

BIS. SEC

FR GUYNN MURPHY

J. E. O'CONNOR F.C.I.L.A.

CHARTERED LOSS ADJUSTER

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GEN.

BRIAN FINIGAN

7th April 1993

Messrs. Dunhill Madden Butler
Solicitors
GPO Box 4592
MELBOURNE 3001Bal
377.121

Dear Sirs

RE: SEXUAL MOLESTATION CLAIMS - RIDSDALE
MY REFERENCE : 1789/93

Pursuant to your instructions, I have made preliminary enquiries into this matter and my report is as follows :

GERALD FRANCIS RIDSDALE:

Aged 59 years, now resident in Sydney, was the Parish Priest at Edenhope, Victoria, in the period 1976 until 1980.

During that period of his tenure at Edenhope, it is alleged, that he committed acts of sexual molestation against a number of boys aged between 8 and 15 years and the molestation took the form of sexual penetration, oral sex and masturbation.

We understand that Gerald Francis Ridsdale then served a period of time at Apollo Bay in Victoria and it is possible that there may be charges arising out of his time spent at Apollo Bay and he was at another stage in America, and has admitted to the Police that he has committed similar offences in U.S.A.

He is represented by Tony Davorell of the legal firm Corrs Pa~~ke~~by and our indications are that he has been completely co-operative with the Police and he has made certain admissions.

S/HT

In relation to the victims of sexual molestation at Edenhope, we believe that he has admitted to committing acts of sexual molestation on the following young persons :

1. REDACTED of REDACTED REDACTED.
2. REDACTED of REDACTED , REDACTED.
3. REDACTED of REDACTED , REDACTED .
4. REDACTED of REDACTED , REDACTED .
5. David Ridsdale of REDACTED , REDACTED , Vic.
6. REDACTED - address unknown.
7. REDACTED - address unknown.
8. BAF - address unknown.
9. REDACTED and his whereabouts are unknown.

There are two other persons with whom he has admitted molestation at Edenhope and they are young persons and their identity is unknown and consequently their whereabouts are unknown.

I confirm your verbal enquiries to terminate my enquiries at this stage.

I have forwarded a copy of this report to Mr. G. Ripon, Australian Claims Manager of Catholic Church Insurances Ltd.

Yours faithfully


J.E. O'CONNOR