONCEPTION)	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	A	1937 (MAY - AUGUST)	
BENA	MN	ST. ANN'S	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	A	1939 SUMMER	
MUENSTER	SA	ST. PETER'S ABBEY	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	M	1940 - 1941	
MILITARY ORDINARIATE	US	MILITARY CHAPLAIN	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	C	1942 - 1946 (FEB. - FEB.)	MAJOR IN USAF. VICTORY RIBBONS WITH 2 BRONZE STARS.
SOUTH UNION	KY	ST. MAUR PRIORITY	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	M	1963 (AUGUST - SEPTEMBER)	SOUTH UNION WAS CALLED ST. MARK'S WHEN PRIORITY WENT TO INDIANAPOLIS IN 1968. SOME MONKS STAYED.
ST. JOSEPH	MN	ST. BENEDICT'S MONASTERY	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	C	1966 - 1969	
ST. CLOUD	MN	ST. AUGUSTINE	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	A	1969 - 1973	
MEIRE GROVE	MN	ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	P	1971	
ST. PAUL	MN	ST. BERNARD	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	A	1973 - 1978	
ST. JOSEPH (STEARNS)	MN	ST. JOSEPH	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	A	1978 - 1980	EFFECTIVE JULY 15
ST. CLOUD	MN	ST. SCHOLASTICA CONVENT	COSMAS DAHLHEIMER	C	1980 - 1988	RETIRED TO ABBEY ON DECEMBER 12, 1988.

# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*† Karen A. Kugler  
Mark Reinhardt\*\* Teresa K. Patton††  
Mark A. Wendorn\* David W. Merchant\*\*  
Joune Jirik Mullen Gary D. Ansel  
Harvey H. Eckert  
Barbara J. Felt  
Gavin S. Wilkinson  
Jonathan S. Drage  
Eric T. Reehl  
Mary L. Helbach

February 21, 1996

Abbott Timothy Kelly ✓  
Order of St. Benedict  
St. John's Abbey  
P.O. Box 2015  
Collegeville, MN 56321

Bishop John F. Kinney  
Diocese of St. Cloud  
P.O. Box 1248  
214 Third Avenue S.  
St. Cloud, MN 56302

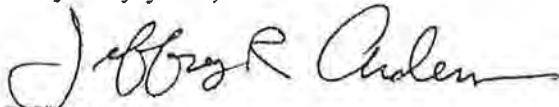
Father Thomas Gillespie  
Church of St. Joseph  
St. Joseph, MN 56374

Re: Father Thomas Gillespie, O.S.B.

Gentlemen:

This letter is to advise you that I represent [REDACTED] who this week has disclosed and reported for the first time that Father Thomas Gillespie sexually molested him when he was 14 years old. At that time, Father Gillespie was serving at St. Mary's parish in Stillwater, Minnesota. Father Gillespie came to know this youth through his former parish, St. Bernard's in St. Paul. [REDACTED] is currently 32 years old. I bring this to your attention so that you can take appropriate action. I further expect that Father Gillespie will not attempt to make contact with [REDACTED] directly or indirectly in any way, manner or fashion.

Very truly yours,

  
Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:jlr

Filed Anderson  
Jerry

[REDACTED]

✓ Tom  
Gillespie

[REDACTED]

✓ Cosme

\*Also admitted in Wisconsin

† Diplomate, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

\*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

††Also admitted in California and Colorado



CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
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527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(612) 338-8623  
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JEROME R. KLUKAS  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA

February 23, 1996

VIA FAX: 297-6543

Mr. Jeffrey R. Anderson  
REINHARDT & ANDERSON  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Filed :  
: Jerry  
: Anderson  
: [Redacted] ✓ Tom  
: [Redacted] ✓ Rosmo

Re: [Redacted]

Dear Mr. Anderson:

As indicated in my voice mail message, St. John's Abbey has retained me to represent its interests in this matter. Bob Stich has been retained to represent Father Gillespie.

I wanted to discuss the following:

1. It is unclear from your letter whether or not more than one incident was reported. Would you please clarify.
2. Would you provide me with the available specific information regarding what happened, where, and when for the incident(s).
3. If Mr. [Redacted] is receiving counseling or treatment, would you please identify the provider and indicate whether or not pastoral assistance is desired.
4. Your letter indicates that Father Gillespie was at a parish in Stillwater at the time. I believe that would be within the Archdiocese of St. Paul. If that is correct, have you notified the Archdiocese and what is the involvement of the Diocese of St. Cloud?

The above information is necessary to identify the liability insurer and provide it and St. John's with the details of the information currently available. I expect that Continental Insurance will be the liability carrier involved for St. John's, but the coverage situation still has not been resolved and I know that it will want more specific information before it responds.


Mr. Jeffrey R. Anderson  
February 23, 1996  
Page 2

At this time, would you please withhold any further direct contact with St. John's Abbey or Father Gillespie and communicate directly with my office and Bob Stich's office regarding our respective clients.

If you are able to return my call today, please do so. Otherwise, please call me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your courtesies and assistance.

Yours very truly,

  
Jerome R. Klukas

smf

cc: Father Rene McGraw  
Robert T. Stich (via Fax)

**CNA**

*Minneapolis Branch  
700 Piper-Jaffray Tower PO Box 9322  
Minneapolis MN 55440*

*Dan Johnson  
Claim Specialist  
612-336-2643  
1-800-262-1612, Ext. 2643  
FAX 612-336-2508*

ORDER OF ST BENEDICT  
ST JOHN'S ABBEY  
COLLEGEVILLE MN 56231

April 9, 1996

ATTN: FATHER RENE MCGRAW

Insured:  
Claimant:  
Claim Number:  
Policy Number:



Dear Father McGraw:

The above-mentioned matter has now been referred to the law offices of Christenson & Stocco for defense. Joseph M. Stocco will defend the Order of St. Benedict. Mr. Stocco's address is 222 South 9th Street, 18th Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55402. His telephone number is 612-336-2523.

As you know, Continental Insurance Company insured the Order of St. Benedict from June 30, 1977 to June 30, 1980 under policy number [REDACTED]. You will note in reviewing said policy, specifically Page GL2, Paragraph 2, that:

*The company will pay on behalf of the insured all sums which the insured shall become legally obligated to pay as damages because of:*

- A. *Bodily Injury or*
- B. *Property Damage*

*to which this insurance applies, caused by an occurrence, and the company shall have the right and duty to defend any suit against the insured seeking damages on account of such bodily injury or property damage, even if any of the allegations of the suit are groundless, false or fraudulent, and may make such investigation and settlement of any claim or suit as it deems expedient, but the company shall not be obligated to pay any claim or judgment or to defend any suit after the applicable limit of the company's liability has been exhausted by payment of judgments or settlements.*

**CNA**  
For All the Commitments You Make®



**Transcontinental Technical Services, Inc.**

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00327

April 9, 1996

You will note further in reviewing Page GL7, specifically Paragraph 2, that "occurrence" means:

*An accident, including continuous or repeated exposure to conditions, which results in bodily injury or property damage neither expected nor intended from the standpoint of the insured.*

It is our understanding that the Summons & Complaint has not yet been served upon the Order. We, therefore, do not have knowledge of the specific allegations being presented by [REDACTED]. However, given the aforementioned language concerning bodily injury neither expected nor intended from the standpoint of the insured we will not be able to defend or indemnify either Father Cosmas Dahlheimer or Father Thomas Gillespie. The allegations clearly involve acts of an intentional nature which are not covered by the insurance policy.

With respect to defense of the Order of St. Benedict, we must remind you that CNA accepts the defense under a full and complete reservation of rights. If during the course of our investigation it is determined that the Church had prior knowledge of the alleged sexual propensities of either priest and that no steps were taken to prevent such abuse from occurring, we will have no alternative but to withdraw from the defense of this lawsuit.

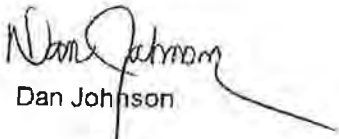
We would also like to remind you that the insurance policy in question affords liability insurance coverage of [REDACTED] per occurrence. The Order, therefore, faces exposure over and above the policy limit. You may wish to retain separate counsel, at your own expense, to protect your interests over and above the limit of insurance.

Please advise immediately upon service of the Summons & Complaint.

Finally, please provide us with the personnel files of both Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie.

Thank you very much for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,

  
Dan Johnson

cc: Father Thomas Gillespie

Father Cosmas Dahlheimer

CL012/4244475Z.DOC

Walter H. Bera, Ph.D.  
Licensed Psychologist  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist  
Kenwood Professional Building  
1111 West 22nd Street - Suite 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
612-377-9921

CONFIDENTIAL

April 16, 1996

Karen A. Kruger  
Reinhardt and Anderson  
E-1000  
First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: [REDACTED] Therapy Payment Request

Dear Ms. Kugler,

This letter is a response to your letter dated June 6, 1996 regarding therapy costs for [REDACTED].

The therapy is considered necessary because he presently suffers from Post-traumatic Stress Disorder related to past sexual abuse by members of the Order of St. Benedict. It has an impact on his ability to do his job working with children as speech therapist comfortably, using the bathroom with others, sleeping comfortably, not being preoccupied with recollections of the past abuse, guilt, shame, etc.

I saw [REDACTED] initially on 2/22/96 and it is my professional opinion that he would benefit from therapy treating the PTSD symptoms and issues resulting from the past abuse. His insurance does not cover this therapy and so a request is made for authorization of therapy related to this issue.

The therapy generally runs in three stages with the first being weekly one-hour sessions for assessment, review of the abuse story and treatment of related symptoms. This should last about six months. Second stage is bi-weekly to continue the first stage's process and should last about six months. Stage three is once per month for follow-up to maintain the gains made in therapy and should last about one year. Total length of therapy will probably last up to two years. Cost per therapy hour is \$95. Other therapy related services are also charged and are detailed in the enclosed Fee Schedule.

This total therapy could be longer or shorter depending on other strengths or stresses that may occur during the treatment period. In the years to come, it has been observed that survivors will return to therapy for a brief period in response to developmental stages or stressors that are reminiscent of the abuse scenario.

If there are any other questions feel free to call or write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Walter H. Bera". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Walter H. Bera, Ph.D.

Walter H. Bera, Ph.D.  
Licensed Psychologist  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist  
Kenwood Professional Building  
1111 West 22nd Street-Suite 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
Phone (612) 377-9921

**FEE SCHEDULE**  
Effective September 1, 1995

**INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY PSYCHOTHERAPY/CONSULTATION\*:**

One Therapist (Per 50 Minute Session)	\$95.00
One Therapist (Per 25 Minute Session)	\$47.50
Group Therapy (Per 1.5 to 2 Hour Group Session)	\$47.50
Appointments Cancelled/Missed (With Less than 24 Hours Notice)	Cost of Session

**PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING\*:**

Administration, Scoring and Interpretation:	\$95.00
Report Writing (Per Hour):	\$95.00

**GROUP CONSULTATION/WORKSHOP/TRAINING\***

Presentation (Per Hour):	\$160.00
Travel/Preparation Time (Per Hour):	\$95.00

**COURT TESTIMONY/DEPOSITIONS\*:**

Portal to Portal (Per 60 Minutes):	\$160.00
Preparation/Retainer (Per 60 Minutes):	\$95.00

**TELEPHONE CONSULTATION\*:**

With Clients (Per 50 minute hour)	\$95.00
With Attorney/Professionals (Per 50 minute hour)	\$95.00

**MISCELLANEOUS\*:**

Preparing Correspondence (Per 50 minutes)	\$95.00
Copying records, documents, etc. (Per 50 minutes plus 25 cents/page)	\$95.00

\*All charges are per 50 minutes unless otherwise specified or negotiated.  
Prepayment for some services; others due upon receipt of claim.

MIN 2 5 1996

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

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OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

May 16, 1996

~~Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
Attorney at Law  
Suite 2200  
North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101~~

Filed Jerry  
Eisenzimmer

✓ Cosme  
✓ Gillespie

Re: [REDACTED]  
Our File No. 10123

Dear Mr. Eisenzimmer:

I spoke with [REDACTED] on May 15th in response to his letter of May 6, 1996. He asked that I write to you detailing the additional information which Mr. Anderson provided by phone to me on February 23rd, shortly after his written claim notice.

Mr. Anderson stated that his client was abused on one occasion in the rectory of St. Mary's, Stillwater. The incident involved rubbing and simulated anal intercourse, with ejaculation, by Fr. Gillespie. Penetration did not occur. According to Mr. Anderson, the incident happened sometime during the summer following Fr. Gillespie's transfer from St. Bernard's to St. Mary's. That would have been the summer of 1978.

Mr. Anderson also claimed that [REDACTED] had been fondled several times at St. Bernard's by Fr. Cosmas Dahlheimer, a year or two before the Gillespie incident.

Mr. [REDACTED]'s allegations are the first ones made regarding Fr. Gillespie. I believe that you are aware that three other individuals have made claims and commenced lawsuits against Fr. Cosmas Dahlheimer, with the first one that of [REDACTED] made in about 1989 against the priest, the Archdiocese, St. Bernard's and St. John's. The other two cases involve the Diocese of St. Cloud. Fr. Cosmas provided deposition testimony in the St. Cloud



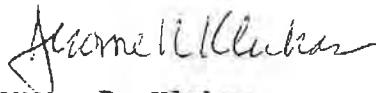
Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
May 16, 1996  
Page 2

cases wherein he stated that he had never been involved in sexual abuse activities with anyone. Fr. Cosmas is now about 87 years old and very feeble. I don't know the current state of his memory and mental capabilities.

I hope that the information is of assistance to you in identifying coverage and arranging for pastoral assistance.

At his request, I am enclosing for [REDACTED], a copy of my April 16th letter to Dr. Bera. Other than Mr. Anderson's February 21st letter notification of the [REDACTED] claim and his March letter requesting immediate pastoral assistance, I have received no correspondence from him. Dr. Bera has not responded. The only telephone conversation I had with Mr. Anderson was that of February 23rd detailed above. I don't know if [REDACTED] has sought any treatment following the initial evaluation by Dr. Bera at the direction of attorney Anderson.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn  
Enclosure

cc: w/encl. [REDACTED]

~~FF~~ Rene McGraw, O.S.B.

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

Filed



v. Gillespie  
v. Dahlheimer

COMPLAINT

*Jerry*

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff, for his cause of action against Defendants, alleges as follows:

**PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff John Doe 19A (hereinafter referred to as "John Doe"), whose identity is made known to Defendants by separate cover letter, is an adult male resident of the State of Minnesota. Plaintiff was a minor at the time of all sexual abuse and sexual exploitation alleged herein.

2. At all times material, Defendant the Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey (hereinafter referred to as "Order"), a Roman Catholic religious order of priests, was and continues to be a non-profit religious organization authorized to conduct business and conducting business in the State of Minnesota with its principle place of business at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota.

JUN 12 1996

3. At all times material, Defendant Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (hereinafter referred to as "Archdiocese"), was and continues to be a non-profit religious corporation, authorized to conduct business and conducting business in the State of Minnesota, with its principle place of business at 226 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.

4. At all times material, Defendant Father Cosmas Dahlheimer (hereinafter referred to as "Father Dahlheimer"), was a Roman Catholic priest educated by, ordained in and under the direct supervision, authority, employ and control of Defendant Order. Further, at all times material, Father Dahlheimer was contemporaneously under the direct supervision, employ and control of Defendant Archdiocese.

5. At all times material, Father Gillespie (hereinafter referred to as "Father Gillespie"), was and continues to be a Roman Catholic priest, educated by, ordained in and remaining under the direct supervision, authority, employ and control of Defendant Order. Further, at all times material, Father Gillespie was contemporaneously under the direct supervision, employ and control of Defendant Archdiocese.

#### FACTS

6. Plaintiff John Doe was raised in a devout Roman Catholic family, was baptized, confirmed, regularly celebrated weekly mass and received the sacraments through the Roman Catholic Church and, specifically, through St. Bernard's Catholic Church, a church within the geographical confines of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

7. From approximately September 1973 through May 1982, Plaintiff John Doe attended St. Bernard's Catholic Elementary and High School. At all times material, Defendant Archdiocese owned, financed and operated St. Bernard's Catholic Elementary and High School.

8. From 1973 through 1978, Defendant Father Dahlheimer, at the direction of Defendant Archdiocese and approval of Defendant Order, was assigned to St. Bernard's Church as a parish priest and was required to provide periodic religious instruction at St. Bernard's Catholic School.

9. Plaintiff John Doe came to know, trust, admire, respect and revere Defendant Father Dahlheimer as a Roman Catholic priest, his teacher and spiritual advisor.

10. From September 1974 through May 1976, Plaintiff served as an altar boy for St. Bernard's Church and, in particular, served as an altar boy under the supervision of Defendant Father Dahlheimer. In September 1975, during Plaintiff's fifth grade year at St. Bernard's Catholic Elementary School, Defendant Father Dahlheimer sexually abused Plaintiff John Doe on at least two occasions. This sexual abuse occurred at St. Bernard's Catholic Church Rectory.

11. Prior to the sexual abuse of Plaintiff, Defendant Order had received prior reports of misconduct similar to the misconduct alleged herein involving other Order priests. Defendant Order received at least one prior report of sexual misconduct by Defendant Cosmas Dahlheimer.

12. At all times material, Defendant Father Gillespie was employed as a priest at St. Bernard's Catholic Church and as a photography teacher at St. Bernard's Catholic Elementary School. Plaintiff John Doe came to know, trust, admire, respect and revere Father Gillespie as a Roman Catholic priest and as his teacher, mentor, and counselor.

13. In 1977, Defendant Father Gillespie was transferred from St. Bernard's Church to St. Mary's Church in Stillwater, Minnesota, a church within the geographical confines of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. After his transfer, Defendant Father Gillespie continued his relationship with Plaintiff John Doe.

14. During the years 1977 and 1978, Plaintiff John Doe visited Defendant Father Gillespie at St. Mary's Church. In the course of their relationship, Defendant Father Gillespie engaged Plaintiff John Doe in sexual contact on the premises of St. Mary's Church Rectory.

15. Prior to the wrongful acts committed upon Plaintiff John Doe 19A, Defendant Archdiocese received numerous reports of misconduct similar to the misconduct alleged herein involving other priests within the Archdiocese. Despite these reports, Defendant Archdiocese failed to take reasonable measures to properly supervise priests assigned to the positions within the Archdiocese.

16. As a direct result of the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, Plaintiff John Doe has suffered and continues to suffer severe emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self esteem, humiliation and psychological injuries, was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing his normal daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life, has sustained loss of earning capacity and has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy and counseling.

17. The sexual abuse of Plaintiff John Doe and the circumstances under which it occurred caused Plaintiff to develop various coping mechanisms which prohibited him from knowing or having reason to know that he was a victim of sexual abuse and, as a result, suffered injury. Plaintiff did not know he was a victim of sexual abuse, or that he suffered injury by reason of sexual abuse, until within six years of the commencement of this lawsuit. Plaintiff's action is therefore timely pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 541.073.

**COUNT I: DEFENDANT FATHER DAHLHEIMER - BATTERY**

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against Defendant Father Dahlheimer, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

18. In approximately 1975, Defendant Father Dahlheimer engaged in unpermitted, harmful and offensive sexual contact upon the person of the minor Plaintiff John Doe.

19. As a direct result of the sexual battery, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT II: DEFENDANT FATHER DAHLHEIMER -  
BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY**

Plaintiff, for his second cause of action against Defendant Father Dahlheimer alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

20. By holding himself out as a qualified Roman Catholic priest, religious instructor and counselor, and by undertaking the religious instruction and spiritual and emotional counseling of the minor Plaintiff John Doe, Defendant Father Dahlheimer entered into a fiduciary relationship with the minor Plaintiff John Doe. Defendant Father Dahlheimer breached his fiduciary duty to the Plaintiff by engaging in the wrongful conduct described herein.

21. As a direct result of Defendant's breach of his fiduciary duties, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT III: DEFENDANT ORDER - NEGLIGENT RETENTION  
AND/OR SUPERVISION OF DEFENDANT DAHLHEIMER**

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against Defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

22. Defendant Order by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of Defendant Father Dahlheimer's dangerous and exploitive propensities as child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, Defendant negligently continued to employ Defendant Father Dahlheimer in the position of trust and authority as a priest where he was able to commit the wrongful acts against the Plaintiff. Defendant failed to provide reasonable supervision of Defendant Father Dahlheimer.

23. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT IV: DEFENDANT ARCHDIOCESE -  
NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION OF DEFENDANT DAHLHEIMER**

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against Defendant Archdiocese, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

24. Defendant Archdiocese by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of Defendant Father Dahlheimer's dangerous and exploitive propensities as child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, Defendant failed to provide reasonable supervision of Defendant Father Dahlheimer.

25. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT V: DEFENDANT FATHER GILLESPIE - BATTERY**

Plaintiff, for his first cause of action against Defendant Father Gillespie, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

26. In approximately 1977 and/or 1978, Defendant Father Gillespie engaged in unpermitted, harmful and offensive sexual contact upon the person of the minor Plaintiff John Doe.

27. As a direct result of the sexual battery, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT VI: DEFENDANT FATHER GILLESPIE -  
BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY**

Plaintiff, for his second cause of action against Defendant Father Gillespie alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

28. By holding himself out as a qualified Roman Catholic priest, religious instructor and counselor, and by undertaking the religious instruction and spiritual and emotional counseling of the minor Plaintiff John Doe, Defendant Father Gillespie entered into a fiduciary



relationship with the minor Plaintiff John Doe. Defendant Father Gillespie breached his fiduciary duty to the Plaintiff by engaging in the wrongful conduct described herein.

29. As a direct result of Defendant's breach of his fiduciary duties, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT VII: DEFENDANT ORDER - NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION  
OF DEFENDANT GILLESPIE**

Plaintiff, for his second cause of action against Defendant Order, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

30. Defendant Order by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of Defendant Father Gillespie's dangerous and exploitive propensities as child sexual abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, Defendant failed to provide reasonable supervision of Defendant Father Gillespie.

31. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

**COUNT VIII: DEFENDANT ARCHDIOCESE -  
NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION OF DEFENDANT GILLESPIE**

Plaintiff, for his second cause of action against Defendant Archdiocese, alleges as follows:

Plaintiff incorporates all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth under this Count and further alleges that:

32. Defendant Archdiocese by and through its agents knew or should reasonably have known of Defendant Father Gillespie's dangerous and exploitive propensities as child sexual

abuser and/or an unfit agent, and despite such knowledge, Defendant failed to provide reasonable supervision of Defendant Father Gillespie.

33. As a direct result of Defendant's negligent conduct, Plaintiff has suffered the injuries and damages described herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants individually, jointly and severally in an amount in excess of \$50,000 plus costs, disbursements, reasonable attorneys fees, interest, and whatever other relief the Court deems just and equitable.

Dated: 6/9/96

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON



By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Karen A. Kugler, #220462

Attorneys for Plaintiff

E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.

332 Minnesota Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

(612) 227-9990

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that costs, disbursements, and reasonable attorney and witness fees may be awarded pursuant to Minn. Stat. §549.21, subdivision 2, to the party against whom the allegations in this pleading are asserted.



# CNA

Minneapolis Branch  
700 Piper-Jaffray Tower PO Box 9322  
Minneapolis MN 55440

Dan Johnson  
Claim Specialist  
612-336-2643  
1-800-262-1612, Ext. 2643  
FAX 612-336-2508

CASTOR KLUKAS LOGREN & GROVE CHARTERED  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVE S  
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402

June 18, 1996

ATTN: JEROME R KLUKAS

Insured:  
Plaintiff:  
Claim Number:



filed: Johnson  
Denny  
Gillespie  
v. Cosmas  
Stocco

Dear Mr. Klukas:

We acknowledge receipt of the Summons & Complaint entitled "John Doe 19A, Plaintiff, vs. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, and Father Thomas Gillespie, Defendants."

As indicated in our previous correspondence, CNA (Continental) will not afford a defense to Father Dahlheimer or to Father Gillespie given the intentional nature of the alleged acts. It is our understanding that both will be represented by Bob Stich. Further, CNA (Continental) will not afford a defense to the Archdiocese. As you know, the Archdiocese is separately insured.

No coverage is afforded for the following counts:

- Count I Defendant Father Dahlheimer - Battery
- Count II Defendant Father Dahlheimer - Breach of Fiduciary Duty
- Count IV Defendant Archdiocese - Negligent Supervision of Defendant Dahlheimer
- Count V Defendant Father Gillespie - Battery
- Count VI Defendant Father Gillespie - Breach of Fiduciary Duty
- Count VIII Defendant Archdiocese - Negligent Supervision of Defendant Gillespie

CNA (Continental) reserves all rights and defenses which it may have under its policy or under the law with respect to the following counts:

**CNA**  
For All the Commitments You Make®



Transcontinental Technical Services, Inc.

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00348

June 18, 1996

Count III Defendant Order - Negligent Retention and/or Supervision of Defendant  
Dahlheimer  
Count VII Defendant Order - Negligent Supervision of Defendant Gillespie

With respect to your June 12, 1996 letter addressed to Joseph M. Stocco, specifically with regard to your inquiry as to potential conflict of interest issues, we are of the opinion that no such conflict exists. We trust Mr. Stocco will provide you with his recommendations for avoiding such a conflict in the very near future.

We agree with your recommendation that Dr. Bera's records be obtained and that the plaintiff be deposed as soon as possible with an eye toward bringing an early summary judgment motion.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns with respect to our position.

As always, thank you very much for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Dan Johnson

cc: Order of St. Benedict  
Attn: Father Rene McGraw  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, MN 56321

Joseph M. Stocco, Attorney at Law

CL012/4245606Z.DOC

CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(612) 338-8623  
Fax (612) 338-7508

JEROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

June 27, 1996

Jeffrey R. Anderson, Esq.  
REINHARDT & ANDERSON  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

filed

Jerry  
Anderson

Ⓢ

[REDACTED]

✓ Cosmas  
Tom C.

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Enclosed is St. John's executed Admission of Service. I believe that Mr. Stich will be admitting service on behalf of both of the defendant monks.

Joe Stocco will be providing the defense of St. John's Abbey at the request of CNA Insurance, which is defending under a reservation of rights. I will be representing St. John's as its personal attorney, in view of the reservation of rights. I also will be assisting St. John's in the arrangements for the pastoral benefits extended to [REDACTED]. Would you please direct all correspondence relating to pastoral benefits to me. I will be relying upon Mr. Stocco to provide me with the pleadings and information necessary to remain informed about the progress of the litigation.

Would you please secure and forward [REDACTED]'s treatment notes and records so that the arrangements for counseling can be coordinated with the Archdiocese and finalized.

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

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Fax (612) 338-7508

JEROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

June 27, 1996

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
Attorney at Law  
Suite 2200  
North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

William S. Fallon, Esq.  
Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102-2197

filed Jerry  
Zimmer  
✓ Cosmas  
✓ Tom

Re: 

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your information and consideration are the following:

1. Attorney Anderson's June 18, 1996 letter and attached two statements of Dr. Bera.
2. Mr. Anderson's June 24th letter and attached letter report of Dr. Bera.

It appears to me that Dr. Bera's letter should have been dated June 16th, as it refers to a June 6th request for the information.

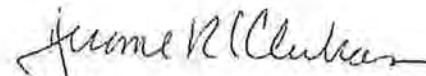
I have renewed the request for the treatment records, which have been promised.

Would you please advise regarding the Archdiocese's position and commitment for payment of pastoral benefits. Again, St.

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
William S. Fallon, Esq.  
June 27, 1996  
Page 2

John's view is that both entities have made promises and implemented programs to assist alleged victims, without consideration of liability. If a battle has to be fought over the issues of institutional liability, I believe it should be waged in the context of the lawsuit and not over responsibility for pastoral benefits.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn  
Enclosures

cc:  Fr. Rene McGraw, O.S.B.  
Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
Robert T. Stich, Esq.

CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

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JEROME R. KLUKAS  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA

July 15, 1996

Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
CHRISTENSON & STOCCO  
P. O. Box 9322  
Minneapolis, MN 55440

*filed: Jerry*  
*Stich*  
*Stocco*  
*Eisenzimmer/Fallon*  
*JEB*


Robert T. Stich, Esq.  
STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER, BROWNSON & BALLOU, P.A.  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
Attorney at Law  
Suite 2200  
North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: 

Gentlemen:

Karen Kugler's June 10th letter indicates that she didn't forward copies of Dr. Bera's treatment records. I am enclosing copies of the same for each of you.

A formal agreement regarding these benefits remains necessary. Mr. Eisenzimmer and I have exchanged forms used in the past, which have been approved by Mr. Anderson's office and our respective clients and their insurers. My reading of the treatment records is that  is somewhat ambivalent about the situation. I believe that failure to make good on the public promises made to provide these benefits is a sure way to turn this into a totally adversarial situation. Hopefully, the long



July 15, 1996  
Page 2

awaited treatment records will allow for a resolution of these issues. I request that Mr. Eisenzimmer advise at his early convenience.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn  
Enclosures

cc: Fr. Rene McGraw, O.S.B.  
(w/encls. Bera treatment records)

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(612) 338-8623  
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JEROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association


July 15, 1996

Walter Bera, Ph.D.  
Kenwood Professional Building  
1111 West 22nd Street  
Suite 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55405

*filed Jerry Bera*

Re: 

Dear Dr. Bera:

In payment for the services you provided  on May 20, June 3, and June 17, 1996, I am forwarding St. John's check in the sum of \$332.50.

Payment is made pursuant to St. John's pastoral policy and commitment to assist persons who claim to have been sexually abused. It does not constitute an acknowledgment of responsibility or fault on the part of my client.

Thank you for the assistance you have been providing. Karen Kugler has sent copies of your treatment records through the June 17th session.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn  
Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey R. Anderson, Esq.  
Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
Robert T. Stich, Esq.  
Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
~~Fr. Rene McGraw, O.S.B.~~

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Court File No.

Plaintiff,

vs.

**DEFENDANT ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT'S  
INTERROGATORIES TO PLAINTIFF**

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

filed



v Gillespie

Defendants.

**TO: PLAINTIFF, AND HIS ATTORNEY, Jeffrey R. Anderson, Reinhardt & Anderson, E-1000 First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101:**

Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 33 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure, you are requested and required to submit written Answers, under oath, to the following Interrogatories, within the time provided in the Rule. These Interrogatories are hereby expressly made continuing, requiring supplemental Answers thereto as information is acquired through the time of trial.

**INSTRUCTIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

When the following terms or names are used, the Defendant intends the meanings hereinafter described to be associated with such terms and names.

1. The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular where appropriate to the sense of the Interrogatory.
2. As used herein, "document" shall mean, without limitation, every writing or record of every type and description that is or has been in the possession, control or custody of the Defendant or of which the Defendant has knowledge, including without limitation, correspondence, memoranda, tapes, stenographic or handwritten notes, certificates, receipts, photographs, films, voice recordings, graphs, reports, minutes or statistical computations, agreements, negotiations, or statements; every copy of such writing or record where the original is not in the

possession, control or custody of the Defendant to whom this required is directed and every copy of every such writing or record where such copy is not an identical copy of an original or where such copy contains any commentary or notations whatsoever that does not appear on the original.

3. "Identify" or "identity" when used in reference to:
  - a. an individual, shall mean to state his full name, present or last known residential address, and present or last known employment position or business affiliation, indicating name of company, job title, employment address, and telephone numbers;
  - b. a firm, partnership, corporation, proprietorship, association or other organization or entity shall mean to state its full name, present or last known address and telephone number (designating which, the legal form of such entity or organization, and the identity of its chief executive officer);
  - c. a "document" shall mean to state, if applicable, the date of the document, the name of the person who prepared the document, the name of the recipient of the document, and the subject matter of the document; and
  - d. "Date" shall mean the exact date, month and year, if ascertainable, or if not, the best available approximation including relationship to other events.

#### INTERROGATORIES

1. State your full name, age, date of birth, weight, height, present residential address, marital status and Social Security number.
2. State your current business, occupation or vocation. Identify your present employer, the date you started this employment, and describe in detail the type of work that you do.
3. Please describe in reasonable detail each incident of sexual contact alleged to have occurred between you and defendant priests including:
  - a. As accurately as possible, the date of each incident;
  - b. Where each incident occurred;
  - c. A description of the circumstances or events leading up to each incident;
  - d. Whether any physical contact occurred, and if so, a description of same.
4. Prior to the incidents described previously herein, did you have any evidence, awareness, knowledge, or suspicion of a propensity or tendency on the part of defendant priests to

engage in sexual contact with persons of either sex? If so, please describe the basis for your awareness, knowledge, or suspicion, and identify all persons who provided such information to you, or otherwise were a source of said information.

5. Were alcohol or drugs used or consumed by you or defendant priests prior to, or in connection with, any of the incidents described previously herein? If so, please describe.
6. Identify all persons with whom you have discussed, either generally or in detail, the sexual incidents involving defendant priests previously described herein, from the date of the first incident to the present date, including an approximation of the date on which each conversation or discussion took place.
7. Identify all other persons, including the parties to this action, as well as their employees or representatives, whom you claim or allege have, or had, information, from whatever source, that defendant priests had made inappropriate sexual contact of any other persons, either before the incidents described in the Complaint, or after.
8. Please describe the nature and extent of each and every injury you claim to have sustained as a result of the incidents involved herein.
9. Please indicate and describe any and all permanent injuries you claim you have sustained as a result of the incidents involved herein.
10. Please identify each and every hospital, doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, counselor, or other health care professional or facility who has examined or treated you for the injuries or damages alleged in the Complaint, including the dates of each examination or treatment, and the inclusive dates of any hospitalization.
11. Please itemize the medical, hospital and health care expenses that you claim to have sustained as a result of the incidents. Please attach copies of all bills or statements to support the claimed medical expenses.
12. If you claim that you lost any time from work as a result of your injuries, and if you claim that you suffered any wage loss or income loss because of your injuries, please state:
  - a. The name and address of your employer;
  - b. All dates you were off work;
  - c. Your wage rate at that time;
  - d. The total amount of wages or income loss claimed by you, and how you compute same.
13. Set forth the names, addresses and occupations of any experts as follows:

- a. Whom you have consulted regarding the subject matter of this litigation;
  - b. Whom you expect to call as an expert witness at trial;
  - c. Whom you retained or specifically employed in anticipation of litigation or preparation for trial, but not listed in Subsection (a) or (b) of this Interrogatory.
14. As to each individual named in Answer to Interrogatory No. 14.b. above, describe in detail and state:
- a. The subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify;
  - b. The substance of the facts and opinions to which the expert is expected to testify;
  - c. A summary of the grounds for each opinion; and
  - d. Attach a copy of any and all reports prepared by such expert.
15. State whether you have been arrested or convicted of any crimes or misdemeanors. If so, state:
- a. The county of each such arrest and conviction;
  - b. The date of each such arrest and conviction;
  - c. The name under which you were charged;
  - d. The nature of the crime of which you were charged or convicted.
16. Please state when you first contacted an attorney regarding your claims in this lawsuit, stating the name of the attorney and the date in which contact was first made.
17. Please state the date on which you retained your present attorney regarding the claims of the present lawsuit.
18. At anytime prior to the date(s) of the incidents involved herein, had you been treated by a doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, counselor or other health care professional or facility? If so:
- a. Identify each doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, counsel, or other health care professional or facility;
  - b. The nature of the injury, or other reason for the treatment received by each;

- c. Identify all doctors or other health care professionals or facilities who have treated you for this aggravated condition.
- 19. Identify by name, address, and dates of enrollment all schools you have attended, and also:
  - a. Identify by name, address and grade all teachers you believe you had in class during each year of school;
  - b. Describe all school records or documents you possess, or attach copies of all such school records or documents.
- 20. List the names, addresses and dates of attendance of all churches, synagogues or places of worship which you have regularly attended, have been a member, or are a member, and:
  - a. Identify the head pastor, priest, rabbi, etc. of each such place of religious worship;
  - b. The time period in which you were a member or regularly attended such place of worship.
- 21. List all activities (i.e., Sunday school, youth group, altar service, Bible study, religious schooling or training, etc.) in which you have participated at the places identified in Interrogatory No. 19, and identify the church, the date of involvement, the nature of involvement and the church staff member or volunteer who supervised such activity.
- 22. Describe in detail all social, religious and educational contact you had with defendant priests:
  - a. Prior to any of the alleged incidents or sexual abuse;
  - b. During the time period of this alleged sexual abuse; and
  - c. After the last act alleged sexual abuse.
- 23. Describe all school or community social clubs, service clubs or athletic organizations in which you participated or were a member from grade school up until the present time.
- 24. Identify each person that you, your agents, representatives, or attorneys have contacted, or have been contacted by, who have provided information about alleged inappropriate sexual contact or behavior by defendant priests, either before the dates of the incidents involved herein, or since. As to each such person, state the substance of the facts or information obtained.
- 25. State whether you, your agents, representatives or attorneys have obtained statements from any person or persons concerning alleged inappropriate sexual contact or behavior

on the part of defendant priests, or relating to any other issues which are the subject of this litigation. If so, please state:

- a. Identify each person from whom a statement has been obtained;
  - b. Identify the person who obtained the statement;
  - c. The date of each such statement;
  - d. Identify who currently possesses the statement, or a copy thereof.
26. Identify all persons that you have reason to believe are sexual abuse victims by defendant priests, including:
- a. The last known name, address, and telephone number of each victim and his guardian;
  - b. The approximate dates on which each victim was abused;
  - c. The places at which each victim was abused; and
  - d. Identify by last known name, address, and telephone number, each witness to such abuse and the nature of the abuse witnessed.
27. Identify all persons known to you or your counsel who have either reported sexual abuse or received direct reports of sexual abuse by defendant priests, including:
- a. The name, address, and telephone number of each such person and his/her guardians;
  - b. The dates on which each such information was reported or received;
  - c. The dates on which the sexual abuse allegedly occurred;
  - d. The places in which the sexual abuse allegedly occurred;
  - e. The nature of each sexual abuse alleged.
28. List in chronological order all addresses where you have lived during the past 20 years.
29. List in chronological order the name, address, phone number, and dates of employment of each place you have been employed or provided volunteer personal work or services during the past ten years. As to each such employment or service, state the nature of the work or service you provided and the name of your immediate supervisor or superior.



30. List by date, place, and people involved, all incidents of personal or social trouble or difficulty for which you report to school, church or policy authority from the time you were four years old to the present time. This is to include such incidents as shoplifting, reported fights, sexual problems, attempts at self-injury, etc.; and is not limited to the following:
- a. Give the name and address of each person or place of authority where such difficulty or trouble was reported, investigated, treated, or managed; and
  - b. Attach copies of all documents in your possession concerning such incidents.
31. Describe the extent or nature of all sexual activity, whether homosexual or heterosexual, and whether initiated by yourself or someone else, you have experienced:
- a. Prior to any social contact with defendant priests;
  - b. After becoming acquainted with defendant priests, but prior to any alleged sexual abuse by defendant priests;
  - c. During the time period of sexual abuse by defendant priests; and
  - d. After the alleged sexual abuse by defendant priests to present.
32. Set forth in detail an itemized list of all payments related to the injury or disability in question made to the Plaintiff, or on the Plaintiff's behalf by or pursuant to:
- a. A federal, state or local income disability or Workers' Compensation Act; or other public program providing medical expenses, disability payments, or similar benefits;
  - b. Health, accident, and sickness, or automobile accident insurance or liability insurance that provides health benefits or income disability coverage;
  - c. A contract or agreement of a group, organization, partnership, or a corporation to provide, pay for or reimburse the cost of hospital, medical or other health care services; or
  - d. A contractual or voluntary wage continuation plan provided by employer or any other system intended to provide wages during a period of disability except benefits received from a private disability insurance policy where the premiums were wholly paid for by the Plaintiff.
33. With regard to the payments referred to in your answer to Interrogatory No. 32 above, set forth a list of all such payment for which a subrogation right has been asserted.

34. With regard to the payments referred to in your answer to Interrogatory No. 32 above, set forth a specific and detailed list of all amounts that have been paid, contributed, or forfeited by, or on behalf of, the Plaintiff or member of the Plaintiff's immediate family for the two-year period immediately before the date of the incident to secure the right to any such benefits that the Plaintiff is receiving as a result of loss of cause by the occurrence in question.
35. Describe in detail, and not in summary fashion, all facts which support your claim that defendant priests were under the direct employment and supervision of the Order of St. Benedict at the time of the alleged sexual misconduct.
36. Describe in detail, and not in summary fashion, all facts which support your claims in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint that Defendant Order had received prior reports of misconduct similar to the misconduct alleged in the Complaint.
37. Identify the witnesses who will testify in support of your answers to Interrogatory Nos. 35 and 36 providing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of these witnesses.
38. Describe any documents which support your answers to Interrogatory Nos. 35 and 36 providing a summary of the contents of such documents.

Dated: July 19 1996

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCOCO

By: Joseph M. Stocco  
Joseph M. Stocco, #105727  
Attorneys for Defendant Order of St. Benedict  
1870 Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 South Ninth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
(612) 336-2523

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Court File No.

Plaintiff,

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

**SEPARATE ANSWER OF DEFENDANT  
THE ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT OF THE  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, A/K/A  
ST. JOHN'S ABBEY'S ANSWER TO  
PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT**

filed:



v. Cosmas  
v. Tom G

COMES NOW Defendant The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey (hereinafter "Order") as and for its Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint, states and alleges as follows:

I.

That except as may be herein or hereinafter admitted, explained, or otherwise answered, this answering Defendant denies each and every matter, allegation, averment, and thing contained in said Complaint.

II.

That Defendant admits the allegation contained in paragraph 1 of said Complaint but denies that part of said allegation relating to sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

III.

That Defendant admits that allegations contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Complaint.

IV.

That with respect to paragraph 4 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant admits that Defendant Father Cosmos Dahlheimer was a Roman Catholic Priest educated by Defendant Order but denies that at all times material herein, Father Dahlheimer was under the direct supervision, authority, employ, and control of Defendant Order. Further admitting that at all times for the purposes of this Answer, Father Dahlheimer was under the direct supervision, employ, and control of Defendant Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

V.

That with respect to paragraph 5 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant admits that Defendant Father Thomas Gillespie was a Roman Catholic Priest educated by Defendant Order but denies that at all times material herein, Father Gillespie was under the direct supervision, authority, employ, and control of Defendant Order. Further admitting that at all times for the purposes of this Answer, Father Gillespie was under the direct supervision, employ, and control of Defendant Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

VI.

With respect to paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in said paragraphs of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

VII.

With respect to paragraph 11 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant specifically denies said allegation in its entirety.

VIII.

With respect to paragraph 12 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant admits that Father Gillespie was employed as a priest at St. Bernard's Catholic Church but states that it has insufficient knowledge or information as to the truth of the balance of said allegation

contained in said paragraph of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

IX.

With respect to paragraph 13 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant admits that Father Gillespie was transferred from St. Bernard's Catholic Church to St. Mary's Church in Stillwater, Minnesota, but states that it has insufficient knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the balance of said allegation contained in said paragraph of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

X.

With respect to paragraph 14 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation contained in said paragraph of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

XI.

With respect to paragraph 15 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation contained in said paragraph of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

XII.

With respect to paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Complaint, this answering Defendant specifically denies said allegations in its entirety.

XIII.

With respect to Counts I and II of the Complaint, as same relate to Defendant Father Dahlheimer, this answering Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in said Counts of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

XIV.

With respect to Count III of the Complaint, this answering Defendant specifically denies said allegation in its entirety.

XV.

With respect to Count IV of the Complaint, this answering Defendant states that it has insufficient knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation contained in said Count of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

XVI.

With respect to Counts V and VI of the Complaint as same relate to Father Gillespie, this answering Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in said Counts of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

XVII.

With respect to Count VII of the Complaint, this answering Defendant denies said allegation in its entirety.

XVIII.

With respect to Count VIII of the Complaint, this answering Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in said Count of the Complaint and, therefore, denies same and puts Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

I.

That Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a claim against this answering Defendant upon which relief can be granted.

II.

That any damages or injuries suffered by Plaintiff were caused by or contributed to by Plaintiff's own negligence, assumption of risk or wrongful conduct.

III.

That this answering Defendant has insufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the character and extent of any injuries or damages alleged by the Plaintiff and, therefore, denies the same and puts the Plaintiff to strict proof thereof.

IV.

That any claims for damages or injuries suffered by Plaintiff are barred by the applicable statute of limitations, including Minn. Stat. §541.073.

V.

That the Plaintiff has misjoined separate party defendants in one legal action for alleged conduct arising out of separate and distinct occurrences and, accordingly, pursuant to Rule 21 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure, the parties have been misjoined. This answering Defendant hereby moves the Court to sever and separate the respective claims of the Plaintiff against each of the party Defendants in order that they may properly proceed in separate actions.

WHEREFORE, Defendant The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey prays that Plaintiff take nothing against it by his pretended claim herein, and that Defendant have judgment for its attorneys' fees, costs and disbursements.

Dated:

July 19, 1996

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO

By:

Joseph M. Stocco  
Joseph M. Stocco, #105727

Attorneys for Defendant

1870 Piper Jaffray Tower

222 South Ninth Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

(612) 336-2523

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Court File No.

Plaintiff,

vs.

**DEFENDANT ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT'S  
REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF  
STATEMENTS TO PLAINTIFF**

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

*Filed: Stocco*

Defendants.

**TO: PLAINTIFF, AND HIS ATTORNEY, Jeffrey R. Anderson, Reinhardt & Anderson, E-1000 First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101;**

In accordance with Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure 26.02(3), you are hereby requested to furnish and provide to the undersigned, within thirty (30) days:

1. Copies of all statements made by parties, non-parties, witnesses, and expert witnesses concerning the above-entitled action or its subject matter.

For the purposes of this request, a statement is:

- a. A written statement signed or otherwise adopted or approved by the person making it, or
- b. A stenographic, mechanical, electrical, or other recording, or a transcription thereof, which is a substantially verbatim recital of an oral statement by the person making it, and contemporaneously recorded.

Dated: July 19, 1996

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO

By: 

Joseph M. Stocco, #105727

Attorneys for Defendant

1870 Piper Jaffray Tower

222 South Ninth Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

(612) 336-2523

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00374



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Court File No.

Plaintiff,

vs.

**DEFENDANT ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT'S  
REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF  
DOCUMENTS TO PLAINTIFF**

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Filed:



*Handwritten notes:*  
v. Cosmas  
v. Thomas Gillespie

**TO: PLAINTIFF, AND HIS ATTORNEY,** Jeffrey R. Anderson, Reinhardt & Anderson, E-1000 First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101:

Pursuant to Rules 26 and 34 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendant, The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, requests that Plaintiff, John Doe 19A, produce the following documents and tangible things, and permit Defendant, The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, through its attorney, Joseph M. Stocco, to inspect and copy each of said documents and tangible things in Plaintiff's possession, custody, or control. It is further demanded that said inspection take place within 30 days of service of this Request at the offices of the undersigned attorney for Defendant.

With regard to those documents which are subject to photocopying, you are hereby requested, in lieu of inspection, to serve complete copies of said documents upon Defendant's attorney along with your written response to this Request, said response to be provided within 30 days in accordance with Rule 34.

1. All photographs, slides, films, moving pictures, videotapes or other visual representations which relate to this lawsuit.

2. Copies of all drawings, models, charts, or other similar types of illustrative or demonstrative items which relate to this lawsuit.
3. All items which may be offered as exhibits in the trial of this lawsuit. If inconvenient to produce an item, a photograph, photocopy, or detailed description of each such item is demanded.
4. Copies of any and all reports prepared by expert witnesses, whether such expert is to be called as a witness or not in this lawsuit.
5. Copies of all medical and/or chiropractic bills you relate to the accident or incident alleged in the Complaint and copies of all other documents which support your claim for medical expense.
6. All documents which support any other claim for damages claimed.
7. All documents identified in your Answers to Interrogatories.
8. All other documents or tangible things which have not been specifically requested in the foregoing requests, but which are in your possession and relate to the subject matter of this litigation or any item of Plaintiff's claims.

This is a continuing Request for Production of Documents now in existence or hereafter taken or obtained any time prior to entry of judgment in the above-entitled matter.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendant, The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, intends to object to the introduction of any evidence at trial relating to any of these requests for production which have not, in a timely manner, been disclosed by an appropriate response to this request for production.

Dated:

July 19, 1996

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO

By: Joseph M. Stocco

Joseph M. Stocco, #105727

Attorneys for Defendant The Order of St. Benedict

1870 Piper Jaffray Tower

222 South Ninth Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

(612) 336-2523

8-13-96



✓  
✓ Gillespie

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

**PLAINTIFF'S ANSWERS TO  
DEFENDANT ORDER OF  
ST. BENEDICT'S INTERROGATORIES**

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

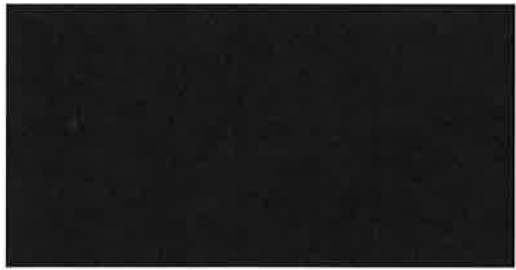
TO: Defendant Order of St. Benedict and its attorneys, John M. Stocco, 1870 Piper Jaffray Tower, 222 South Ninth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

Plaintiff, for his answers to Defendant Order of St. Benedict's interrogatories, states the following:

1. State your full name, age, date of birth, weight, height, present residential address, marital status and Social Security number.

**ANSWER:**

Name:  
Age:  
DOB:  
Weight:  
Height:  
Address:  
Marital Status:  
SSN:



2. State your current business, occupation or vocation. Identify your present employer, the date you started this employment, and describe in detail the type of work that you do.

54575

ANSWER:



3. Please describe in reasonable detail each incident of sexual contact alleged to have occurred between you and defendant priests including:
- a. As accurately as possible, the date of each incident;
  - b. Where each incident occurred;
  - c. A description of the circumstances or events leading up to each incident;
  - d. Whether any physical contact occurred, and if so, a description of same.

ANSWER:

Abuse by Father Dahlheimer

- a) Due to the amount of time that has passed since the sexual abuse occurred, Plaintiff is unable to recall the specific dates of abuse.  
  
Plaintiff recalls that he was sexually abused by Father Dahlheimer on two occasions when he was in the fifth grade, which was approximately 1974 - 1975.
- b) The sexual abuse occurred in Father Dahlheimer's room at St. Bernard's Rectory, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- c) In approximately 1974 - 1975, Plaintiff was an altar boy at St. Bernard's Catholic Church to which Father Dahlheimer was assigned. Plaintiff got to know Father Dahlheimer as his parish priest; they would talk a lot before and after mass. Plaintiff and Father Dahlheimer would also talk in Father Dahlheimer's room in the rectory. During this time, Father Dahlheimer told Plaintiff that boys were going through puberty at the age Plaintiff was and that Father Dahlheimer needed to check Plaintiff to see if he was developing properly.
- d) Father Dahlheimer fondled Plaintiff's genitals and kissed him on the lips.

54575

Abuse by Father Gillespie

- a) Due to the amount of time that has passed since the sexual abuse occurred, Plaintiff is unable to recall the specific dates of abuse.

Plaintiff recalls that he was sexually abused by Father Gillespie on one occasion when he was in the eighth grade, which was approximately 1977 or 1978.

- b) The sexual abuse occurred in Father Gillespie's room at St. Mary's Rectory, Stillwater, Minnesota.
- c) Plaintiff got to know Father Gillespie as his parish priest when Father Gillespie was assigned to St. Bernard's parish. Father Gillespie taught a mini-course in photography at St. Bernard's School which Plaintiff attended. Father Gillespie had a dark room in the basement of the rectory. Plaintiff took an interest in the photography course and would go over to the dark room at night to use the equipment. As a result of Father Gillespie's role as parish priest and teacher, Plaintiff became very close to Father Gillespie. Father Gillespie was later transferred to St. Mary's Parish in Stillwater, Minnesota. Plaintiff kept in contact with Father Gillespie after the transfer and they would often get together. Plaintiff and some other boys would sometimes go to Stillwater and spend the night at the rectory with Father Gillespie. The rectory was old and somewhat scary so the boys would sleep together in the living room area.

One time Plaintiff went to visit Father Gillespie by himself. When he went to lay down on the couch to go to sleep, Father Gillespie suggested Plaintiff should stay in his bedroom with him. Once in the bedroom, Father Gillespie convinced Plaintiff to sleep without his underwear on. Plaintiff did as he was told and laid down in the bed, on his side, not facing Father Gillespie.

- d) The sexual contact occurred when Plaintiff was laying in Father Gillespie's bed and Father Gillespie came up behind Plaintiff and put his penis in between Plaintiff's legs and gyrated until he ejaculated.

4. Prior to the incidents described previously herein, did you have any evidence, awareness, knowledge, or suspicion of a propensity or tendency on the part of defendant priests to engage in sexual contact with persons of either sex? If so, please describe the basis for your awareness, knowledge, or suspicion, and identify all persons who provided such information to you, or otherwise were a source of said information.

**ANSWER:**

No.

54575

5. Were alcohol or drugs used or consumed by you or defendant priests prior to or in connection with, any of the incidents described previously herein? If so, please describe.

**ANSWER:**

No.

6. Identify all persons with whom you have discussed, either generally or in detail, the sexual incidents involving defendant priests previously described herein, from the date of the first to the present date, including an approximation of the date on which each incident conversation or discussion took place.

**ANSWER:**



Walter Bera  
1111 West 22nd Street, Suite 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
2/22/96

Plaintiff's attorneys and staff

7. Identify all other persons, including the parties to this action, as well as their employees or representatives, whom you claim or allege have, or had, information, from whatever source, that defendant priests had made inappropriate sexual contact of any other persons, either before the incidents described in the Complaint, or after.

**ANSWER:**



54575

Various attorneys and staff who represented [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED]

With regard to Father Gillespie:

None at this time. Investigation is continuing.

8. Please describe the nature and extent of each and every injury you claim to have sustained as a result of the incidents involved herein.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff suffers from severe emotional distress, shame, humiliation, embarrassment, self-blame, loss of self-esteem and loss of self-worth. Plaintiff also has lost faith in his church. Plaintiff's job involves working with children. While working with the children, Plaintiff sometimes experiences flashbacks of the sexual abuse when he was a child. Plaintiff is also afraid to have any physical contact with the children for fear that someone will think he is acting inappropriately with the children.

This interrogatory will be further supplemented following expert review.

9. Please indicate and describe any and all permanent injuries you claim you have sustained as a result of the incidents involved herein.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff believes all injuries to be permanent, however, permanency of injuries will be determined by expert review and testimony prior to trial. This Answer will be supplemented prior to trial pursuant to Rule 26.2 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure.

10. Please identify each and every hospital, doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, counselor, or other health care professional or facility who has examined or treated you for the injuries or damages alleged in the Complaint, including the dates of each examination or treatment, and the inclusive dates of any hospitalization.

**ANSWER:**

Walter Bera  
1111 East West 22nd Street, Suite 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55405

Treatment Dates: 2/22/96 to the present

11. Please itemize the medical, hospital and health care expenses that you claim to have sustained as a result of the incidents. Please attach copies of all bills or statements to support the claimed medical expenses.

**ANSWER:**

Walter Bera                                 \$712.50  
(2/22/96 - present)

12. If you claim that you lost any time from work as a result of your injuries, and if you claim that you suffered any wage loss or income loss because of your injuries, please state:

- a. The name and address of your employer;
- b. All dates you were off work;
- c. Your wage rate at that time;
- d. The total amount of wages or income loss claimed by you, and how you compute same.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff is not claiming wage loss or income loss.

13. Set forth the names, addresses and occupations of any experts as follows:

- a. Whom you have consulted regarding the subject matter of this litigation;
- b. Whom you expect to call as an expert witness at trial;
- c. Whom you retained or specifically employed in anticipation of litigation or preparation for trial, but not listed in Subsection (a) or (b) of this Interrogatory.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff objects to subparts a. and c. of this Interrogatory on the basis that this information is not discoverable except under limited scope of Rule 26.02 (d)(2) of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure. Without waiving this objection, Plaintiff has not yet retained experts at this time.

14. As to each individual named in Answer to Interrogatory No. 14.b. above, describe in detail and state:

- a. The subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify;
- b. The substance of the facts and opinions to which the expert is expected to testify;
- c. A summary of the grounds for each opinion; and
- d. Attach a copy of any and all reports prepared by such expert.



**ANSWER:**

See Answer to No. 13 above.

15. State whether you have been arrested or convicted of any crimes or misdemeanors. If so, state:

- a. The county of each such arrest and conviction;
- b. The date of each such arrest and conviction;
- c. The name under which you were charged;
- d. The nature of the crime of which you were charged or convicted.

**ANSWER:**

No.

16. Please state when you first contacted an attorney regarding your claims in this lawsuit, stating the name of the attorney and the date in which contact was first made.

**ANSWER:**

I first contacted Jeff Anderson on February 16, 1996.

17. Please state the date on which you retained your present attorney regarding the claims of the present lawsuit.

**ANSWER:**

February 20, 1996.

18. At any time prior to the date(s) of the incidents involved herein, had you been treated by a doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, counselor or other health care professional or facility? If so:

- a. Identify each doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, counsel, or other health care professional or facility;
- b. The nature of the injury, or other reason for the treatment received by each;
- c. Identify all doctors or other health care professionals or facilities who have treated you for this aggravated condition.

ANSWER:

- a. Rice Street Clinic  
1006 Rice Street  
St. Paul, MN
  - b. Common childhood illnesses, i.e., colds, flu, etc.
  - c. Not applicable.
19. Identify by name, address, and dates of enrollment all schools you have attended, and also:
- a. Identify by name, address and grade all teachers you believe you had in class during each year of school;
  - b. Describe all school records or documents you possess, or attach copies of all such school records or documents.

ANSWER:

Northend Elementary School  
St. Paul, MN

Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. Ms. Motor, Kindergarten
- b. None

St. Bernard's Grade School  
St. Paul, MN

Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. I recall the following teachers, however, I do not recall what grades they taught:

[REDACTED]

b.

St. Bernard's High School  
St. Paul, MN

Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. I recall the following teachers, however, I do not recall what grades they taught:

[REDACTED]

b. [REDACTED]

St. Thomas College  
St. Paul, MN  
Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. I don't recall any of my teachers at this institution.
- b. None

Lakewood Community College  
White Bear Lake, MN  
Dates Attended: 1983 - 1984

- a. I don't recall any of my teachers at this institution.
- b. None

St. Paul Technical Vocational Institute  
St. Paul, MN  
Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. [REDACTED]
- b. [REDACTED]

North Dakota State University  
Fargo, ND  
Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. I don't recall any of my teachers at this institution.
- b. None

Moorhead State University  
Moorhead, MN  
Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

- a. [REDACTED]
- b. [REDACTED]

St. Cloud State University  
St. Cloud, MN  
Dates Attended: [REDACTED]

a.

b.

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire  
Eau Claire, WI  
Dates Attended:

a.


b.

20. List the names, addresses and dates of attendance of all churches, synagogues or places of worship which you have regularly attended, have been a member, or are a member, and:

- a. Identify the head pastor, priest, rabbi, etc. of each such place of religious worship;
- b. The time period in which you were a member or regularly attended such place of worship.

**ANSWER:**

St. Bernard's Church  
St. Paul, MN  
a. Father Romald  
Father Mel  
b. 1971 - 1982

a.   
b. 1996 - present

21. List all activities (i.e., Sunday school, youth group, altar service, Bible study,

religious schooling or training, etc.) in which you have participated at the places identified in Interrogatory No. 19, and identify the church, the date of involvement, the nature of involvement and the church staff member or volunteer who supervised such activity.

**ANSWER:**

Altar boy  
1974 - 1975  
St. Bernard's Church  
Father Mel  
Father Cosmas Dahlheimer

22. Describe in detail all social, religious and educational contact you had with defendant priests:

- a. Prior to any of the alleged incidents or sexual abuse;
- b. During the time period of this alleged sexual abuse; and
- c. After the last act alleged sexual abuse.

**ANSWER:**

With regard to Father Dahlheimer:

- a. Plaintiff served as an altar boy for Father Dahlheimer. Father Dahlheimer also performed mass for Plaintiff and his family as the parish priest. Father Dahlheimer also visited Plaintiff's family in their home on a couple of occasions.
- b. See a. above.
- c. Father Dahlheimer continued to serve as Plaintiff's parish priest and Plaintiff continued to serve as an altar boy.

With regard to Father Gillespie:

- a. Father Gillespie, as one of the parish priests, performed mass for Plaintiff and his family. Plaintiff was also a student in a mini-course on photography which Father Gillespie taught. Plaintiff and Father Gillespie participated in various sports activities together such as bowling, skiing, etc. Plaintiff visited Father Gillespie after Father was transferred to St. Mary's Parish in Stillwater, Minnesota.
- b. Plaintiff was visiting Father Gillespie at St. Mary's in Stillwater, Minnesota.

- c. During his high school years, Plaintiff occasionally participated in sporting events with Father Gillespie such as bowling and playing racquetball. When Plaintiff was in school at St. Cloud, he commuted back and forth from the Twin Cities. Father Gillespie lived near St. Cloud and contacted Plaintiff and told Plaintiff that he could stay with him if he needed a place to stay when the weather was bad. Plaintiff stayed at Father Gillespie's home one night. Father Gillespie performed the marriage ceremony for Plaintiff and his wife. On his way to North Dakota to visit his in-laws, Plaintiff would sometimes stop and visit Father Gillespie at St. Joseph's Parish in St. Joseph, Minnesota.

23. Describe all school or community social clubs, service clubs or athletic organizations in which you participated or were a member from grade school up until the present time.

**ANSWER:**

Basketball (7th grade)  
Track (8th grade)  
Ski Club (9th grade)  
Northwest Racquetball & Fitness (1985 - 1987)

24. Identify each person that you, your agents, representatives, or attorneys have contacted, or have been contacted by, who have provided information about alleged inappropriate sexual contact or behavior by defendant priests, either before the dates of the incidents involved herein, or since. As to each such person, state the substance of the facts or information obtained.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff objects to this Interrogatory insofar as it seeks information protected by the attorney-client privilege. Without waiving said objection:

With regard to Father Dahlheimer:

Plaintiff's attorney and staff have knowledge of:

██████████

Current Address Unknown

██████████ was a victim of sexual misconduct by Father Dahlheimer

See John J. Doe vs. Father Cosmos Dahlheimer, et al - Court File No. CX-94-330, Stearns County

[REDACTED]

Address Unknown

[REDACTED] was a victim of sexual misconduct by Father Dahlheimer  
See John Roe vs. Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, et al, Stearns County

[REDACTED]

Address Unknown

[REDACTED] have knowledge of Father Dahlheimer's inappropriate sexual contact  
with their sons, [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

Address Unknown

[REDACTED] was a victim of sexual misconduct by Father Dahlheimer  
See C.T., C.R. and C.M. vs. Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minnesota, et al - Court File  
No. C4-90-006462

With regard to Father Gillespie:

None at this time. Investigation is continuing.

25. State whether you, your agents, representatives or attorneys have obtained statements from any person or persons concerning alleged inappropriate sexual contact or behavior on the part of defendant priests, or relating to any other issues which are the subject of this litigation. If so, please state:

- a. Identify each person from whom a statement has been obtained;
- b. Identify the person who obtained the statement;
- c. The date of each such statement;
- d. Identify who currently possesses the statement, or a copy thereof

**ANSWER:**

No statements have been obtained in the course of this lawsuit. In other lawsuits against Father Dahlheimer, numerous depositions have been taken. The following depositions were taken in the cases of John J. Doe v. Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, et al., (Court File No. CX-94-330, Stearns County); John Roe v. Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, et al., (Stearns County); and C.T., C.R. and C.M. v. Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minnesota, et al., (Court File No. C4-90-006462):

[REDACTED]



26. Identify all persons that you have reason to believe are sexual abuse victims by defendant priests, including:

- a. The last known name, address, and telephone number of each victim and his guardian;
- b. The approximate dates on which each victim was abused;
- c. The places at which each victim was abused; and
- d. Identify by last known name, address, and telephone number, each witness to such abuse and the nature of the abuse witnessed.

**ANSWER:**

See answer to Interrogatory No. 25 and 36 and depositions referred to in Response to Production of Statements.

27. Identify all persons known to you or your counsel who have either reported sexual abuse or received direct reports of sexual abuse by defendant priests, including:

- a. The name, address, and telephone number of each such person and his/her guardians;
- b. The dates on which each such information was reported or received;
- c. The dates on which the sexual abuse allegedly occurred;
- d. The places in which the sexual abuse allegedly occurred;
- e. The nature of each sexual abuse alleged.

**ANSWER:**

See answer to interrogatory Nos. 25 and 36 and depositions referred to in Response to Production of Statements.

28. List in chronological order all addresses where you have lived during the past 20 years.

**ANSWER:**







29. List in chronological order the name, address, phone number, and dates of employment of each place you have been employed or provided volunteer personal work or services during the past ten years. As to each such employment or service, state the nature of the work or service you provided and the name of your immediate supervisor or superior.

**ANSWER:**





30. List by date, place, and people involved, all incidents of personal or social trouble or difficulty for which you report to school, church or policy authority from the time you were four years old to the present time. This is to include such incidents as shoplifting, reported fights, sexual problems, attempts at self-injury, etc.; and is not limited to the following:

- a. Give the name and address of each person or place of authority where such difficulty or trouble was reported, investigated, treated, or managed; and
- b. Attach copies of all documents in your possession concerning such incidents.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff objects to this interrogatory as overburdensome, vague and ambiguous. Notwithstanding and without waiving this objection, none.

31. Describe the extent or nature of all sexual activity, whether homosexual or heterosexual, and whether initiated by yourself or someone else, you have experienced:
- a. Prior to any social contact with defendant priests;
  - b. After becoming acquainted with defendant priests, but prior to any alleged sexual abuse by defendant priests;
  - c. During, the time period of sexual abuse by defendant priests; and
  - d. After the alleged sexual abuse by defendant priests to present.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff objects to this interrogatory as irrelevant and not likely to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. Notwithstanding and without waiving this objection, Plaintiff responds as follows:

- a. None
  - b. None
  - c. None other than the sexual abuse by defendant priests.
  - d. Plaintiff has had numerous heterosexual experiences since high school to the present time.
32. Set forth in detail an itemized list of all payments related to the injury or disability in question made to the Plaintiff, or on the Plaintiff's behalf by or pursuant to:
- a. A federal, state or local income disability or Workers' Compensation Act; or other public program providing medical expenses, disability payments, or similar benefits;
  - b. Health, accident, and sickness, or automobile accident insurance or liability insurance that provides health benefits or income disability coverage;
  - c. A contract or agreement of a group, organization, partnership, or a corporation to provide, pay for or reimburse the cost of hospital, medical or other health care services; or
  - d. A contractual or voluntary wage continuation plan provided by employer or any other system intended to provide wages during a period of disability except benefits received from a private disability insurance policy where the premiums were wholly paid for by the Plaintiff.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff objects to this Interrogatory on the basis that it is relevant to post-verdict proceedings only.

33. With regard to the payments referred to in your answer to Interrogatory No. 32 above, set forth a list of all such payment for which a subrogation right has been asserted.

**ANSWER:**

See response to No. 32 above.

34. With regard to the payments referred to in your answer to Interrogatory No. 32 above, set forth a specific and detailed list of all amounts that have been paid, contributed, or forfeited by, or on behalf of, the Plaintiff or member of the Plaintiff's immediate family for the two-year period immediately before the date of the incident to secure the right to any such benefits that the Plaintiff is receiving as a result of loss of cause by the occurrence in question.

**ANSWER:**

See response to No. 32 above.

35. Describe in detail, and not in summary fashion, all facts which support your claim that defendant priests were under the direct employment and supervision of the Order of St. Benedict at the time of the alleged sexual misconduct.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff is not aware of any facts responsive to this interrogatory. Plaintiff's counsel, through other cases, has learned that priests of the Order of St. Benedict are trained and educated by the Order, make a promise of obedience to the superior of the Order and all successors at or before the time of ordination, the superior controls all employment positions of Order priests, the superior retains the power to remove, and restrict and discipline all order priests. Also, on information and belief, payment for the services of order priests are made to the order. The order then issues each priest a stipend. Finally, Plaintiff's counsel is aware that in some occasions, the order is given authority by the Archdiocese to operate certain diocesan parishes. At this point in time, it is not known whether the order has such authority at the parishes in question. Discovery and investigation continuing.

36. Describe in detail, and not in summary fashion, all facts which support your claims in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint that Defendant Order had received prior reports of misconduct similar to the misconduct alleged in the Complaint.

**ANSWER:**

With regard to Father Dahlheimer:

In another unrelated, but similar case to the one herein, the Plaintiff, [REDACTED] testified in his deposition that he was abused by Father Dahlheimer in approximately 1971 to 1973 while serving as an altar boy at St. Augustine's Church. [REDACTED] also testified that during that time period he had a conversation with Father Peter, another priest at St. Augustine's, about what was occurring between him and Father Dahlheimer and whether or not that was okay. Investigation and discovery is ongoing as to the extent of information provided to the Archdiocese regarding Father Dahlheimer.

With regard to Father Gillespie:

None known. Discovery is continuing.

37. Identify the witnesses who will testify in support of your answers to Interrogatory Nos. 35 and 36 providing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of these witnesses.

**ANSWER:**

Witnesses have not yet been identified.

38. Describe any documents which support your answers to Interrogatory Nos. 35 and 36 providing a summary of the contents of such documents.

**ANSWER:**

Plaintiff objects to the extent that this interrogatory calls for work product. Notwithstanding and without waiving this objection, none.

[REDACTED]  
John Doe 19A

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  
9th day of August, 1996.

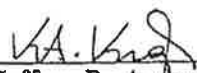
Mary Beth Resemius  
Notary Public

54575



Dated: 8/12/96

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON

  
By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057  
Karen A. Kugler, #220462  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
(612) 227-9990

54575

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

---

John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

vs.

**PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSES TO  
DEFENDANT ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT'S  
REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION  
OF DOCUMENTS**

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

---

TO: Defendant Order of St. Benedict and its attorneys, John M. Stocco, 1870 Piper Jaffray  
Tower, 222 South Ninth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

Plaintiff, for his responses to Defendant Order of St. Benedict's request for production  
of documents, states the following:

1. All photographs, slides, films, moving pictures, videotapes or other visual  
representations which relate to this lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

None at this time. Investigation is continuing.

2. Copies of all drawings, models, charts, or other similar types of illustrative or  
demonstrative items which relate to this lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

None at this time. Investigation is continuing.

3. All items which may be offered as exhibits in the trial of this lawsuit. If inconvenient

MAR 13 1996

to produce an item, a photograph, photocopy, or detailed description of each such item is demanded.

**RESPONSE:**

It has not yet been determined what exhibits will be used at trial. This response will be supplemented pursuant to Rule 26.02 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure.

4. Copies of any and all reports prepared by expert witnesses, whether such expert is to be called as a witness or not in this lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

None at this time. This response will be supplemented pursuant to Rule 26.02 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure.

5. Copies of all medial and/or chiropractic bills you relate to the accident or incident alleged in the Complaint and copies of all other documents which support your claim for medical expenses.

**RESPONSE:**

Itemization of Walter Bera's treatment is attached, Document No. 031.

6. All documents which support any other claim for damages claimed.

**RESPONSE:**

Plaintiff objects to this Request on the basis that it is vague, ambiguous, overbroad, and unduly burdensome. Without waiving said objections, Plaintiff responds as follows: See medical records from Walter Bera attached to Plaintiff's Response to Demand for Medical.

7. All documents identified in your Answers to Interrogatories.

**RESPONSE:**

Attached.

8. All other documents or tangible things which have not been specifically requested in the foregoing requests, but which are in your possession and relate to the subject matter of this litigation or any item of Plaintiff's claims.

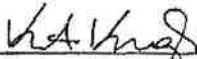


**RESPONSE:**

Plaintiff objects to this Request on the basis that it is vague, ambiguous, overbroad, and unduly burdensome. Without waiving said objections, Plaintiff responds as follows: None at this time.

Dated: 8/12/96

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON

  
By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057  
Karen A. Kugler, #220462  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
(612) 227-9990

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

filed: ~~see~~



v Cosmas  
" Gillespie

Plaintiff,

PLAINTIFF'S ANSWERS TO  
DEFENDANT ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT'S  
REQUEST FOR EMPLOYMENT

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Defendant Order of St. Benedict and its attorneys, John M. Stocco, 1870 Piper Jaffray  
Tower, 222 South Ninth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

Plaintiff, for his responses to Defendant Order of St. Benedict's request for employment,  
states the following:  
a. Copies of all employment records pertinent to Plaintiff's employment with his  
employers for the last ten (10) years; and

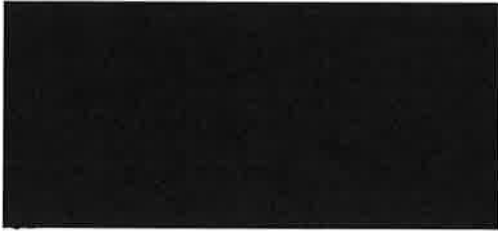
**RESPONSE:**

Plaintiff is not in possession of any employment records at this time.

b. Signed releases to obtain employment records.

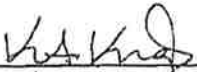
**SPONSE:**

Limited Employment Authorizations for the following employers are attached:  
Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center  
Star Tribune



Dated: 8/12/96

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON

  
By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057  
Karen A. Kugler, #220462  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
(612) 227-9990

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

vs.

**PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSES TO  
DEFENDANT ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT'S  
REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF STATEMENTS**

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Filed: Cosmas ✓ [redacted]  
[redacted] ✓ Gillespie

TO: Defendant Order of St. Benedict and its attorneys, John M. Stocco, 1870 Piper Jaffray  
Tower, 222 South Ninth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

Plaintiff, for his responses to Defendant Order of St. Benedict's request for production  
of statements, states the following:

1. Copies of all statements made by parties, non-parties, witnesses, and expert witnesses  
concerning the above-entitled action or its subject matter.

For the purposes of this request, a statement is:

- a. A written statement signed or otherwise adopted or approved by the person making it, or
- b. A stenographic, mechanical, electrical, or other recording, or a transcription thereof which is a substantially verbatim recital of an oral statement by the person making it, and contemporaneously recorded.

54585

AUG 13 1996

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00403

**RESPONSE:**

No statements have been obtained in the course of this lawsuit. In other lawsuits against Father Dahlheimer, numerous depositions have been taken. The following depositions were taken in the cases of John J. Doe v. Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, et al., (Court File No. CX-94-330, Stearns County); John Roe v. Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, et al., (Stearns County); and C.T., C.R. and C.M. v. Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minnesota, et al., (Court File No. C4-90-006462):

Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, taken 1/23/90 and 7/26/94.



, taken 9/1/94 and 11/3/94.

taken 12/19/94.

taken 11/23/94 and 12/19/94.

taken 11/3/94.

Father Aloysius Michels, taken 12/20/94.

Father John Eidenschink, taken 11/23/94.

Bishop George Speltz, taken 10/24/94.

These documents are available for inspection and copying at the office of Reinhardt and Anderson pursuant to Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure.

Dated: 8/12/96

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'K. A. Kugler'.

By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Karen A. Kugler, #220462

Attorneys for Plaintiff

E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.

332 Minnesota Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

(612) 227-9990

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(612) 338-8623  
Fax (612) 338-7508

JEROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

August 16, 1996

Walter Bera, Ph.D.  
Kenwood Professional Building  
1111 West 22nd Street  
Suite 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55405

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Bera:

I am enclosing St. John's check in the sum of \$190.00 in payment for your services through your statement of 7-12-96.

St. John's Abbey will be concluding its initial commitment for payment of [REDACTED]'s treatment expenses when the total sum of \$1,250 is reached. The enclosed payment brings St. John's total to \$902.50. I expect that the Archdiocese of St. Paul will be taking over through the implementation of its pastoral counseling program. I expect that the attorney for the Archdiocese, Mr. Andy Eisenzimmer, will be in contact with your office and Mr. Anderson's regarding the specifics.

It is believed that this action will not interfere with [REDACTED]'s access to your services or your treatment plan. St. John's Abbey will continue to monitor the progress and remains committed to assuring that required treatment remains available to [REDACTED], regardless of considerations involving legal liability or responsibility.

Walter Bera, Ph.D.  
August 16, 1996  
Page 2

Thank you for your professional courtesies and the assistance you are affording [REDACTED].

Yours very truly,

Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn  
Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey R. Anderson, Esq.  
Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
Fr. Rene McGraw, O.S.B.

LAW OFFICES  
STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER, BROWNSON & BALLOU, P.A.

THE CROSSINGS, SUITE 120  
250 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401-2122  
TELEPHONE (612) 333-6251 • FACSIMILE (612) 333-1940  
E-MAIL: info@sakbb.com

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LOUISE A. BEHRENDT  
JEFFREY A. MAGNUS  
KRISTI K. OTTMAR

\* ALSO ADMITTED TO  
PRACTICE IN WISCONSIN

September 10, 1996

Mr. Daniel A. Haws  
Murnane, Conlin, White & Brandt  
1800 Piper Jaffray Plaza  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

filed Bob Stich  
v Cosmo  
ii Gillespi

Re: *John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, et al*  
Your File: 41702-S  
Our File: 17575STJA

Dear Mr. Haws:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 6, 1996. I am certainly willing to reschedule the deposition of the plaintiff to accommodate you and all parties. Pursuant to your letter, I request that you coordinate the rescheduling of [REDACTED]'s deposition. If you attempt to reach me and get my voice mail, please press "0" and ask the receptionist to connect you with my secretary, Candy, or you can call her directly at 305-4566.

Very truly yours,



Robert T. Stich  
RTS/cji

cc: Jeffrey R. Anderson, Esq.  
Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
Jerome Klukas, Esq.  
Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
Father Rene McGraw



LAW OFFICES  
STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER, BROWNSON & BALLOU, P.A.

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D. SCOTT BALLOU  
SCOTT P. DRAWE\*  
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LOUISE A. BEHRENDT  
JEFFREY A. MAGNUS  
KRISTI K. OTTMAR

\* ALSO ADMITTED TO  
PRACTICE IN WISCONSIN

September 17, 1996

Ms. Karen Kugler  
Attorney at Law  
E-1000 First National Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

file:



v. Cosmas  
v. Gillespie

Stich

Re: John Doe 19 v. Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie  
Our File: 17575

Dear Ms. Kugler:

Enclosed and served upon you by United States Mail is an Amended Notice of Taking  
Deposition of [REDACTED] resetting his deposition from September 27, 1996 to November 14,  
1996 at 9:00 a.m.

Sincerely;

Robert T. Stich

RTS/cjl

cc: Mr. Jerome Klukas  
Mr. Joseph Stocco  
Mr. Daniel A. Haws  
Mr. Andrew Eisenzimmer  
Father Rene McGraw

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Personal Injury  
DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

-----  
John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of  
the Roman Catholic Church,  
a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The  
Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas  
Dahlheimer, and Father Thomas  
Gillespie,

AMENDED  
NOTICE OF TAKING DEPOSITION

Defendants.  
-----

TO: Plaintiff above named and his attorney Karen A. Kugler, E-  
1000 First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, St.  
Paul, MN 55101:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the deposition of [REDACTED]  
will be taken by oral examination by and before a notary public,  
or some other officer qualified to administer oath, at the  
offices of Reinhardt & Anderson, E-1000 First National Bank  
Building, 332 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101, on the 14th  
day of November, 1996, at 9:00 a.m., and thereafter by  
adjournment until the same shall be completed.

Dated this 16 day of September, 1996.

STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER, BROWNSON &  
BALLOU, P.A.

By RS  
Robert T. Stich (105570)  
Attorneys for Defendants Father Thomas  
Gillespie and Father Cosmas Dahlheimer  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 333-6251

cc: Shaddix Court Reporting

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00413

**LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO**

PIPER JAFFRAY TOWER  
222 S. NINTH STREET, SUITE 1870  
MINNBAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402

(612) 336-2520  
(612) 336-2597 FAX

\*\* THOMAS J. CHRISTENSON  
JOSEPH M. STOCCO  
KAREN R. SWANTON  
\* THOMAS L. GARRITY  
KENNETH D. NELSON  
JEFFREY A. MAGNUS

PARALEOAL: KAREN F. WOLD

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA & WISCONSIN

November 7, 1996

Jeffrey R. Anderson, Esq.  
Reinhardt & Anderson  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: John Doe 19A v. Order of St. Benedict  
DOL: 01/01/78  
LFN: 196230042-C  
CFN: 645-3-A1304

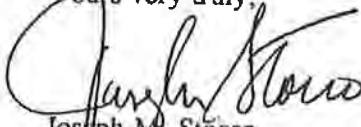
FILE :  w/ Cosmos  
✓ C. Maguire

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Enclosed herewith and served upon you by United States Mail please find Answers to Defendant The Order of St. Benedict to Plaintiff's Interrogatories in the above-referenced matter. We are currently in the process of gathering information responsive to your Request for Production of Documents and will serve these responses shortly.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours very truly,

  
Joseph M. Stocco  
Writer's Direct Line: 336-2523

JMS/jkt  
Enclosure

cc: Dan Johnson, CNA Insurance Companies  
Daniel A. Haws, Esq.  
Robert T. Stich, Esq.

# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

November 27, 1996

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*†    Karen A. Kugler  
Mark Reinhardt\*\*        David W. Merchant\*\*  
Mark A. Wendorf\*        Gary D. Ansel  
Joanne Jirik Mullen       Harvey H. Eckart  
Barbara J. Felt  
Gavin S. Wilkinson  
Jonathan S. Drage  
Eric T. Reehl  
Kristina M Hiveley

Mr. Robert Stich  
Attorney at Law  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

Mr. Jerome Klukas  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Joseph Stocco  
Attorney at Law  
Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 So. Ninth Street, Suite 1870  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Daniel Haws  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Piper Jaffray Tower  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie

Dear Counsel:

You have now had an opportunity to depose [REDACTED] and gain some insight into his claims. Prior to getting further into the litigation process, and conducting additional depositions which we are currently scheduling in addition to motions to compel the medical records of the defendant priests, I thought that perhaps this is a good time to explore the possibility of early resolution.

I think that mediation of this case is appropriate at this time, given the fact that all of the attorneys involved are well aware of the various claims and defenses of the parties. Please let me know if you are interested in mediation. If all parties agree, we will make the necessary arrangements.

Very truly yours,



Karen A. Kugler

KAK:tat

DEC 2 1996

\*Also admitted in Wisconsin

\*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

†Diplomate, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(612) 338-8623  
Fax (612) 338-7508

JEROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

Filed:



v G. Magne  
n Cosme

January 14, 1997

VIA FACSIMILE

Karen A. Kugler, Esq.  
REINHARDT & ANDERSON  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

297-6543

Daniel A. Haws, Esq.  
MURNANE, CONLIN, WHITE & BRANDT  
1800 Piper Jaffray Plaza  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

223-5199

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
Attorney at Law  
Suite 2200  
North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

223-5483

Robert T. Stich, Esq.  
STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER, BROWNSON &  
BALLOU, P.A.  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

333-1940

Re: 

Dear Counsel:

In response to Karen's January 13th fax, St. John's Abbey is agreeable to the mediation arrangements described, with Mark Nolan serving as the mediator.

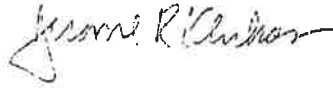
Fr. McGraw has just returned from New York, where he was attending to his mother who is in very critical condition and likely to die at anytime. If Fr. McGraw is unable to attend the mediation, Joe Stocco and I will make other suitable arrangements. I will not be personally involved in the mediation

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00423

January 14, 1997  
Page 2

conference, so you don't have to concern yourselves with contacting me regarding the arrangements.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn

cc: Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
Father Rene McGraw, O.S.B.

# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*†  
Mark Reinhardt\*\*  
Mark A. Wendorf\*  
Joanne Jirik Mullen

Karen A. Kugler  
David W. Merchant\*\*  
Gary D. Ansel  
Harvey H. Eckart  
Barbara J. Felt  
Gavin S. Wilkinson  
Jonathan S. Drage  
Eric T. Reehl  
Kristina M. Hiveley

January 21, 1997

Mr. Robert Stich  
Attorney at Law  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

Mr. Jerome Klukas  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Joseph Stocco  
Attorney at Law  
Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 So. Ninth Street, Suite 1870  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Daniel Haws  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Piper Jaffray Tower  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101


Andrew J. Eisenzimmer  
Attorney at Law  
Suite 2200, North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, The  
Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie

Dear Counsel:

Our demand on behalf of [REDACTED] is [REDACTED]. We look forward to meeting with you  
at the mediation on January 30, 1997.

Very truly yours,

  
Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:tat

JAN 22 1997

admitted in Wisconsin

\*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

†Diplomate, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00428

CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
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1800 RAND TOWER  
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(612) 338-8623  
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JEROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ARLEN R. LOGREN  
SANDRA J. GROVE\*\*\*  
MARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

January 23, 1997

Mark M. Nolan, Esq.  
STAPLETON, NOLAN & McCALL P.A.  
2300 Firststar Center  
101 East Fifth Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Filed



v Casmas  
" Gillespie

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St.  
Benedict, at al.  
Your File No. 16,836  
Our File No. 10123

Dear Mr. Nolan:

I have been personally retained by St. John's Abbey to advise and represent it because of the insurance implications of the litigation. Joe Stocco has been retained by Continental Insurance to defend St. John's and has been the attorney of record throughout this case. Because of a conflict, I will be unable to attend the January 30th mediation. Mr. Stocco is well qualified and capable and is authorized to represent St. John's in the mediation, without any involvement by me.

I expect that Fr. Rene McGraw will be present as the personal representative of the Order of St. Benedict, Inc. (St. John's Abbey).

Regarding division of the mediation costs, I suggest that they be split three ways among the plaintiff, Archdiocese of St. Paul and St. John's Abbey. The claims are focused upon the two entities, both of whom are being defended by their insurers. Insurance coverage for the defendant priests has been refused and they have no assets.



Mark M. Nolan, Esq.  
January 23, 1997  
Page 2

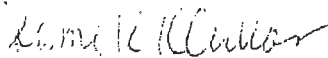
The plaintiff's claims, and shortly thereafter, this lawsuit, were first asserted in early 1996. They involve allegations during the early - mid-1970's at which time Mr. [REDACTED] was about 14 years old. There is no evidence that St. John's had any prior knowledge or that there were any claims or complaints involving either of the defendant priests prior to the alleged acts.

Without having to address the merits or demerits of [REDACTED]'s claims, the Minnesota Supreme Court's decision in Blackowiak v. Kemp, 546 N.W.2d 1 (Minn. 1996) entitles all of the defendants to a dismissal because of the expiration of the statute of limitations. Furthermore, St. John's Abbey is clearly entitled to a dismissal by reason of the Oeschlager v. Magnuson, 528 N.W.2d 895 (Minn.App. 1995) line of cases to the effect that claims of vicarious liability are barred if not brought within six years of the alleged wrongful acts.

In the event issues are raised regarding which entity is responsible for the defendant priests, it is undisputed that they were appointed to their positions and parishes within the Archdiocese of St. Paul by the Bishop and were under his authority and control at the time of the alleged acts. For your ready reference, I am enclosing Doe v. Cunningham, 30 F.3d 879 (7th Cir. 1994) which clearly supports St. John's position in this regard. I am unaware of any decisions to the contrary.

I expect that Joe Stocco will be otherwise and additionally responding to your letter of January 15th requesting the details of the litigation and status. I do ask that you regard this letter as confidential. Thank you for your courtesies and services in bringing these matters to a resolution.

Yours very truly,



Jerôme R. Klukas

JRK:kn  
Enclosure

cc: Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
Fr. Rene McGraw, O.S.B.

# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

17575  
JAN 31 1997

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*\*  
Mark Reinhardt\*\*  
Mark A. Wendorf\*  
Joanne Jirik Mullen  
Karen A. Kugler  
David W. Merchant\*\*  
Gary D. Ansel  
Harvey H. Eckart  
Barbara J. Felt  
Gavin S. Wilkinson  
Jonathan S. Drage  
Eric T. Reehl  
Kristina M Hiveley

VIA FAX AND U.S. MAIL

January 30, 1997

*Filed*

Mr. Robert Stich  
Attorney at Law  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

*Filed*

Mr. Jerome Klukas  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

*Filed*

[Redacted] ✓  
*Gillespie*  
[Redacted] ✓  
*Cosmas*

*Filed*

Mr. Joseph Stocco  
Attorney at Law  
Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 So. Ninth Street, Suite 1870  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Daniel Haws  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Piper Jaffray Tower  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer  
MEIER, KENNEDY & QUINN  
2200 North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie

Dear Counsel:

Enclosed and served on you by facsimile and U.S. mail is Notice of Taking Depositions of Father Thomas Gillespie and Father Cosmas Dahlheimer in regard to the above matter.

Very truly yours,

  
Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:jlr

Enclosure(s)

\*Also admitted in Wisconsin

\*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

†Diplomate, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

NOTICE OF TAKING DEPOSITION

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Defendant Order of St. Benedict and its attorneys, Joseph M. Stocco, 1870 Piper Jaffray Tower, 222 South Ninth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402; Defendant Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and its attorney, Defendant Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and its attorney, Daniel A. Haws, 1800 Piper Jaffray Plaza, 444 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101; and Defendants Dahlheimer and Gillespie and their attorney, Robert Stich, The Crossings, Suite 120, 250 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following depositions, by oral examination, will be taken before a qualified notary public on the dates and times indicated below:

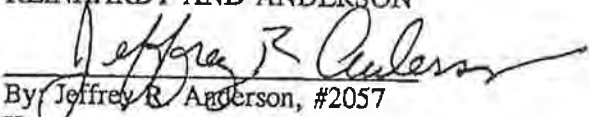
Father Thomas Gillespie	February 24, 1997	9:00 a.m.
Father Cosmas Dahlheimer	February 24, 1997	1:00 p.m.

P

The depositions will be taken at Great Hall, St. John's Abbey, City of Collegeville, Minnesota, State of Minnesota.

Dated: 1/30/96

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON

  
By Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Karen A. Kugler, #220462  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
(612) 227-9990

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00432

1575  
1997

STAPLETON, NOLAN & McCALL P. A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
2900 FIRSTSTAR CENTER  
101 EAST FIFTH STREET  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101

E. MARTIN STAPLETON  
MARK M. NOLAN  
PETER J. McCALL\*\*†  
JAMES T. HYNES  
THERESE H. McCLOUGHAN  
JOHN P. WORRELL

TELEPHONE (612) 227-6661  
FAX (612) 223-8124

*Filed* : *Bob*



*v Cosmo*  
*n Dillogue*

January 31, 1997

Robert Stich, Esq.  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Ave. So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

Jerome Klukas, Esq.  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Ave. So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Joseph Stocco, Esq.  
1870 Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 so. Ninth St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Daniel Haws, Esq.  
1800 Piper Jaffray Tower  
444 Cedar St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Andrew Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
2200 North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Jeff Anderson/Karen Kugler, Esqs.  
E-1000 First Natl. Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict, et al.  
Our File No. 16,836

Dear Counsel:

Enclosed with this letter please find our bill for mediation services.

I regret we were unable to move this case forward. Since I understand this case has not been filed and thus this was not a court-scheduled mediation, I obviously will not be advising the court of its occurrence or outcome. I will leave it to you to advise the court as you see fit.


With regard to the bill, the sum displayed is the total. I did not secure an agreement from the parties as to how the bill is to be split. I'd ask that you discuss that among yourselves and pay the total however you see fit.

\*CERTIFIED AS A SPECIALIST IN CIVIL TRIAL ADVOCACY BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY  
AND THE MINNESOTA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
\*\*REAL PROPERTY LAW SPECIALIST, CERTIFIED BY THE MINNESOTA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
†ALSO MEMBER OF WISCONSIN BAR

Page 2  
January 31, 1997

Yours very truly,

STAPLETON, NOLAN & McCALL P.A.



Mark M. Nolan

MMN/jhd  
Enclosure

1757E  
FEB 19 1997

*File*

# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

February 18, 1997

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*†    Karen A. Kugler  
Mark Reinhardt\*\*        David W. Merchant\*\*  
Mark A. Wendorf\*        Gary D. Ansel  
Joanne Jirik Mullen        Harvey H. Eckart  
Barbara J. Felt  
Gavin S. Wilkinson  
Jonathan S. Drage  
Eric T. Reehl  
Kristina M. Hively

Mr. Robert Stich  
Attorney at Law  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2122

Mr. Jerome Klukas  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Avenue So.  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Joseph Stocco  
Attorney at Law  
Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 So. Ninth Street, Suite 1870  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Daniel Haws  
Attorney at Law  
1800 Piper Jaffray Tower  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

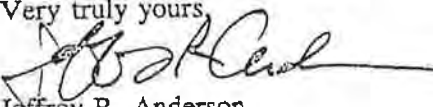
Andrew J. Eisenzimmer  
Attorney at Law  
Suite 2200, North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Filed:  *W. Coome*  
*Gillette*

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, The  
Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie

Dear Counsel:

Enclosed is an Amended Notice of Taking Deposition of Father Thomas Gillespie and Father  
Cosmas Dahlheimer. The depositions previously set for February 24, 1997 are rescheduled  
for Wednesday, April 30, 1997 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville.

Very truly yours,  
  
Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:jlr

Enclosure(s)

\*Also admitted in Wisconsin    \*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.    †Diplomate, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

FEB 19 1997

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

John Doe 19A,

Plaintiff,

vs.

The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman  
Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey,  
The Archdiocese of St. Paul and  
Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer,  
and Father Thomas Gillespie,

Defendants.

AMENDED NOTICE  
OF TAKING DEPOSITION

File #



v. Gillespie  
" Cosmas

Court File No. \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Defendants above-named and their attorneys.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following depositions, by oral examination, will be taken before a qualified notary public on the dates and times indicated below:

Father Thomas Gillespie	April 30, 1997	9:00 a.m.
Father Cosmas Dahlheimer	April 30, 1997	1:00 p.m.

The depositions will be taken at Great Hall, St. John's Abbey, City of Collegeville,

Minnesota, State of Minnesota.

Dated: 2/18/97

REINHARDT AND ANDERSON

By: Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057  
Karen A. Kugler, #220462  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
E-1000 First Natl Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
(612) 227-9990

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY MAIL

Jean L. Raway, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that on February 18, 1997, she served the attached document(s):

Amended Notice of Taking Deposition of Father Thomas Gillespie and Father Cosmas Dahlheimer

upon the following attorneys for defendants by placing a true and correct copy thereof in an envelope addressed as follows:

Daniel A. Haws  
Murnane, Conlin, White & Brandt  
1800 Piper Jaffray Plaza  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

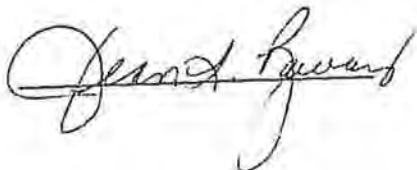
Jerome R. Klukas, Esq.  
Castor, Klukas, Logren & Grove  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Robert Stich  
Stich, Angell, Kreidler, Brownson  
The Crossings, Suite 120  
250 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

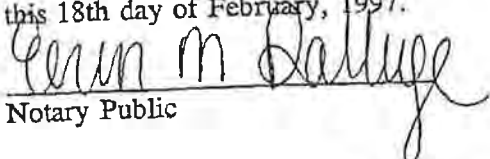
Joseph M. Stocco  
Christenson & Stocco  
1870 Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 South Ninth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer  
MEIER, KENNEDY & QUINN  
2200 North Central Life Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

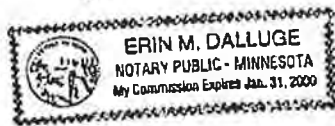
(which is the last known address of said attorneys) and depositing the same, with postage prepaid, in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.



Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 18th day of February, 1997.



Notary Public





LAW OFFICES  
STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER, BROWNSON & BALLOU, P.A.

THE CROSSINGS, SUITE 120  
250 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401-2122  
TELEPHONE (612) 333-6251 • FACSIMILE (612) 333-1940  
E-MAIL: info@sakbb.com

ROBERT T. STICH  
JOHN F. ANGELL  
MICHAEL S. KREIDLER\*  
ROBERT D. BROWNSON  
D. SCOTT BALLOU  
SCOTT B. DRAWE\*  
JAMES D. KNUDSEN\*  
SUSAN M. HANSEN

Writer's E-mail Address:  
Rstich@sakbb.com

Writer's Direct Dial:  
(612) 305-4559

ROBERT H. YAEGER  
THOMAS J. LINNIRAN  
LEO I. BRUSBOIS  
LOUISE A. BEHRENDT  
KRISTI K. OTTMAR

\* ALSO ADMITTED TO  
PRACTICE IN WISCONSIN

April 11, 1997

BY FACSIMILE

Mr. Jeffrey R. Anderson  
Attorneys at Law  
E-1000 First National Bank Bldg.  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: John Doe 19 v. Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie  
Our File: 17575

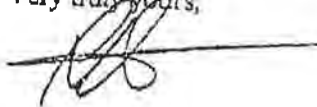
Filed: [Redacted] ✓  
[Redacted] ✓  
Gillespie  
[Redacted] ✓  
Cos mo

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I left a phone message for you which is confirmed by this letter that we have a settlement of this case for [Redacted]. The [Redacted] will be paid by the defendants to your client for a release of all claims. It is understood that the settlement will be subject to the usual confidentiality agreement.

An issue was raised about your client meeting or confronting my client. I will make my client available to accommodate your client in the event that he wishes to pursue this issue.

Very truly yours,



Robert T. Stich  
RTS/cjl

cc: Daniel Haws  
Jerome Klukas  
Joseph Stocco

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO

THOMAS J. CHRISTENSON  
JOSEPH M. STOCCO  
KAREN R. SWANTON  
THOMAS L. GARRITY  
KENNETH D. NELSON  
JEFFREY A. MAGNUS  
MARTHA K. SIEBER

1870 PIPER JAFFRAY TOWER  
222 SOUTH NINTH STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402  
(612) 336-2520  
(612) 336-2597 FAX

PARALEGALS  
KAREN F. WOLD  
MELISSA S. BLOOMER

May 30, 1997

Jeffrey R. Anderson, Esq.  
Reinhardt & Anderson  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Filed: Jerry



v. Cosme  
v. Gillespie

Re: John Doe 19A v. Order of St. Benedict  
DOL: 01/01/78  
LFN: 196230042-C  
CFN: 645-A1304 A16

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Enclosed is the Release and Confidential Settlement Agreement and a settlement draft in the sum of [REDACTED] made payable to you and your client on behalf of defendants The Order of St. Benedict and Fathers Cosmos Dahlheimer and Thomas Gillespie. The Archdiocese will forward to you their share of the settlement under separate cover. My apology for the delay in getting this draft and Release and Confidential Settlement Agreement to you.

Our settlement draft is sent to you with the understanding that the draft will not be negotiated until such time as the Release and Confidential Settlement Agreement has been signed and returned to our office.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph M. Stocco".

Joseph M. Stocco  
Writer's Direct Line: 612-336-2523

JMS/jkt  
Enclosures

cc: Dan Johnson, CNA Insurance Companies  
Daniel A. Haws, Esq.  
Robert T. Stich, Esq.  
Jerome R. Klukas, Esq.

RELEASE AND CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

FOR THE SOLE CONSIDERATION of [REDACTED] and no/100ths Dollars (\$ [REDACTED]), the receipt and sufficiency of which I hereby acknowledge, I fully and forever release and discharge The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, Father Thomas Gillespie, and their agents, employees, heirs, administrators, executors, successors, insurers, and assigns, and all other persons and organizations who are or might be liable, from all claims for all damages which I claim as a result of incidents which are or could be the subject of the lawsuit brought against the above parties commenced and filed on my behalf under the name and designation of [REDACTED], plaintiff, and as is further described in the discovery and pleadings in the case venued in Ramsey County, State of Minnesota.

I.

By executing this Release, I agree that:

1. "Claims" includes demands, actions, and rights of action also includes all claims which I now or hereafter may have arising out of, in consequence of, or on account of said incidents.
2. "Damages" includes past, present and future damages for personal injury; bodily injury; sickness; disease; pain; suffering and emotional or psychological injury and damage; death resulting from such injury, sickness, disease, or damage; damage for care and loss of services arising from such injury, sickness, damages, or disease; and all other damages of whatever kind or nature.
3. "Attorneys" include their staff, employees, investigators and agents.
4. "I" includes both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], his wife.

II.

I expressly intend and agree that this Release applies to all of my claims arising from said incidents, including, but not limited to, claims or entitlements to payment of pastoral counseling and treatment expenses, claims for known, unknown, latent, developed and undeveloped injuries; anticipated and unanticipated consequences, and known and unknown developments of any of such injuries; and claims as respects the nature, extent and permanency of any of such injuries.

III.

I expressly agree to satisfy any liens, now claimed or which could be claimed relative to this matter, from the above noted proceeds of settlement and to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the released parties from any such claims.

IV.

In executing this Release, I am relying on my own judgment, belief, and knowledge as to all phases of my claims, and I am not relying on representations or statements made by any of the parties herein released or anyone representing them.

V.

I acknowledge that said sum is paid in compromise and settlement of disputed claims, that payment thereof shall not be construed as admission of any liability whatsoever by any of the parties herein released by whom liability is expressly denied.

VI.

The parties agree that the fact of this settlement and the existence of the Release Agreement and its terms and conditions are to be held in strict confidence. I and my attorneys agree not to disclose to any person the fact that a settlement has been made, the existence of this agreement, and/or its terms and conditions, beyond stating that "the matter has been resolved" in the event an inquiry is made of me/them, except as may become necessary to my attorneys, accountants, tax consultants, state and federal tax authorities or as may be required by law; and the parties released herein and their respective attorneys, also agree not to disclose the fact that a settlement has been made, and/or the existence of this agreement, and/or its terms and conditions, beyond stating that "the matter has been resolved" in the event an inquiry is made of me/them, except as may become necessary to their accountants, auditors, state and federal tax authorities, their managers, officers and board of directors, or board of trustees, insurers, attorney or as may be required by law.

VII.

Understanding that I and the other parties to this Agreement each have rights to peace and privacy which should not be disturbed or affected by one another, I, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], further agree and promise that I will not personally solicit, advertise, or otherwise engage in any activities seeking to identify, locate and contact any other person who may have similar

claims against any of the parties released herein for the purpose of assisting and encouraging the bringing of similar claims.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ 1997

\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ 1997

\_\_\_\_\_

As to the form of the Agreement and as to its confidentiality provisions:


Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ 1997

REINHARDT & ANDERSON

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(612) 227-9990

Dated: May 30, 1997

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO

By:   
Joseph M. Stocco, #105727  
Attorneys for Defendant The Order of St. Benedict  
of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's  
Abbey  
1870 Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 South Ninth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
(612) 336-2523

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ 1997

MURNANE, CONLIN, WHITE & BRANDT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel A. Haws, #  
Attorneys for Defendant The Archdiocese of St.  
Paul and Minneapolis  
1800 Piper Jaffray Plaza  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(612) 227-9411

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 1997

STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER,  
BROWNSON & BALLOU

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert T. Stich, #105570  
Attorneys for Defendants Father Cosmos  
Dahlheimer and Father Thomas Gillespie  
250 Second Avenue South  
Suite 120, The Crossings  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 333-6251

**CASTOR, KLUKAS, LOGREN & GROVE  
CHARTERED**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1800 RAND TOWER  
527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(612) 338-8623  
Fax (612) 338-7508

ROME R. KLUKAS\*\*\*  
ILEN R. LOGREN  
NDRA J. GROVE\*\*  
ARK J. PADGETT

OF COUNSEL:  
JOHN E. CASTOR\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN  
\*\*ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA  
\*\*\*CIVIL TRIAL SPECIALIST, certified by  
the Minnesota State Bar Association

June 6, 1996

Mr. Jeffrey R. Anderson  
REINHARDT & ANDERSON  
E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Filed: Jerry  
Bera  
Anderson

Re: 

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Pursuant to its pastoral policy and in response to your letter request of May 29th, on June 5th St. John's Abbey paid Dr. Bera's \$380 statement in full.

The treatment notes and information previously requested remain necessary in order to provide and continue providing these benefits and to inform the insurers.

Yours very truly,



Jerome R. Klukas

JRK:kn

cc: ✓ Father Rene McGraw, O.S.B.  
Joseph M. Stocco, Esq.  
Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
William S. Fallon, Esq.

# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*†    Karen A. Kugler  
Mark Reinhardt\*\*        Teresa K. Patton††  
Mark A. Wendorf\*        David W. Merchant\*\*  
Joanne Jirik Mullen       Gary D. Ansel  
                                  Harvey H. Eckart  
                                  Barbara J. Felt  
                                  Gavin S. Wilkinson  
                                  Jonathan S. Drage  
                                  Eric T. Reehl  
                                  Mary L. Helbach

June 18, 1996

Jerome R. Klukas  
Castor, Klukas, Scherer & Logren  
527 Marquette Avenue, Suite 1800  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Re: Michael Fisher

Dear Mr. Klukas:

Enclosed is are two bills from Walter H. Bera relating to therapy provided to [REDACTED] on May 20, 1996 and June 3, 1996 in the total amount of \$190.00.

Please note that we have requested a copy of all of [REDACTED]'s therapy records to date and will forward a copy to you immediately upon receipt. In the meantime, I appreciate your offer to provide therapeutic assistance to my client and ask that you please remit payment directly to the Dr. Bera and forward evidence of payment to our office.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

  
Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:jlr

Enclosure(s)

cc: Walter H. Bera, L.P.

Filed: Jerry  
Anderson  
Bera

\*Also admitted in Wisconsin

†Diplomate, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

\*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

††Also admitted in California and Colorado

JUN 19 1996<sup>1</sup>



# REINHARDT & ANDERSON

Attorneys at Law

E-1000 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101  
Office: 612/227-9990 Fax: 612/297-6543

Jeffrey R. Anderson\*†    Karen A. Kugler  
Mark Reinhardt\*\*        Teresa K. Patton††  
Mark A. Wendorf\*        David W. Merchant\*\*  
Joanne Jirik Mullen      Gary D. Ansel  
                                  Harvey H. Eckart  
                                  Barbara J. Felt  
                                  Gavin S. Wilkinson  
                                  Jonathan S. Drage  
                                  Eric T. Reehl  
                                  Mary L. Helbach

June 24, 1996

Jerome R. Klukas, Esq.  
Castor, Klukas, Logren & Grove  
1800 Rand Tower  
527 Marquette Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

filed: Jerry  
: Anderson  
: Bera  
: Cosmea ✓  
: [redacted] ✓ Gillespie

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Dahlheimer and Father Gillespie

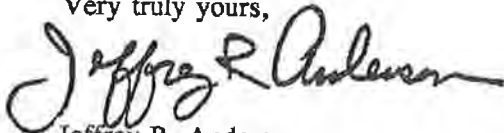
Dear Mr. Klukas:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated April 16, 1996 from Walter H. Bera which sets forth [redacted]'s necessity for therapy, how long he will likely need therapy, and the anticipated frequency of the sessions. Also enclosed is a fee schedule.

We anticipate receipt of [redacted]'s therapy records in the near future and will provide a copy to you at that time.

If anything additional is needed to grant complete authorization for payment of therapy expense, please let us know immediately.

Very truly yours,

  
Jeffrey R. Anderson

JRA:jlr

Enclosure(s)

\*Also admitted in Wisconsin

† Diplomat, National Board of Civil Trial Advocacy

\*\*Also admitted in Washington, D.C.

††Also admitted in California and Colorado

**RELEASE AND CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

FOR THE SOLE CONSIDERATION of [REDACTED] and no/100ths Dollars (\$ [REDACTED]), the receipt and sufficiency of which I hereby acknowledge, I fully and forever release and discharge The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father Cosmas Dahlheimer, Father Thomas Gillespie, and their agents, employees, heirs, administrators, executors, successors, insurers, and assigns, and all other persons and organizations who are or might be liable, from all claims for all damages which I claim as a result of incidents which are or could be the subject of the lawsuit brought against the above parties commenced and filed on my behalf under the name and designation of [REDACTED], plaintiff, and as is further described in the discovery and pleadings in the case venued in Ramsey County, State of Minnesota.

I.

By executing this Release, I agree that:

- 1. "Claims" includes demands, actions, and rights of action also includes all claims which I now or hereafter may have arising out of, in consequence of, or on account of said incidents.
- 2. "Damages" includes past, present and future damages for personal injury; bodily injury; sickness; disease; pain; suffering and emotional or psychological injury and damage; death resulting from such injury, sickness, disease, or damage; damage for care and loss of services arising from such injury, sickness, damages, or disease; and all other damages of whatever kind or nature.
- 3. "Attorneys" include their staff, employees, investigators and agents.
- 4. "I" includes both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], his wife.

II.

I expressly intend and agree that this Release applies to all of my claims arising from said incidents, including, but not limited to, claims or entitlements to payment of pastoral counseling and treatment expenses, claims for known, unknown, latent, developed and undeveloped injuries; anticipated and unanticipated consequences, and known and unknown developments of any of such injuries; and claims as respects the nature, extent and permanency of any of such injuries.

III.

I expressly agree to satisfy any liens, now claimed or which could be claimed relative to this matter, from the above noted proceeds of settlement and to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the released parties from any such claims.

IV.

In executing this Release, I am relying on my own judgment, belief, and knowledge as to all phases of my claims, and I am not relying on representations or statements made by any of the parties herein released or anyone representing them.

V.

I acknowledge that said sum is paid in compromise and settlement of disputed claims, that payment thereof shall not be construed as admission of any liability whatsoever by any of the parties herein released by whom liability is expressly denied.

VI.

The parties agree that the fact of this settlement and the existence of the Release Agreement and its terms and conditions are to be held in strict confidence. I and my attorneys agree not to disclose to any person the fact that a settlement has been made, the existence of this agreement, and/or its terms and conditions, beyond stating that "the matter has been resolved" in the event an inquiry is made of me/them, except as may become necessary to my attorneys, accountants, tax consultants, state and federal tax authorities or as may be required by law; and the parties released herein and their respective attorneys, also agree not to disclose the fact that a settlement has been made, and/or the existence of this agreement, and/or its terms and conditions, beyond stating that "the matter has been resolved" in the event an inquiry is made of me/them, except as may become necessary to their accountants, auditors, state and federal tax authorities, their managers, officers and board of directors, or board of trustees, insurers, attorney or as may be required by law.

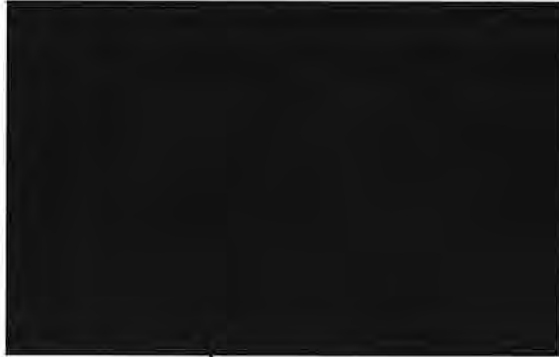
VII.

Understanding that I and the other parties to this Agreement each have rights to peace and privacy which should not be disturbed or affected by one another, I, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], further agree and promise that I will not personally solicit, advertise, or otherwise engage in any activities seeking to identify, locate and contact any other person who may have similar

claims against any of the parties released herein for the purpose of assisting and encouraging the bringing of similar claims.

Dated: 6/13/97 1997

Dated: 6/13/97 1997



As to the form of the Agreement and as to its confidentiality provisions:

Dated: 6/13/97 1997

REINHARDT & ANDERSON

By:

Jeffrey R. Anderson, #2057

Attorneys for Plaintiff

E-1000 First National Bank Building


332 Minnesota Street

St. Paul, MN 55101

(612) 227-9990


Dated: May 30, 1997

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSON & STOCCO

By:   
Joseph M. Stocco, #105727  
Attorneys for Defendant The Order of St. Benedict  
of the Roman Catholic Church, a/k/a St. John's  
Abbey  
1870 Piper Jaffray Tower  
222 South Ninth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
(612) 336-2523

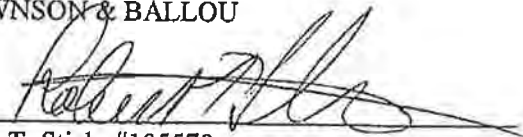
Dated: 6/21, 1997

MURNANE, CONLIN, WHITE & BRANDT

By:   
Daniel A. Haws, #  
Attorneys for Defendant The Archdiocese of St.  
Paul and Minneapolis  
1800 Piper Jaffray Plaza  
444 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(612) 227-9411

Dated: 6-19, 1997

STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER,  
BROWNSON & BALLOU

By:   
Robert T. Stich, #105570  
Attorneys for Defendants Father Cosmos  
Dahlheimer and Father Thomas Gillespie  
250 Second Avenue South  
Suite 120, The Crossings  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 333-6251

MURNANE

CONLIN

WHITE  
&  
BRANDT

Professional Association

## ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Thomas M. Conlin \*  
 Robert W. Murnane  
 Robert T. White  
 John E. Brandt \*  
 John D. Hirte  
 Steven J. Kirsch  
 Andrew T. Shern  
 Michael S. Ryan \*  
 James F. Baldwin  
 C. Todd Koebele  
 Michael P. Tierney  
 Daniel A. Haws \*\*  
 William L. Moran  
 Thomas A. Gilligan, Jr.  
 Thomas J. Norby  
 Kammy M. K. Mubowald \*\*  
 Peter B. Tiede  
 Jane M. Hill  
 Mark D. Govin  
 Paul C. Wright

\* Also admitted in  
 Wisconsin

\*\* Also admitted in  
 North Dakota

E. Willard Murnane  
 (1907-1976)  
 Charles R. Murnane  
 (1913-1982)

Murnane.com

June 26, 1997

JEFFREY R. ANDERSON ESQ  
 REINHARDT AND ANDERSON  
 E-1000 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
 332 MINNESOTA STREET  
 ST PAUL MN 55101

JOSEPH M. STOCCO ESQ  
 CHRISTENSON & STOCCO  
 1870 PIPER JAFFRAY TOWER  
 222 SOUTH NINTH STREET  
 MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402

JEROME KLUKAS ESQ  
 1800 RAND TOWER  
 527 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH  
 MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402

ROBERT STICH ESQ  
 STICH ANGELL KREIDLER BROWNSON  
 THE CROSSINGS SUITE 120  
 250 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH  
 MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401

Re: John Doe 19A v. The Order of St. Benedict of the Roman Catholic Church,  
 a/k/a St. John's Abbey, The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Father  
 Cosmas Dahlheimer, and Father Thomas Gillespie  
 Our File No. 41702-S

Dear Counsel:

Enclosed please find copies of the fully-executed Release and Confidential Settlement Agreement. I have returned the original executed Release and Confidential Settlement Agreement to Mr. Stich so that he can distribute that to whomever he believes should receive it.

I would like to thank all of you for your cooperation and professionalism in resolving this matter amicably for all of the parties.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Haws

DAH:veb  
Enclosure

cc: Andrew J. Eisenzimmer, Esq.  
 (w/enclosure)

(800) 392-3333 • 612-227-8411 • Fax: 612-227-5144

# Lawyer: Archdiocese not billing

■ **Notices of costs are routinely sent to victims, he says**

CLARK MORPHEW STAFF WRITER

An attorney representing the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis says his law firm has no intention of seeking repayment of costs for the appeal of a sexual abuse case brought by a Prior Lake man.

Attorney Andrew Eisenzimmer of the St. Paul firm Meier, Kennedy and Quinn said his office did not notify the victim's attorney, Jeffrey Anderson, that there were more than \$6,000 in costs in the case of Dale Scheffler, who was 14 when he was sexually abused by the Rev. Robert Kapoun, known as "the Polka Padre."

But Eisenzimmer says the archdiocese and the priest are not asking Scheffler to pay the legal expenses.

"My assumption is that no attempt would be made to collect the costs," Eisenzimmer said. "We have never made any attempt to collect the costs in any of the cases I've handled for the archdiocese. If we were to attempt to collect, we would first consult the client (the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.)"

But Anderson, who represents Scheffler and has represented others in sexual-abuse cases brought against the archdiocese, says the letter detailing the costs was an

attempt to intimidate sexual abuse victims.

"It is a conscious decision by a client and his lawyer to commit an act," Anderson said. "You don't bring a motion by accident. You don't tax costs by accident. It is one more attempt by the archdiocese and Father Kapoun to victimize Dale Scheffler. When I see that being done, I just say, 'Shame on them again.'"

Tim Anderson, director of communication for the archdiocese, said Tuesday the claim was filed by Gallagher/Bassett Insurance Services, a Chicago firm that administered the archdiocese's insurance program in the 1980s. The archdiocese is now covered by Catholic Mutual Insurance Co.

Last year, Scheffler, 29, successfully sued Kapoun and was awarded damages of more than \$1 million. Two weeks ago, however, the Minnesota State Court of Appeals overturned the ruling, saying Scheffler had waited too long to file the case.

In the wake of a minor protest at the Cathedral of St. Paul on Sunday, the archdiocese said no local official had any knowledge of the letter.

"If Archbishop Flynn would have known the letter from the insurance company was going out, he never would have approved it," Tim Anderson said. "The insurance company did not ask Archbishop Flynn for approval to send the letter to Jeffrey Anderson."

"We're talking about \$5,000, and

we've provided much more than that for therapy for Dale Scheffler," Tim Anderson said. "We're willing to continue that therapy even though the appeal failed. It's very upsetting to me and I'm sure, it's upsetting to Archbishop Flynn. It's a very unfortunate situation."

Eisenzimmer, the archdiocese's attorney, confirmed that Flynn knew nothing of the letter and said it was a routine practice for a law firm to tax the costs of litigation.

According to Minnesota law, the prevailing party in a civil suit can ask the court to make the plaintiff pay for out-of-pocket costs associated with the litigation. But Tim Anderson said Catholic officials have no interest in the money.

"We're not interested in collecting that money," Tim Anderson said. "And the insurance company has said they are not going to collect the money. It's just a routine action when a case may go to a higher court."

Earlier this week, SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, issued a news release severely criticizing Flynn for vindictive behavior against a known victim of sexual abuse.

"This type of harassment will scare others who are suffering, and prevent them from coming forward and getting the help they need," said David Clohessy of St. Louis, national director of SNAP. "It's a newer, more vicious way for the church to keep abuse victims trapped in silence, secrecy, and shame."

NAJ. BRIEFIN

1. [REDACTED]

Age: 49

Marital Status: Never Married  
Children: NONE

Occupation: Unemployed

Perp: Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer and Fr. Richard Ekroth

Period of Abuse: Approx. 1967 – 1969 and 1971

Location of Abuse: Sanctuary at St. Augustine's and a Camp on Lake Bemidji

**Summary:**

In approximately 1967-1968 Fr. Dahlheimer sexually abused Mike while he was an altar boy at the Sanctuary at St. Augustine's in the bathroom. Fr. Ekroth sexually abused Mike in 1971 while he was on a camping trip at a Camp on Lake Bemidji.

2. **ABUSE:**

[REDACTED] and his family were extremely involved in the church while he was a young boy [REDACTED] was an altar boy and worked with Fr. Dahlheimer. Fr. Dahlheimer would, under the guise of helping [REDACTED], take him to the bathroom. While in the bathroom Fr. Dahlheimer would touch [REDACTED]'s penis and masturbate himself in front of [REDACTED]. This happened on several occasions over several years.

[REDACTED] attended a camp with 2 friends, [REDACTED] who were also altar boys with him at St. Augustine's. This camp is believed to be church sponsored and the camp was on Lake Bemidji. [REDACTED] went camping for a week and during this week long camping trip, Fr. Ekroth came in several nights and would crawl into bed with [REDACTED] and lay on top of him and masturbate himself.

3. **INJURY/DAMAGES:**

[REDACTED] suffers from depression and anxiety, however is not taking any medication because it makes him feel numb. He has lost his religion and his family has suffered because of that. [REDACTED] struggles with the memories of the sexual abuse as he is a very detailed individual and struggles with the details of the abuse which caused internal conflicts as he tries to figure it all out during therapy.

4. **NOTEWORTHY:**

[REDACTED] is attending therapy at the Kenwood Therapy Center and St. John's is currently paying for this therapy and has been for this past year when [REDACTED] lost his health insurance due to being unemployed.



4117



DATE 3/10/11

75-28-910

Pay to the order of Jeff Anderson & Associates Trust Account

\$ [REDACTED]

**Bremer Bank**  
1100 West St. Garmain Street  
St. Cloud, MN 56301 • 320-251-3300  
1-800-908-BANK • Bremer.com

Settlement of [REDACTED] claim

*[Signature]*

⑈004117⑈ ⑆091900287⑆ 0918⑈3982⑈

FULL AND FINAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the payment of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and No/100 Dollars (\$ [REDACTED]), the receipt and sufficiency of  
which is hereby acknowledged, [REDACTED] (hereafter "Releasor"), has released  
and discharged, and by these presents does for himself and for his heirs, personal  
representatives, successors and assigns, release, acquit and forever discharge  
Father Cosmos Dahlheimer and Father Richard Ekroth, and the Order of Saint  
Benedict, and any other School owned and/or operated by Order of St. Benedict  
and/or St. John's University and The Diocese of St. Cloud or any School or  
facility where Father Cosmos Dahlheimer and Father Richard Ekroth, worked  
together with any and all present and former Order of St. Benedict and/or St.  
John's University and The Diocese of St. Cloud priests and religious women in or  
associated with the Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University and The  
Diocese of St. Cloud, and all other priests and nuns, Brothers, and each and every  
one of the aforementioned parties' former and current Agents, Administrators,  
Members, Predecessors, Servants, Heirs, Executors, Faculty Members,  
Volunteers, Staff Members, Priests, Teachers, Schools, School Principals, School  
Administrators, Directors, Officers, Employees, Agents, Representatives,  
Successors and Assigns associated with any of them, and any insurers, re-  
insurers, risk pooling trusts, and selfinsurers, and all other persons, firms and  
corporations against whom any liability, direct or indirect, might be asserted,

(hereafter individually and collectively "Releasees"), of and from all known and unknown actions, causes of action, claims for relief, claims, demands, rights, damages, costs, expenses, compensation, loss of services, loss of income, loss of consortium, loss of enjoyment of life, emotional distress, mental anguish, medical expenses, funeral expenses, rights of contribution, rights of indemnity, rights of subrogation, rights of reimbursement and all consequential and incidental damage on account of, or in any way growing out of, all known and unknown injuries, including death and property damage, and all other damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive or whether property or personal, together with all known and unknown consequences from all such injuries, death and damages resulting, or to result, from any act, omission, matter or thing occurring prior to the date of this Release, including, but not limited to any claim of whatsoever kind arising from or relating to or resulting from any and all alleged sexual molestation, sexual abuse, battery, assault, verbal abuse, physical abuse, and intimidation, inflicted upon [REDACTED], by Father Cosmos Dahlheimer and Father Richard Ekroth, or any other former or current teacher, staff member, faculty member, religious member, volunteer, or employee including but not limited to sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, sexual molestation, battery, physical abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, intimidation, negligence, negligent hiring, negligent supervision, negligent retention, negligent entrustment, negligent failing to warn, breach of fiduciary duty, conspiracy, fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress, negligent

infliction of emotional distress.

THIS RELEASE INCLUDES ALL PRESENT AND FUTURE CLAIMS OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN AT THE PRESENT TIME, WHETHER TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT, WHETHER EXPECTED OR UNEXPECTED, WHETHER ECONOMIC OR NON-ECONOMIC, WHETHER COMPENSATORY OR PUNITIVE AND WHETHER PRESENTLY OR LATER DISCOVERED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ALL INJURIES, INCLUDING DEATH, AND DAMAGES OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER PROPERTY OR PERSONAL, RESULTING, OR TO RESULT, FROM THE MATTERS REFERENCED ABOVE.

Releasor expressly represents, warrants and agrees as follows:

1. Releasor has relied wholly upon Releasor's own judgment, belief and knowledge of the nature, extent and duration of any injury, loss or damage resulting or to result from the matters referenced above, and Releasor's own evaluation of all claims of whatsoever kind which were or could have been asserted as a result of any of those matters; and Releasor was not influenced to any extent whatever in making this Release by any representations or statements regarding those or any other matters, which may have been made by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.
2. Releasor elects to and does assume all risks for injury, including death, loss or damage claims of whatsoever kind, whether known or unknown at the

present time, whether expected or unexpected, whether temporary or permanent, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive, whether presently or later discovered, and whether as a consequence of or incidental to some known or unknown injury, including death, loss or damage, and includes within the scope of this Release all such claims of whatsoever kind against Releasee. Releasor hereby expressly waives all rights Releasor may have and further agrees that Releasor's acceptance of the consideration for this Release satisfies all rights and claims of whatsoever kind Releasor now has or may have had or may in the future have arising out of any of the matters referenced above.

3. Releasor will indemnify, hold harmless and defend at Releasor's own expense, Releasees from all past, present and future liens and claims of any person or entity, including, but not limited to, any insurer, attorney, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, medical care provider, mortuary or other person or entity who may assert a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind howsoever designated in any amounts paid or to be paid in settlement of or compensation for any injury, death, loss or damage, whether economic or noneconomic, whether compensatory or punitive and/or whether personal or property, including, but not limited to, medical care, legal representation, public assistance, maintenance, rehabilitation, medical assistance, general welfare, lost income, insurance and/or

property damage resulting or to result from any of the matters referenced above.

4. The consideration aforesaid is intended to cover all past, present and future medical, legal and other expenses, and Releasor is signing this Release for and on behalf of all insurers, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, attorneys and government agencies who now have or may have had or may in the future have a claim for subrogation, indemnity, reimbursement or other interest in any of the proceeds from the settlement however that interest may be designated.

5. Releasor understands that none of the Releasees know the full extent of any obligations Releasor may have to pay, reimburse or re-pay any insurers, attorneys, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and/or others; and, therefore, Releasor will first deposit any settlement checks into Releasor's attorney's trust account so that the consideration for this Release may be disbursed by Releasor's attorney in the proper amounts to the appropriate persons as their interests may appear or exist.

6. Releasor will satisfy any judgment rendered against anyone or more of the Releasees as a result of any past, present or future lien and/or claim asserting a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind whatsoever in any of the proceeds from the settlement or as a consequence of any matter referenced above. No further amount will be paid by

Releasees or by anyone on Releasees' behalf at any time for any such purpose.

7. The consideration referenced above is intended to be full compensation for all known and unknown injuries, death, losses and damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive and whether personal or property, sustained or to be sustained as a result of the matters referenced above; and Releasor has waived and assumed the risk of any and all claims of whatsoever kind which presently or in the future may exist, but of which Releasor does not know or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence or otherwise and which, if known, would materially affect Releasor's decision to sign this Release.

8. The terms specified in this Release are accepted as a complete compromise of matters involving disputed issues of law and fact; and Releasor has assumed the risk that the facts or law may be other than what Releasor may believe.

9. Releasor will not enforce any judgment against any or all of the Releasees in the event any Releasee is assigned any liability in any lawsuit or other proceeding involving any matter referenced above.

10. Releasor has not, directly or indirectly, assigned, encumbered or otherwise transferred any interest in any action, suit, debt, claim, cause of action, sum of money, agreement, damage, or demand intended to be released and discharged by this Release; and no other person or entity has any interest of any kind in any of the released claims.

11. This Release shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota and any action to enforce the terms of this Release shall be commenced in the District Court for the State of Minnesota, Seventh Judicial District, Stearns County.

12. Releasor and his attorney agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend Releasees, their counsel and insurer from any and all claims by any and all government agencies/entities, State or Federal, for conditional payments, liens, subrogation or indemnification interests of any kind or nature arising out of an incident that occurred in approximately 1967 through 1969 and in 1971 in the Sanctuary at St. Augustine's and at a camp on Lake Bemidji.

13. In any action brought to enforce or interpret the terms of this Release (including the defense of any action brought by any entity described in paragraph 5 above in pursuit of their right of reimbursement from the Releasor), the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover all costs and expenses incurred in such action, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

14. This Release represents a compromise and settlement of a disputed claim. Any payment referenced above is not to be construed as an admission of liability on any Releasee's part. All Releasees expressly deny any liability to the Releasor.

15. Releasor has had the benefit of the advice of counsel of Releasor's own choice in the negotiation and execution of this Release. This Release shall be construed liberally to carry out its objectives and shall not be construed against



any party.

16. No promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made to Releasor by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.

17. Minnesota law shall govern the interpretation of this Release.

18. Releasee, The Order of Saint Benedict, agrees to perform the following non-monetary actions:

A. Website. The Order of Saint Benedict will more prominently display sexual abuse information and the website will be structured to provide a place to post a mutually agreeable letter describing this settlement and survivors' stories.

B. Safety Violations. The Order of Saint Benedict will continue to bring safety violations with minors to the attention of the External Review Board for their review.

C. Confidentiality agreements. The Order of Saint Benedict herewith abrogates any confidentiality agreements that might exist in settlements it has entered in to subject to the right of the other settling party(ies) to maintain that confidentiality agreement if he, she or they desire to do so and agrees to pose this on the Abbey's website.

D. Abbey Policy on Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Questionnaire. The Order of Saint Benedict will institute a policy of requiring all members of the Abbey working on outside assignments or with minors or in an Abbey leadership position to sign an Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Abbey Policy on Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation and a Background Questionnaire Concerning Sexual Abuse.

E. Public statement of misconduct. If allegations against a monk who is or has served in a parish are found to be credible, a prepared statement will be read at all the Sunday masses if approved by the Diocese in which the parish is located. If the allegation involves an incident that took place in a parish, a parish meeting for the parishioners will be held if approved by

the Diocese in which the parish is located. The meeting should be limited to parishioners. Along with the pastor who chairs the meeting, the Abbot, a representative of the diocese, and the sexual abuse victim's advocate should be present.

19. This Release contains the ENTIRE AGREEMENT and the terms of this Release are contractual and not a mere recital.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MINNESOTA     )

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, before me personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ known to me to be the person who is described herein and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that s/he executed the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

722681

1.

Age: [REDACTED] 1962

Marital Status: Single

Children: NONE

Occupation: Maintenance

Perp: Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer

Period of Abuse: Approximately 1970 - 1972

Location of Abuse: St. Bernard's Church and school in St. Paul

Summary: [REDACTED] was abused by Fr. Dahlheimer on several occasions while performing altar boy duties in the rectory.

2. ABUSE:

[REDACTED] was an altar boy at St. Bernard's church in St. Paul. Fr. Dahlheimer was one of the priests at St. Bernard's Church. Fr. Dahlheimer would tell [REDACTED] how he was one of his favorites. On one occasion, after serving at a wedding, Fr. Dahlheimer came up to [REDACTED] and put his hands on [REDACTED]'s face and he kissed him on the mouth and told him that he loved him. Fr. Dahlheimer did this on a regular basis always causing [REDACTED] to feel uncomfortable, however because he was one of God's men he never told anyone. On another occasion Fr. Dahlheimer invited [REDACTED] to the Rectory where he lived and asked [REDACTED] to sit down in a tall "Gothic spooky chair". They talked about [REDACTED]'s family as they usually did, and Fr. Dahlheimer came up to [REDACTED] and pressed his groin area up against [REDACTED]'s knee and held [REDACTED] by the shoulders while he kissed him on the mouth. Fr. Dahlheimer would ride his bicycle over to [REDACTED]'s house and had dinner with his family on numerous occasions. Fr. Dahlheimer always wanted to talk and be with [REDACTED] alone.

3. INJURY/DAMAGES:

[REDACTED] smelt alcohol on Fr. Dahlhemier's breath after the kisses and to this day whenever he smells alcohol on someone's breath it takes him back to the days he was abused. [REDACTED] stays away from any church related functions, such as weddings or funerals. The smells of a church, the sounds the lightings and surroundings all make [REDACTED] feel very uncomfortable. [REDACTED] has lost his faith and feels confusion, frustration, guilt, shame, embarrassment, sadness. He had an inability to hold down a relationship because of not feeling secure. [REDACTED] currently is taking Celexa for depression.

4. NOTEWORTHY:

[REDACTED] is an angry man to this day over the abuse he suffered by the hands of Fr. Dahlhemier and has given up his religion, to the point; he doesn't attend weddings or funerals.

12-17-10

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IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF  
[REDACTED] AGAINST  
THE ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT  
  
TELEPHONIC UNSWORN INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED]  
-----

Taken at the law firm of  
  
QUINLIVAN & HUGHES  
WELLS FARGO BUILDING  
400 SOUTH FIRST STREET, SUITE 600  
ST. CLOUD, MN 56301

and taken on  
December 17, 2010  
  
commencing at approximately  
11:00 a.m.

RUTH A. CARR  
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER  
1783 PATTISON ROAD  
ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA 56303  
(320) 267-5620

♀

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INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] :	Page
By Mr. Ford. . . . .	3

E X H I B I T S

Exhibit 1 marked . . . . .	36
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>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<

3

APPEARANCES

PATRICK NOAKER, Attorney at Law, 366

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+

121710TZ

4 Jackson Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101,  
5 appeared telephonically on behalf of [REDACTED].

6  
7 MICHAEL J. FORD, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box  
8 1008, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56302, appeared on behalf  
9 of the Order of St. Benedict.

10  
11 \* \* \*

12  
13 WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were duly had,  
14 to-wit:

15  
16 \* \* \*

17  
18 BY MR. FORD:

19 Q [REDACTED], I know that Mr. Noaker has talked to you  
20 about the reason for this. I'm an attorney in St.  
21 Cloud with the Quinlivan & Hughes law firm, I  
22 represent St. John's. We're going to be engaged in a  
23 mediation session sometime in January, I think  
24 January 24th it starts. And the purpose of today is  
25 for me to gather some information that I can then

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - TOM ZAPPA

4

1 share with both St. John's and other folks, such as  
2 insurance companies, maybe a parish or a Diocese,  
3 that may have an interest in getting your case  
4 resolved; do you understand that?

5 A I do, Mike, thanks.

Page 3

121710T2

- 6 Q We have been given a written summary by your  
7 attorneys for this mediation of what your situation  
8 is, what the nature and scope of your claim is. Do  
9 you happen to have that available to you?  
10 A Yes.  
11 Q So it's a one-page document, it has got the word  
12 confidential for mediation use only at the top of it?  
13 A No, I don't have that.  
14 Q Okay.  
15 MR. NOAKER: He doesn't have that because  
16 what you have is a summary.  
17 MR. FORD: Right, got it.  
18 Q I'm just going to go through some of this right now  
19 and I may have some questions along the way to kind  
20 of flesh it out. The statement tells me that you  
21 were born on [REDACTED] of 1962; is that correct?  
22 A Correct.  
23 Q And your current marital status is single?  
24 A Correct.  
25 Q Have you ever been married?

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

5

- 1 A No.  
2 Q And it says you don't have any children; is that  
3 true?  
4 A Correct.  
5 Q It lists your occupation as maintenance?  
6 A Correct.  
7 Q What does that mean, what are you involved in?  
8 A Plumbing, electrical, grounds repair for a

Page 4

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00486

- 9 condominium complex in Roseville.
- 10 Q How long have you held that position?
- 11 A Four years.
- 12 Q And prior to being involved in that position what did  
13 you do?
- 14 A Same type of work, maintenance for a different  
15 company.
- 16 Q So you pretty much have been involved in the same  
17 kind of work ever since getting out of school?
- 18 A No. I tried sales for awhile, but most of the time  
19 was with maintenance, yes.
- 20 Q My need to delve into that topic will depend I guess  
21 to some degree on your claim. And I don't see it  
22 here, so let me ask, have you lost any income or had  
23 your ability to work interfered with by anything that  
24 happened to you involving Father Cosmos Dahlheimer?
- 25 A Well, I don't know. I mean I can't quite put my

&

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

6

- 1 finger on why I've suffered over the years, you know,  
2 wondering what the hell was wrong with me.
- 3 Q We'll come back to that as we go along. Now  
4 according to what your attorneys have told us Father  
5 Cosmos Dahlheimer is the person that you were  
6 involved with; is that right?
- 7 A That's correct, yes.
- 8 Q And that the inappropriate behavior occurred  
9 approximately 1970 to 1972; is that right?
- 10 A Yes. '72, '73, I don't know the exact year, but



11 right in that ballpark, yes, correct.  
12 Q And that it occurred at St. Bernard's Church and  
13 school in the City of St. Paul?  
14 A Yes, that's right.  
15 Q And the summary of it, and it goes into more detail  
16 later, was that you were abused by Father Dahlheimer  
17 on several occasions while performing alter boy  
18 duties in the rectory; does that sound right?  
19 A That's correct.  
20 Q Then it goes on to give more detail and say that you  
21 were an alter boy at St. Bernard's Church in St.  
22 Paul. Father Dahlheimer was one of the priests at  
23 St. Bernard's Church. Father Dahlheimer would tell  
24 [REDACTED] how he was one of his favorites?  
25 A Right.

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

7

1 Q Sound about right?  
2 A That's right, yep, special.  
3 Q Then on one occasion after serving at a wedding  
4 Father Dahlheimer came up to [REDACTED] and put his hands on  
5 [REDACTED]'s face and he kissed him on the mouth and told  
6 [REDACTED] that he loved him; do you recall that happening?  
7 A I do.  
8 Q It continues, then it goes on to say Father  
9 Dahlheimer did this on a regular basis, always  
10 causing [REDACTED] to feel uncomfortable; however, because  
11 he was one of God's men, he meaning [REDACTED], never told  
12 anyone; sounds about right?  
13 A Correct.

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OSB DAHLHEIMER 00488

121710TZ

14 Q And then on another occasion Father Dahlheimer  
15 invited you to the rectory where Father Dahlheimer  
16 lived and asked you to sit down in a tall, Gothic,  
17 spooky chair; do you recall that incident?

18 A I do.

19 Q And the statement goes on to say they talked about  
20 [REDACTED]'s family as they usually did, and Father  
21 Dahlheimer came up to [REDACTED] and pressed his groin area  
22 up against [REDACTED]'s knee and held [REDACTED] by the shoulders  
23 while he kissed him on the mouth; does that sound  
24 about right?

25 A Yes.

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

8

1 Q Father Dahlheimer would ride his bicycle over to  
2 [REDACTED]'s house and had dinner with his family on  
3 numerous occasions and Father Dahlheimer always  
4 wanted to talk and be with [REDACTED] alone; sound about  
5 right?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. Let's go back over some of that if we can.  
8 One question that comes to mind is on how many  
9 occasions do you recall that Father Dahlheimer would  
10 come up to you, put his hands on your face and kiss  
11 you on the mouth or something like that, is it just a  
12 one time thing or did it happen more than once?

13 A Coming up and grabbing my face and pulling me towards  
14 him was the day of that wedding when I served as an  
15 alter boy.

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OSB DAHLHEIMER 00489

121710TZ

16 Q Do you recall whose wedding or what date that was?  
17 A I don't.  
18 Q It may be somewhat of a mystery, the reason why I  
19 talk about dates is because insurance companies who  
20 may have provided insurance on particular dates want  
21 to know if the thing happened while they were on the  
22 risk, so to speak, in other words insuring the  
23 thing. So I realize that's a very hard thing to do  
24 to come up with the dates, so we'll just do the best  
25 we can and we'll see what we come up with. So going

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

9

1 back to it, you're at a wedding, this occurs, I  
2 assume the wedding is at St. Bernard's, correct?  
3 A Correct, yep.  
4 Q And it's in either '70, '71, '72 or '73?  
5 A Correct.  
6 Q As you sit here today do you have any way of figuring  
7 out what date it was that that wedding took place,  
8 what year at least?  
9 A I have no idea. I don't know the day or the date, I  
10 have no idea.  
11 Q How about the name of the couple that got married?  
12 A None, zero.  
13 Q Now that occurred on one occasion. Any other  
14 occasions like that where that sort of thing took  
15 place?  
16 A The time in the rectory where he pulled me towards  
17 him and kissed me.  
18 Q So let's turn to that second time. You're at the

Page 8

121710TZ

19           rectory, what caused you to be there, if you know?  
20           A    He had called me on the phone and told me to come  
21           down because he had something for me.  
22           Q    was there anybody else living in the rectory like a  
23           cleaning lady or anything like that?  
24           A    well, there was other priests I believe that lived  
25           there. I don't know about a cleaning lady, but I

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

10

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1           know there was other men that lived in that building.  
2           Q    Do you have a recollection of seeing any of those men  
3           when you went to that rectory on that occasion?  
4           A    I did not, no.  
5           Q    Do you recall what room Father Dahlheimer took you  
6           to?  
7           A    It was a room real close to the entrance. And if I  
8           remember correctly you would walk in, and I don't  
9           know if it was around the corner to the left or the  
10          right, but it was around the corner and there was  
11          this big chair. There was a chair just inside of the  
12          entrance. It was real close to the front door.  
13          Q    You were born in 1962, this occurred sometime between  
14          '70 to '73, so that is in the time frame when you  
15          were about 8 to 11 years old. with that kind of  
16          context do you know approximately how old you would  
17          have been when this happened?  
18          A    Right around there, 11 maybe. 10 or 11, I'm  
19          guessing, it's a close approximate within a couple of  
20          years.

Page 9

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00491

121710TZ

21 Q So he takes you into the room, there is a Gothic,  
22 spooky chair. What, if anything, do you recall about  
23 what happened next?

24 A You know looking back as an adult now it's an oak  
25 chair; a big, large, velvety, cushioned chair. He

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

11

1 came up to me and grabbed my shoulders and pulled me  
2 towards him and he was grinding his knee -- or his  
3 crotch into my knees --

4 Q Could you speak up just a little bit on that?

5 A Yes. He came up to me, pulled my head toward him,  
6 and pushed his groin into my knees, he was grinding  
7 his crotch into my knee.

8 Q How long did this take place, is this a matter of a  
9 second, a minute, what?

10 A This particular incident wasn't quite a minute  
11 because I was getting real uncomfortable with it.  
12 Confused, you know, wondering why this was happening.

13 Q Do you recall saying anything to him?

14 A I don't recall what I had said. I know that I went  
15 to stand up and pull away.

16 Q Do you recall what, if anything, he did in response  
17 to your effort to stand up and pull away?

18 A He acted real nervous, had a smile on his face,  
19 almost a -- I don't want to say an evil grin, but a  
20 strange grin that made me even more uncomfortable.

21 Q And then what happened?

22 A I stood there, he stood in front of me, and told me  
23 that I was very special to him and that God loved me.

Page 10

24 Q And then the statement your lawyers provided us say  
25 he kissed you on the mouth at some point?

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

12

1 A That was at the wedding. This particular incident he  
2 kissed me on the head.  
3 Q Okay.  
4 A Above my nose.  
5 Q Now I am not sure the significance, so I will just  
6 ask you, one of the things your attorneys have told  
7 us is that Father Dahlheimer would ride his bicycle  
8 over to your house and have dinner with your family  
9 on numerous occasions; do you remember that  
10 happening?  
11 A Yes, quite often.  
12 Q Did he ever act inappropriately during any of those  
13 visits?  
14 A Not that I recall, nothing inappropriately in our  
15 home, no. When I say quite often, he would come over  
16 to the house it wasn't on a regular basis, but it  
17 wasn't abnormal for him to show up at our house  
18 wanting to talk to us kids, myself and my sister.  
19 Q So he wasn't there to visit your parents, he was  
20 there to visit you and your sister?  
21 A Kind of both. You know we would go outside and talk,  
22 sit on the steps.  
23 Q The statement from your lawyer goes on to say Father  
24 Dahlheimer always wanted to talk and be with [REDACTED]  
25 alone. Is this referring to the visits when he would

- 1           come to the house?
- 2           A    No.
- 3           Q    What does that refer to?
- 4           A    At school, an alter boy, after school walking home.
- 5           Q    Other than the two incidents that you have described
- 6               for us at the wedding and at the visit to the
- 7               rectory, any other inappropriate incidents with
- 8               Father Dahlheimer?
- 9           A    Nothing physical.
- 10          Q    Was there anything other than physical interaction
- 11               with him that was inappropriate?
- 12          A    Not so much after that point, no. There was the, you
- 13               know, repeated very touchy person. When I would see
- 14               him, because I would see him almost every day after
- 15               school on my way home, he would be standing out as
- 16               the kids would leave the school. He would walk up
- 17               and just kind of stroke your shoulder, stroke your
- 18               arm, pat you, always say hello, have a good night.
- 19               Very kind grandfatherly like.
- 20          Q    Some people might refer to that as being touchy-
- 21               feely, would you agree with that characterization?
- 22          A    Yeah, oh sure.
- 23          Q    Or to use another popular term, he was always
- 24               invading your personal space?
- 25          A    Well, looking back as an adult now I would call it

- 1           perversion. At that time you are looking at somebody  
2           that is the next best thing to God in your mind and  
3           in your eyes it's okay.
- 4           Q    Was there ever any alcohol involved at either one of  
5           the two incidents you have told us about?
- 6           A    Yeah. The wedding the smell of alcohol on his breath  
7           when he had kissed me.
- 8           Q    Did he ever supply you with alcohol?
- 9           A    No.
- 10          Q    Prior to of course talking to your attorneys, who did  
11          you first tell about these incidents?
- 12          A    You know I don't remember. I believe the first  
13          person I told was my sister.
- 14          Q    What is your sister's name?
- 15          A    [REDACTED].
- 16          Q    And what is her last name?
- 17          A    [REDACTED].
- 18          Q    Could you spell that for us?
- 19          A    [REDACTED].
- 20          Q    When did you and [REDACTED] first talk about these  
21          incidents with Father Dahlheimer?
- 22          A    About 1976 we had moved, when he showed up at our new  
23          house on his bicycle.
- 24          Q    So did you and [REDACTED] talk about the incidents that you  
25          had with him after he left?

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

15

- 1           A    Yes.



121710TZ

- 2 Q what did you tell [REDACTED] at that time?
- 3 A The situation was quite creepy because when we moved
- 4 we talked about how nice it was going to be at the
- 5 new place and when he showed up and surprised
- 6 everybody, and [REDACTED] had revealed something to my
- 7 family prior to right around the time this was going
- 8 on, and it kind of threw a red flag out. [REDACTED]
- 9 meaning my sister.
- 10 MR. FORD: Pat, do we have [REDACTED] setup for
- 11 an interview down the road?
- 12 MR. NOAKER: Not to my knowledge.
- 13 MR. FORD: At one point I thought I saw a
- 14 claim involving her, but are we still pursuing that
- 15 or looking into that?
- 16 MR. NOAKER: You know, Mike, right here I
- 17 don't have all of that stuff right in front of me.
- 18 MR. FORD: Okay. I will leave [REDACTED] out of
- 19 this and if there is a claim by her, we can talk to
- 20 her and so on.
- 21 BY MR. FORD, CONTINUING:
- 22 Q Coming back, [REDACTED], to your situation.
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q So your family was kind of alerted from [REDACTED]'s
- 25 description that all was not right with Father

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

16

- 1 Dahlheimer?
- 2 A That's correct.
- 3 Q Did you reveal Father Dahlheimer's inappropriate
- 4 behavior to your parents at any point?

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OSB DAHLHEIMER 00496

121710TZ

5 A Yes.  
6 Q when was that?  
7 A That was about 1976.  
8 Q Would that have been before or after Father  
9 Dahlheimer showing up at your new home on his  
10 bicycle?  
11 A After.  
12 Q Was it like that day or several weeks later or what?  
13 A Real close to that time frame.  
14 Q What caused you to share it with your parents?  
15 A [REDACTED]'s recollection as to what had happened prior to  
16 that, my sister [REDACTED].  
17 Q What had happened involving [REDACTED]?  
18 A Is it okay to talk about this?  
19 Q I see, we'll stay off of it. I think it's okay, but  
20 I don't want to complicate things.  
21 A I have nothing to hide. I mean if it means getting  
22 it out in the open, what the hell. She was about 8  
23 and he asked her if she was developing yet.  
24 Q That's essentially what I have heard already.  
25 A Okay.

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

17

1 Q So you share with your parents, you tell them about  
2 both the rectory incident and the wedding incident?  
3 A No. The wedding incident.  
4 Q And are your parents still alive?  
5 A Yes.  
6 Q What is your mother's name?

Page 15

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00497

121710TZ

7 A [REDACTED].  
8 Q And your father's name?  
9 A [REDACTED].  
10 Q I should mention that I realize, as does Mr. Noaker,  
11 this is not easy for you and if during this process  
12 today of taking a statement it becomes too difficult  
13 for you to proceed, we can certainly reconvene at  
14 some other time; do you understand that?  
15 A No problem. I appreciate that.  
16 Q But you are in control of this to the extent that if  
17 you don't want to keep doing it, we can come back and  
18 do it again, just so you know that.  
19 A Thank you, Mike.  
20 Q What was your parents' reaction when you told them  
21 about Father Dahlheimer?  
22 A Disbelief.  
23 Q Disbelief to the point where they didn't believe you,  
24 or just unhappiness and disbelief and --  
25 A Unhappiness and disbelief that a priest would do such

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

18

1 a thing.  
2 Q Do you know if they did anything about it?  
3 A I do believe my dad physically went down and talked  
4 to Dahlheimer.  
5 Q And that would have been in 1976?  
6 A That would have been before 1976.  
7 Q Okay, let's backup.  
8 A This is [REDACTED]'s story.  
9 Q When you say it's [REDACTED]'s story, did you know when

Page 16

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00498

121710TZ

10 your dad went down there that he was going to talk to  
11 Father Dahlheimer?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Do you know what year that was?

14 A That was around this '72, '73-ish time.

15 Q And just to make sure I have got it right, the family  
16 moved in 1976, correct?

17 A Correct, yes.

18 Q So in 1972 or 1973 your father goes down and talks to  
19 Father Dahlheimer about his interaction with [REDACTED],  
20 correct?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And then three or four years later, 1976, here is  
23 Father Dahlheimer showing up at your new home on his  
24 bicycle?

25 A Correct.

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

19

1 Q And after he shows up on his bicycle you share with  
2 [REDACTED] the fact that he was inappropriate with you at a  
3 wedding?

4 A That is correct.

5 Q At what point then do you talk to your parents about  
6 the fact that Father Dahlheimer was inappropriate  
7 with you at a wedding, was that in 1976?

8 A That was around that same time, yes.

9 Q And your parents are -- are your parents in disbelief  
10 at that at that point?

11 A No. They believed me, but like most other parents

Page 17

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00499

121710TZ

12 can't imagine that type of thing would exist, that  
13 would happen, it's not supposed to happen from a  
14 priest.

15 Q So they already knew that Father Dahlheimer was  
16 inappropriate with your sister [REDACTED] back in '72 or  
17 '73, correct?

18 A Verbally, yes.

19 Q And then they learn from you three or four years  
20 later that the same Father Dahlheimer was  
21 inappropriate with you, correct?

22 A That's correct.

23 Q What, if anything, do your parents do when they learn  
24 about their second child, namely you, being  
25 approached inappropriately by Father Dahlheimer?

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

♀

20

1 A I believe my dad talked to him.

2 Q So this would have been a second talking to by your  
3 dad to Father Dahlheimer?

4 A I don't know. I don't know how many conversations my  
5 dad had with him.

6 Q Do you know if your parents talked to anybody other  
7 than Father Dahlheimer, like the parish, the Diocese,  
8 St. John's?

9 A About the situation, I do not know.

10 Q Do you have a recollection of ever warning any of  
11 your classmates, other alter boys, anybody to stay  
12 away from Father Dahlheimer?

13 A No.

14 Q As you sit here today do you know why you wouldn't

Page 18

121710TZ

15 have done that?

16 A Yes. Because as I was raised and taught in the  
17 Catholic church these people could do no harm,  
18 they're the next best thing to God. It was a  
19 confusing situation. Morals told me something wasn't  
20 right, you know; reality said, oh, roll with it, he's  
21 a fucking priest.

22 Q At some point in time would it be fair to say that  
23 you came to realize and appreciate that his behavior  
24 was totally inappropriate?

25 A Yes.

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

21

1 Q When did that occur, was it when you were still  
2 young, was it later in life?

3 A Recently, last few years, when I realized why I have  
4 the anger.

5 Q So when it happened you were confused and it went  
6 against all of the teaching you had gotten, and it  
7 wasn't until recently that it became very clear to  
8 you that his behavior was just totally inappropriate;  
9 is that fair to say?

10 A Right.

11 Q When was the last time you had any contact with  
12 Father Dahlheimer?

13 A Oh, boy, probably around '76, around that time he  
14 showed up at the house.

15 Q So he never tried to contact you after that, you  
16 never ran into him, tried to contact him after,

Page 19

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00501

121710TZ  
17 pretty much the last time you would have had any  
18 dealings with Father Dahlheimer would have been  
19 sometime around the time he visited your family in  
20 1976; fair to say?

21 A Yes. And it wasn't even a contact, I know I had seen  
22 him through the window, I didn't go talk to him.

23 Q I should have asked that question. When he showed up  
24 at the house, what kind of reception did he get? Did  
25 he get off the bike and come in the house and have a

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

22

1 visit, or was he summarily just kept from visiting?

2 A I don't recall the exact details, Mike, but I know my  
3 mother became extremely uncomfortable and asked him  
4 to leave and called my dad at work. And my sister  
5 ran and hid because I think she was the one that  
6 answered the door.

7 Q So suffice it to say he didn't get a friendly  
8 reception?

9 A Correct. Not warm like it normally was.

10 Q I'm going to switch gears a little bit and just talk  
11 about how this has affected you. I think you have  
12 already given me a little bit on an inkling, you have  
13 indicated that you have had anger issues over the  
14 years?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Is that a yes?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Anything else that you can point to, any behavior  
19 issues, relationship issues, substance abuse issues,

Page 20

20 drug abuse issues, anything that you can think of  
21 that in retrospect you believe is related to what  
22 happened to you with Father Dahlheimer?  
23 A Sure. Up until, you know, recently, and when I say  
24 recently I mean the last few years, I was able to put  
25 my finger on it when it all came to realization why I

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

23

1 did not want to attend a wedding or a funeral or  
2 anything that involved a church. My whole adult life  
3 I would find an excuse, the family would make an  
4 excuse for me why I couldn't come to a wedding or  
5 funeral or whatever that involved a church, because  
6 of the way I would get. And it didn't matter what  
7 church it was, it all would come back, the anger, the  
8 shame, the guilt. Mostly confusion. Wanting nothing  
9 to be within that entity because of what had  
10 happened.  
11 Q Was it a situation where you didn't recall the  
12 specific -- I'm sorry, was it a situation where you  
13 didn't specifically recall the incident with Father  
14 Dahlheimer, but you just were uncomfortable and  
15 refused to attend weddings and such?  
16 A It had nothing to do with uncomfortable as far as  
17 around the family or the people, it was the building,  
18 the place, the church.  
19 Q Besides the inability to attend those kind of events,  
20 any other impact on your life that you can recall?  
21 A Yes. Still today with relationships, the struggle.



121710TZ  
22 I have a very hard time believing people. Guilt.  
23 Shame. And anger. Not violent anger, but angry that  
24 I am and was not able to look him in the eye and tell  
25 him how his sexual selfishness has affected me

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

24

1 lifelong.  
2 Q Over the years have you seen any counselors or  
3 therapists who deal with any of the issues that you  
4 think arise from Father Cosmos's behavior towards  
5 you?  
6 A No, none.  
7 Q How about any informal or formal support groups, have  
8 you ever belonged to anger management groups or  
9 Alcoholics Anonymous, anybody like that?  
10 A No. I have never abused chemicals or alcohol.  
11 Q Has what happened to you with Father Cosmos ever  
12 interfered with your ability to work and earn a  
13 living?  
14 A I don't know.  
15 Q Have you had any periods of unemployment over the  
16 years?  
17 A Yes, several.  
18 Q How long have those periods been, are we talking  
19 weeks or months or years?  
20 A I think the longest was several months over -- you  
21 know, since I have been working. It's never been  
22 years, plural, no.  
23 Q Do you know approximately when a several month period  
24 occurred?

Page 22

OSB DAHLHEIMER 00504

25 A Sometime in the '80s, Mike.

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

25

1 Q Do you know what occasioned that loss of work during  
2 that period?

3 A I'm sorry?

4 Q Do you know what caused that loss of work in the  
5 1980s where you were off work for several months?

6 A I don't. I can't, I really don't know. I can't  
7 answer that correctly and honestly I don't know.

8 Q I mean sometimes just because a former employer goes  
9 out of business, you get fired?

10 A Okay. Well, I was between the job with [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], so that was mid '80s,  
12 somewhere in there, where there was several months of  
13 not working and I don't remember the details.

14 Q What was it, a case where you had stopped looking for  
15 work, or whether you kept looking for work but just  
16 couldn't find it?

17 A I think it was stopped.

18 Q Do you know why it was you stopped looking for work  
19 in the mid '80s?

20 A I don't. Maybe my mental state, I just wasn't  
21 feeling good about myself.

22 Q Do you have any idea that wouldn't be a guess as to  
23 what income loss you think you suffered over the  
24 years that you would attribute to the behavior that  
25 Father Dahlheimer expressed with you?

- 1 A I don't know as far as a guess, I can't honestly  
2 answer that.
- 3 Q I think you have already told me this, but let me  
4 make sure that I'm correct, you currently don't  
5 attend church; is that correct?
- 6 A You did not ask me that and you are correct, I do  
7 not.
- 8 Q And why have you stopped attending church? I think I  
9 know why, but I guess I'd like you to tell me.
- 10 A Sure. It just feels like a building of lies,  
11 betrayal, liars. I can't tell you how I get a sick  
12 feeling inside when I see those people up there  
13 trying to tell me the right way.
- 14 Q Do you know when it was approximately that you did  
15 stop attending church on a regular basis?
- 16 A Let me think here, it will come to me. It was -- oh,  
17 on a regular basis? I no longer went to church on a  
18 regular basis since '76 (garbled connection).
- 19 Q Because that came in kind of garbled here I'll try  
20 and restate it. What I think I heard you say was  
21 that since approximately 1976 you have not attended  
22 church on a regular basis; is that right?
- 23 A Correct.
- 24 Q Do you do anything for fun, do you have any hobbies  
25 or interests, are you a fisherman, do you hunt,

121710TZ

1 anything at all?  
2 A Ham radio, amateur radio. Music.  
3 Q I'm intrigued, so there is still amateur radio  
4 enthusiasts out there?  
5 A Oh, sure. Certainly growing by the day, you bet.  
6 Q I used to do that a long time ago, but I thought it  
7 got wiped out by all the cell phones and whatnot  
8 going on.  
9 A No, no. They dropped the code requirements, so a lot  
10 of people are getting their license without having to  
11 learn code.  
12 Q Learn something every day.  
13 A In fact I do it, Mike, it's fun.  
14 Q Last time I knew the code was in the Boy Scouts, so  
15 that shows you how long ago that was. Have you ever  
16 been abused by anybody other than Father Dahlheimer?  
17 A No.  
18 Q Other than your sister [REDACTED], do you know of anybody  
19 in your family who has ever been sexually abused,  
20 other than either you and Lori, by Father Dahlheimer?  
21 A Other than our family members, no.  
22 Q Do you keep a diary?  
23 A No, huh-uh.  
24 Q Did you ever write down anything about the incidents  
25 involving Father Dahlheimer, any kind of a journal or

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

28

1 summary of it?  
2 A I took notes in the last few years, yes. Not so much

Page 25

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121710TZ

3 the incidents, but the feelings inside today.

4 Q Have you shared those notes with your attorneys yet?

5 A No.

6 Q would you have any objection --

7 MR. FORD: I don't know, Pat, I don't think  
8 we need those notes, do you?

9 MR. NOAKER: I don't think for mediation.

10 MR. FORD: Yes, I agree.

11 Q I think we have asked this a couple of different  
12 ways, but let me try it again. Have you always known  
13 what happened to you with Father Dahlheimer, or was  
14 there some period of time when you just pushed it out  
15 of your mind and forgot about it?

16 A Early on, you know, just after the incident was  
17 probably the time when I struggled with the confusing  
18 part is why did that happen. So that was right  
19 around the incident. And from there to young adult I  
20 think it was swept under the rug in my brain.

21 Q When was the first time after you got into your young  
22 adult phase that you recalled the incident?

23 A My first sexual contact with a woman.

24 Q Yes.

25 A Pardon me?

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

29

1 Q Let me backup, I think I asked a bad question.

2 A Okay.

3 Q I think what you just told me was that you swept it  
4 under the rug, stopped thinking about it up until  
5 your young adult years, correct?

Page 26

121710TZ

- 6 A That's correct, yeah.
- 7 Q And just so we get a definition, what does young  
8 adult years mean to you?
- 9 A 18, 17.
- 10 Q So after the ages of 17 or 18 when was the next time  
11 you would have recalled Father Dahlheimer's behavior  
12 towards you?
- 13 A During my first sexual contact.
- 14 Q okay, with somebody other than Father Dahlheimer?
- 15 A Right.
- 16 Q I got you, okay.
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Do you know approximately what year that was?
- 19 A well, let's see, I don't have a calculator, but I was  
20 about 17, so you can figure that out. 1978, '9,  
21 somewhere in there.
- 22 Q So when you were 17 or 18 years of age and you had  
23 your first sexual encounter with somebody, that's  
24 when you recalled Father Dahlheimer and his behavior?
- 25 A That's when it came on like a freight train, yes.

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

30

- 1 Q And did it stay with you from that point on?
- 2 A Until today, yes.
- 3 Q Is there any particular thing that brings -- let me  
4 backup. Do particular things or experiences bring  
5 back Father Dahlheimer and his behavior?
- 6 A Triggers?
- 7 Q Triggers, right.

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- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q what sort of triggers do you have?
- 10 A First and foremost is relationships.
- 11 Q So if you are getting into a relationship with
- 12 somebody, that is a trigger that could bring back
- 13 Father Dahlheimer's behavior; is that right?
- 14 A Yes, it usually does.
- 15 Q Any other triggers besides relationships?
- 16 A Uh-huh. The words I love you.
- 17 Q And that's because he used that term?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q Anything else?
- 20 A As far as triggers go, again when people tell me they
- 21 love me, sexual contact, and relationships are
- 22 primarily the three things that affect me in a way
- 23 that I wish they would not.
- 24 Q Does the incidents with Father Dahlheimer create any
- 25 issues for and your family in your family

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

31

- 1 relationships?
- 2 A Meaning my parents and my sisters?
- 3 Q Exactly.
- 4 A No.
- 5 Q I'm going to switch gears a little bit here and talk
- 6 a little bit about St. John's and the Diocese and see
- 7 what, if anything, you know about their knowledge.
- 8 Do you know anything about whether or not St. John's
- 9 knew of Father Dahlheimer's behavior?
- 10 A Do I know if they knew?

- 11 Q Right.
- 12 A I know now that they know.
- 13 Q For example, what I'm getting at is either reports by  
14 you or your family or reports by other people. It  
15 sounds like you believe you have picked up  
16 information since the incident that causes you to  
17 believe that St. John's would have known about Father  
18 Cosmos, correct?
- 19 A Yes. I called them personally, called them about two  
20 years ago.
- 21 Q Do you recall who you talked to?
- 22 A I do not. It was a young man that answered the  
23 phone. I talked to him angrily and then he switched  
24 me over to somebody that was a higher up. Don't  
25 remember that gentleman's position or his name; I do

& >>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

32

- 1 recall he was very nice on the phone.
- 2 Q And that conversation for sure told St. John's about  
3 Father Cosmos, right?
- 4 A That's correct.
- 5 Q In that conversation did either one of the two people  
6 you were talking to give you any reason to believe  
7 that St. John's knew about Father Cosmos prior to  
8 your calling them?
- 9 A I'm trying to go back here, Mike, I don't remember if  
10 they revealed they knew this before or however you  
11 just phrased that. Can you say that again?
- 12 Q Yes. What I'm trying to understand is whether, for



121710TZ  
13 example, you called up, you talked to them and they  
14 say, oh sure, we know about Father Cosmos, tell us  
15 about what he did with you, anything like that go on?  
16 A I see. Yes, both gentlemen. The kid that answered  
17 the phone I don't think knew. The guy that I talked  
18 to, I don't know what you call him, the bigwig over  
19 there, he was supportive in listening to me voice my  
20 experience and what happened to me as a young boy.  
21 But he didn't offer any information like, oh yeah, we  
22 know all about him, sure, and carry on. But it was  
23 evident he knew who I was talking about.  
24 Q Have you ever talked to anybody from St. John's other  
25 than that one occasion?

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

33

1 A No.  
2 Q Did you ask St. John's to do anything, pay for  
3 treatment or anything like that?  
4 A I did not ask them for anything, other than prevent  
5 this from happening to anyone else.  
6 Q Did the person you talked to from St. John's try and  
7 talk you out of doing anything further?  
8 A The person I talked to offered some sort of I think  
9 counseling or some number I could call to try and get  
10 help. I don't recall the number or the name, but  
11 they did offer. And again, Mike, I don't remember  
12 all of the details, but I do remember he verbally  
13 offered -- I don't know exactly what it was.  
14 Q St. John's has developed a relationship with an  
15 entity called walk-In Counseling and that may have

Page 30

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121710TZ

18 at all that you are sitting here and you're thinking  
19 to yourself, gee, I wonder why he doesn't ask me  
20 about this?

21 A Oh, yeah, that's in my journal. You asked if I do a  
22 diary and I don't keep a daily diary, but I do have a  
23 notebook with a couple of pages of inner thoughts of  
24 how this has affected me as an adult today and I  
25 would be more than happy to share that with you, I

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

35

1 have it at home.

2 Q Well, why don't we do this, if it's all right with  
3 Mr. Noaker, he'll be the final judge of that, talk to  
4 him about sharing it with him and if he thinks it's  
5 appropriate, he will share it with me, how is that?

6 A Yes, that would be fine.

7 Q Okay.

8 MR. NOAKER: That sounds good.

9 MR. FORD: Pat, was there anything we  
10 didn't cover that you think we should?

11 MR. NOAKER: No, I don't think so. I think  
12 this is fine.

13 MR. FORD: Okay. This is probably the  
14 first and hopefully the last time you will go through  
15 something like this, [REDACTED], so let me just  
16 explain. Ms. Carr here will type up what she's  
17 recorded from our conversation into what is called a  
18 transcript and then she will make that available to  
19 me and Mr. Noaker. I assume Mr. Noaker and you will  
20 talk about that to the extent that both of you feel

Page 32

121710TZ

21 you need to. And then later on as I indicated in  
22 January we are scheduled to try and put together an  
23 effort to try and get your case resolved through  
24 mediation. Do you have any questions for me?  
25 [REDACTED]: No. Thank you for your time.

&  
>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<  
CONFIDENTIAL - [REDACTED]

36

1 MR. FORD: Pat, that's all I've got.  
2 Anything else?

3 MR. NOAKER: No. Thank you. Thanks, [REDACTED].  
4 (WHEREUPON, the interview concluded at  
5 11:45 a.m.)

6 (WHEREUPON, Exhibit 1 was marked for  
7 identification by the court reporter.)  
8

9 \* \* \*

10  
11  
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21  
22

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OSB DAHLHEIMER 00515

23  
24  
25

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<

¶

37

1 STATE OF MINNESOTA  
2 COUNTY OF STEARNS

3  
4 BE IT KNOWN THAT, I took the foregoing interview  
of [REDACTED];

5  
6 THAT, I am neither attorney or counsel for, nor  
7 related to or employed by any of the parties to the  
8 action in which this interview is taken and, further,  
9 that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or  
counsel employed by the parties hereto or financially  
interested in the action;

10  
11 THAT, the interview was taken down in stenotype  
12 by me, then was reduced to typewriting under my  
13 direction, and is a true and correct transcript of my  
14 stenotype notes.

15 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this 20th day of December 2010.

16  
17  
18  
19 Ruth A. Carr, Notary Public, Stearns County  
20 My commission expires: January 31, 2015

21  
22  
23  
24  
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121710TZ

>>> RUTH A. CARR, RPR (320)267-5620 <<<

4119



DATE 3/10/11

75-38-518

Pay to the order of Jeff Anderson & Associates Trust Account

\$ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Signature line with lock icon

**BremerBank**  
1100 West St. Germain Street  
St. Cloud, MN 56301 • 320-251-3300  
1-800-908-BANK • bremer.com

Settlement of [REDACTED] Claim

*Wanda Goodwin*

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**FULL AND FINAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

**FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF** the payment of [REDACTED] and No/100 Dollars (\$ [REDACTED]), the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, [REDACTED] (hereafter "Releasor"), has released and discharged, and by these presents does for himself and for his heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, release, acquit and forever discharge Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer OSB and the Order of Saint Benedict and The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and any other School owned and/or operated by Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University and/or The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, or any School or facility where Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer OSB worked together with any and all present and former Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University and The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, priests and religious women in or associated with the Order of St. Benedict and/or St. John's University or The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, all other priests and nuns, Brothers, and each and every one of the aforementioned parties' former and current Agents, Administrators, Members, Predecessors, Servants, Heirs, Executors, Faculty Members, Volunteers, Staff Members, Priests, Teachers, Schools, School Principals, School Administrators, Directors, Officers, Employees, Agents, Representatives, Successors and Assigns associated with any of them, and any insurers, re-insurers, risk pooling trusts, and self insurers, and all other persons, firms and corporations against whom any



liability, direct or indirect, might be asserted, (hereafter individually and collectively "Releasees"), of and from all known and unknown actions, causes of action, claims for relief, claims, demands, rights, damages, costs, expenses, compensation, loss of services, loss of income, loss of consortium, loss of enjoyment of life, emotional distress, mental anguish, medical expenses, funeral expenses, rights of contribution, rights of indemnity, rights of subrogation, rights of reimbursement and all consequential and incidental damage on account of, or in any way growing out of, all known and unknown injuries, including death and property damage, and all other damages of whatsoever kind, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive or whether property or personal, together with all known and unknown consequences from all such injuries, death and damages resulting, or to result, from any act, omission, matter or thing occurring prior to the date of this Release, including, but not limited to any claim of whatsoever kind arising from or relating to or resulting from any and all alleged sexual molestation, sexual abuse, battery, assault, verbal abuse, physical abuse, and intimidation, inflicted upon [REDACTED], by Fr. Cosmos Dahlheimer OSB or any other former or current teacher, staff member, faculty member, religious member, volunteer, or employee including but not limited to sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, sexual molestation, battery, physical abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, intimidation, negligence, negligent hiring, negligent supervision, negligent retention, negligent entrustment, negligent failing to warn, breach of fiduciary duty, conspiracy,

fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress, negligent infliction of emotional distress.

THIS RELEASE INCLUDES ALL PRESENT AND FUTURE CLAIMS OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN AT THE PRESENT TIME, WHETHER TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT, WHETHER EXPECTED OR UNEXPECTED, WHETHER ECONOMIC OR NON-ECONOMIC, WHETHER COMPENSATORY OR PUNITIVE AND WHETHER PRESENTLY OR LATER DISCOVERED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ALL INJURIES, INCLUDING DEATH, AND DAMAGES OF WHATSOEVER KIND, WHETHER PROPERTY OR PERSONAL, RESULTING, OR TO RESULT, FROM THE MATTERS REFERENCED ABOVE.

Releasor expressly represents, warrants and agrees as follows:

1. Releasor has relied wholly upon Releasor's own judgment, belief and knowledge of the nature, extent and duration of any injury, loss or damage resulting or to result from the matters referenced above, and Releasor's own evaluation of all claims of whatsoever kind which were or could have been asserted as a result of any of those matters; and Releasor was not influenced to any extent whatever in making this Release by any representations or statements regarding those or any other matters, which may have been made by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.
2. Releasor elects to and does assume all risks for injury, including death, loss

or damage claims of whatsoever kind, whether known or unknown at the present time, whether expected or unexpected, whether temporary or permanent, whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive, whether presently or later discovered, and whether as a consequence of or incidental to some known or unknown injury, including death, loss or damage, and includes within the scope of this Release all such claims of whatsoever kind against Releasee. Releasor hereby expressly waives all rights Releasor may have and further agrees that Releasor's acceptance of the consideration for this Release satisfies all rights and claims of whatsoever kind Releasor now has or may have had or may in the future have arising out of any of the matters referenced above.

3. Releasor will indemnify, hold harmless and defend at Releasor's own expense, Releasee from all past, present and future liens and claims of any person or entity, including, but not limited to, any insurer, attorney, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, medical care provider, mortuary or other person or entity who may assert a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind howsoever designated in any amounts paid or to be paid in settlement of or compensation for any injury, death, loss or damage, whether economic or noneconomic, whether compensatory or punitive and/or whether personal or property, including, but not limited to, medical care, legal representation, public assistance, maintenance, rehabilitation, medical assistance, general welfare, lost income, insurance and/or

property damage resulting or to result from any of the matters referenced above.

4. The consideration aforesaid is intended to cover all past, present and future medical, legal and other expenses, and Releasor is signing this Release for and on behalf of all insurers, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, attorneys and government agencies who now have or may have had or may in the future have a claim for subrogation, indemnity, reimbursement or other interest in any of the proceeds from the settlement however that interest may be designated.

5. Releasor understands that none of the Releasees know the full extent of any obligations Releasor may have to pay, reimburse or re-pay any insurers, attorneys, hospitals, clinics, physicians, healthcare providers, mortuaries, government agency, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and/or others; and, therefore, Releasor will first deposit any settlement checks into Releasor's attorney's trust account so that the consideration for this Release may be disbursed by Releasor's attorney in the proper amounts to the appropriate persons as their interests may appear or exist.

6. Releasor will satisfy any judgment rendered against anyone or more of the Releasees as a result of any past, present or future lien and/or claim asserting a right of subrogation, right of indemnity, right of reimbursement or other interest of any kind whatsoever in any of the proceeds from the settlement or as a consequence of any matter referenced above. No further amount will be paid by

Releasees or by anyone on Releasees' behalf at any time for any such purpose.

7. The consideration referenced above is intended to be full compensation for all known and unknown injuries, death, losses and damages of whatsoever kind; whether economic or non-economic, whether compensatory or punitive and whether personal or property, sustained or to be sustained as a result of the matters referenced above; and Releasor has waived and assumed the risk of any and all claims of whatsoever kind which presently or in the future may exist, but of which Releasor does not know or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence or otherwise and which, if known, would materially affect Releasor's decision to sign this Release.

8. The terms specified in this Release are accepted as a complete compromise of matters involving disputed issues of law and fact; and Releasor has assumed the risk that the facts or law may be other than what Releasor may believe.

9. Releasor will not enforce any judgment against any or all of the Releasees in the event any Releasee is assigned any liability in any lawsuit or other proceeding involving any matter referenced above.

10. Releasor has not, directly or indirectly, assigned, encumbered or otherwise transferred any interest in any action, suit, debt, claim, cause of action, sum of money, agreement, damage, or demand intended to be released and discharged by this Release; and no other person or entity has any interest of any kind in any of the released claims.

11. This Release shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota and any action to enforce the terms of this Release shall be commenced in the District Court for the State of Minnesota, Seventh Judicial District, Stearns County.

12. Releasor and his attorney agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend Releasees, their counsel and insurer from any and all claims by any and all government agencies/entities, State or Federal, for conditional payments, liens, subrogation or indemnification interests of any kind or nature arising out of an incident that occurred in 1970 through 1972 at St. Bernard's Church in St. Paul, MN.

13. In any action brought to enforce or interpret the terms of this Release (including the defense of any action brought by any entity described in paragraph 5 above in pursuit of their right of reimbursement from the Releasor), the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover all costs and expenses incurred in such action, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

14. This Release represents a compromise and settlement of a disputed claim. Any payment referenced above is not to be construed as an admission of liability on any Releasee's part. All Releasees expressly deny any liability to the Releasor.

15. Releasor has had the benefit of the advice of counsel of Releasor's own choice in the negotiation and execution of this Release. This Release shall be construed liberally to carry out its objectives and shall not be construed against

any party.

16. No promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made to Releasor by Releasees or by anyone representing Releasees or employed by Releasees.

17. Minnesota law shall govern the interpretation of this Release.

18. This Release contains the ENTIRE AGREEMENT and the terms of this Release are contractual and not a mere recital.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MINNESOTA )

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, before me personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, known to me to be the person who is described herein and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that s/he executed the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

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