

April 30, 1993

I met with Don McQuire today for about an hour. Joe Downey, his superior also was with me. I explained our procedure and the allegation about [redacted] brought to us by Joe Fessio, SJ and [redacted]. I also mentioned Bob Wild's letter after the last incident in which Don was not to travel with a companion who was a minor. From the beginning I told this group of men wanted to confront him for his own sake, the care of his ministry, and the good of the Society and Church. If he was unwilling to do anything, [redacted] would be willing to approach civil authorities.

When Don arrived he needed to take his insulin as well as orange juice with a number of pills. He listened and then explained his relationship to the [redacted] family. He has directed the wife, [redacted] in four retreats and met [redacted] through [redacted] who recommended he might be someone to help Don. Don has given retreats to [redacted] and realizes that he is very depressed and deals with his depression through sex. Don spoke about how tyrannical [redacted] is and that he keeps [redacted] in home study because he will not let him go to school. [redacted] is a "saint" who has decided to keep the peace no matter what and mediates between [redacted] who seems to be the oldest of three children and the father, [redacted]. According to Don, [redacted] is upset that [redacted] loves Don more than his father. That Don treats [redacted] as an individual who can take responsibility for his life. Whereas [redacted] treats [redacted] like a three year old. Don spent quite a bit of time telling us how unbalanced [redacted] is.

I asked Don to speak to the allegations. He admitted that he was tolerant to [redacted] reading pornography but denied he ever purchased it and said that any pornography belonged to [redacted]. He did not understand why [redacted] would have claimed that Don bought it but it was probably because he was pressured under fear of his father. He denied they took showers together but said that [redacted] would wash his right foot since he cannot bend to do that. He admitted they shared a room but the door was always open and Fr. Thurston lived next door in Russia and Poland. He explained that the missionary Sisters of Charity do not have much and the room is like a sacristy. He also talked about how he cared for [redacted] when he was ill in India. [redacted] would not allow his son to get the necessary shots for this trip and thus he did get sick but that is the only time he physically touched him. He went on to say, since his health condition of ten years ago, he has no sexual desires and he is not attracted to boys. The only time he "has fallen" it was with a woman. He denied that they were naked together in the room. He felt that since he was always with a group, such as a priest, doctor, dentist, he was not breaking his promise to Bob. However, he admitted that the question of obedience was involved.

I told him that he could give this retreat in Phoenix next week provided he told the superior that he was under an allegation and that he could not be with minors without supervision. He agreed to this. Also he agreed to go for an evaluation at St. Luke's which would begin on May 9 and go until May 14. He will call in this afternoon to give me his phone number and address. I have made arrangements for him at St. Luke's. I think that Don sensed this was coming.

Joe Downey reflected to Don about his judgement and that he seems imprudent. Given the

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climate of these times he needs to avoid possible scandal. Joe mentioned his office and room at Canisius and that some of the community are concerned about how his secretary goes in and out of his room. Joe admitted she is a pious woman but Don needs to be prudent. Don went on about he has always been accused of being imprudent even since Baden because he cares for the poor and people. He listened but he usually had a response about how others only played bridge. He thanked us and told us we were good people. He also mentioned that it was provident that May was relatively open for him because a trip was canceled. He seemed to be implying that he has begun to try to tape some of his presentations so that he would not need to travel as much. I asked for the phone number and address of where he was giving this retreat in Phoenix but he did not have it and said that he would check with his secretary and get back to me with this data.

After our conversation Joe and I talked briefly and Joe acknowledged how Don evades issues and questions and always seems to have a reason. Even when he does not, he was not very defensive. Joe Downey will go to St. Luke's on May 14 for the feedback and two weeks after that time, a written evaluation will be sent to both Joe and Don. Then Joe, Don, and I may need to consult or you may need to tell Don what he needs to do.