

March 30, 1988

Norberto Rivera C.
Bishop of Tehuacan
P.O. Box 137
75700 Tehuacan
Puebla, Mexico

Esteemed Monsignor Rivera:

I just received today your letter dated March 17, 1988.

I want to respond immediately because I'm very much surprised and disturbed by the following words in your letter: "In the letter of presentation of January 27, 1987, I included an identification photograph, and in the confidential letter of March 23 of the same year, I provided a brief report of the homosexual problems of the priest." I would like to tell you that I have not received any letter from you dated March 23, 1987, nor any other information concerning "the homosexual problems of the priest."

I'm sending you a copy of your letter dated January 27, 1987, with the identification photograph. In this letter you wrote me that: "Due to family and health reasons, Father Nicolas Aguilar Rivera, parish priest of Cuacnopalan, Puebla, assigned to this Tehuacan church, wishes to reside in Los Angeles for a period of one year and serve the Los Angeles Archdiocese." Based on your words "for family and health reasons," I accepted Father Nicolas Aguilar Rivera to serve in this archdiocese.

I'm very confused, because in your letter of January 27, 1987, you did not mention any other personal problems concerning Father Aguilar. I you have written me that Father Aguilar had some "homosexual" problem, I assure you that we haven't received that in the Archdiocese. We have here in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles a quite clear plan of action: We do not admit priests with any homosexual problems.

It is urgent that you send me a copy of the letter dated March 23, 1987. We have not received it, and it's a grave situation because you

RIV 00044
CONFIDENTIAL

Ex. 19

knew on the 27th of January of 1987 that Father Aguilar had homosexual problems and you did not inform me, or any officials of this archdiocese in your first letter.

I must stress that we now have a more serious situation, because I made the decision to temporarily assign him to the archdiocese based on your letter of January 27, 1987.

I'm going to share your letter dated March 17, 1988, with the Los Angeles Police Department, and I hope that they are able to locate him in Mexico.

I ask you that all priests of the Tehuacan diocese pray for the children and youths affected by the actions of Father Aguilar.

Sincerely in Christ,

Roger Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

CONFIDENTIAL

RIV 00045
CONFIDENTIAL