MEMORANDUM

TO:	File - ROBERT E. DENSMORE
FROM:	Brenda M. Blonigen, Sergeant
RE:	DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER - Follow-up
DATE:	August 23, 2002
number was	L called that number and spoke with a that lived in the New London area of the state. I told him that I was looking for a that lived in the New London area of the state. This was the only that was listed in New Maine, Vermont or Massachusetts. a search via SPOTS looking for who was mentioned in a a fidential memorandum from the Diocese dated February 24, 1993 as being a Charlestown, which was a part of DENSMORE's first referral to St. Luke's. I called that number and received a recording that the to find out if she sout of service. I called and spoke with
whom she s	said was currently residing with her. She said that she thought that maybe the could have been mistaken for

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

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MEMOR	ANDOM OF EVERY
PERSON INTERVIEWED:	
PLACE OF INTERVIEW:	Rockingham County Sheriff's Department 101 North Road Brentwood, NH 03833
DATE OF INTERVIEW: PERSON INTERVIEWING: RE:	August 22, 2002 Brenda M. Blonigen, Sergeant ROBERT E. DENSMORE
TC.	
interviewed relative to being the vi	ctim of abuse by DENSMORE.
New London. and DENSMORE us	e was six years old, seven years old and eight years old. le DENSMORE was a priest at Our Lady of Fatima in said that his mother had children. Solve boys
having was due to the fact that it was a helped him deal with many issues	After he got out of the military he met priest had abused this person. That he realized that some of the problems that he was the had been abused by DENSMORE. The about that time that he started going to a counselor who is.
was a lot of fondling. He told me baths and DENSMORE would for said that bed sleeping with him (DENSMORE would always have DENSMORE would always have to the bed sleeping with him (DENSMORE).	that the abuse that DENSMORE would put them through the that DENSMORE used to give him and his brothers condle their private areas when he would bath them. It DENSMORE would also fondle them while they were in told me that they were him and his brother when they would stay over night at DENSMORE's said that the only time that they would not sleep in the

same bed was when there were other adults or teenagers around. He said that if there were teenagers around then the teenagers would sleep in the same room as DENSMORE. and his brother would stay at He told me that there were times that him "Popsie's" summer cabin with DENSMORE and "Popsie". said that "Popsie" was a retired priest whom he does not know his real name, he has only heard him referred to as this. told me that when they would go to bed him would have to sleep in the same bed as DENSMORE. his brother told me that him and his brother used to play sort of a game of said that jumping over each other before they went to sleep. whoever was closest to DENSMORE would be the one that was fondled during the night so what they would do is jump over the other one so that they would be as far from said that him and his brother would do DENSMORE as possible. this until one was so close to the wall that the other one couldn't jump any more. why the abuse stopped on him and he told me that when he was about eight years old he had a neighbor by the name of house and do work would go over to told me that he told me that because of this he for him around the house. house so he no longer had to go to would be allowed to stay at told me that he felt so guilty for this because his DENSMORE's. still had to go to DENSMORE's. told me that this guilt followed him for a long time and the therapist that he worked with helped him to realize that it was a self-survival for a child and that he had nothing to feel has spoke with his told me that he , whom he is positive was abused by DENSMORE, but guilty about. brother has not admitted it yet. told me that on February 23, 1993 him and his mother went to the Manchester Diocese and spoke with CHRISTIAN. He told me that he doesn't remember all of the conversation, but he certainly told CHRISTIAN what had happened to him at told me that the spirit of the meeting the hands of DENSMORE. with CHRISTIAN was pretty much the same as the agreement that was later sent to him told me that he could not remember in the mail. the exact conversations and he really doesn't want to say that they asked him not to go to the civil or law enforcement authorities because he has read the letter and agreement so many times that he may be confused with what was said and what is actually in the letter. also went to visit DENSMORE at told me that he the "pedophile house in Manchester". I asked him why he called it that and he told me that it was a rectory house on Beech Street in Manchester that is across the street from the told me that this is where the Diocese sends priests that

DENSMORE lived on the second floor of the building. He said that it was a dark and

are molesting children to help them "heal".

dingy room that was deserving of him to live in.

told me that

DENSMORE really never admitted to doing anything to him he just said to him that he told me that pain. (DENSMORE) could feel his after this meeting with DENSMORE he (DENSMORE) wrote a letter to him told me that he still has that letter. He said that to visit with his mother actually has it because his mother went with gave her the letter so that she could possibly DENSMORE this year and he confront DENSMORE with. had original letters that were sent to him by CHRISTIAN along with the agreement. He also had a copy of a letter that he Diocese. I took those originals and made copies of them. I did not take the originals stores them in a safe deposit box. old me that his intentions when he went to the Diocese were very clearly because spelled out in the letter that he wrote to them. and told me that he has spoke with about abuse by DENSMORE and both that they were abused by DENSMORE. told him was interviewed, see Memorandum to File dated 19 February 2002. vounger brother told me that did not that was also abused by DENSMORE. I told younger wish to speak with us so far and that we had concerns about continued going to told me that told me that DENSMORE's house after he became legal age. used to take money from DENSMORE. He said that there were many would get a loan from DENSMORE knowing that he was times that about his brother never going to pay it back. I asked told me that had denied any abuse. because because they would he is pretty certain that DENSMORE abused play that game of jumping in bed because they knew what would happen. and also told me that he would speak with to see if they will speak with me.

I asked statement as to what he told me and he said that he really did not wish to do that at this point but would certainly think about it.

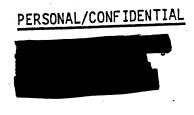




Secretariat for Pastoral Services

Diocese of Manchester

March 11, 1993



Dear

Thank you for coming to meet with me on February 23rd. It is certainly very important for the Diocese to be aware of any and all cases of clergy misbehavior, and it is urgent that we be aware of situations involving child abuse. I am most grateful to you, as a result, for bringing to my attention the situation you described regarding Father Robert Densmore's involvement with you and your brother in the early 1970s. I would like to share with you what I have done in response to our meeting.

First of all, I met at some length with Father Densmore. As I shared with you during our conversations, it is important for a priest who has had a problem in the past to not forget what has happened. Being reminded of the pain he has caused is a reinforcement to assist him to not repeat the same sort of behavior. As you know, when the Diocese first became aware of Father Densmore's drinking and sexual addictions, he was required to go into inpatient therapy at Saint Luke's Institute for a period of approximately eight months, where he dealt extensively with these problems. In my recent conversation with Father Densmore he repeatedly reiterated how that therapy and the follow-up therapy he has been required to undergo has been extremely helpful to him and enabled him to live soberly and chastely. He obviously is saddened by whatever pain he has caused you. He sincerely hopes that the therapy you have been undergoing will continue to be helpful to you, and while he cannot turn back the clock he recognizes his responsibility and sincerely wishes and prays for your forgiveness and your recovery. I strongly reminded Father Densmore of the conditions under which he is allowed to do any priestly ministry in the Diocese, i.e., that he will never again function in parish ministry, and at the recommendation of Saint Luke's Institute can be allowed to work in hospital or institutional ministry only as long as he does not drink and/or fall back into previous patterns of behavior. He clearly knows that any repetition of that behavior will lead to his loss of the right to function as a priest.

As a result of our meeting I also have been in contact with the therapy team at Saint Luke's Institute which treated Father Densmore during his stay there and continues to monitor him in after care. They, of course, are aware of his previous addictive problems but are grateful to be able to continually confront him with those problems and thereby encourage his sobriety and his sexual control.

I stated to you during our meeting, you undoubtedly deserve reimbursement for your counseling expenses. That reimbursement will be made in full, according to the charges you shared with me. Father Densmore has agreed to pay these charges by reimbursing the Diocese in an appropriate sum monthly until the charges are paid off. As I shared with you, it is normal in instances of such compensation to an injured party that the party acknowledge the reception of such compensation and appropriately release the party paying the damages from future liability in regard to the facts for which compensation is being made. I enclose a sample release form in this regard for your consideration. We can certainly discuss the wording if you have any problems with it.

In closing, may I again thank you for the fact that you have approached the Diocese in this regard. I know that your pain and personal injury has been a difficult burden to carry, and I am grateful that it has not prevented you from doing everything you have done to both help yourself and make sure that Father Densmore cannot harm any other child.

I will await word from you to perhaps set up another meeting to discuss the next step in this process.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

(Msgr.) Francis J. Christian Secretary

Chancellor

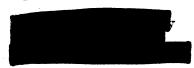
AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

In consideration of the payment by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester, a corporation sole, of the amount of \$2,110.50, the undersigned agrees that no claims will be brought against the said Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester or any of its instrumentalities on account of any events involving the undersigned of any nature prior to this date. The undersigned releases the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester from any claims of liability on account of any such matters.

The parties agree to keep the nature of any discussions between them and the nature of any matters discussed confidential.

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April 29, 1993



Monsignor Francis J. Christian Secretariat for Pastoral Services Diocese Of Manchester 153 Ash Street, PO Box 310 Manchester, NH 03105-0310

Dear Sir;

I received your letter and 'Agreement and Release' form sometime ago. I offer no apologies for the lapsed time.

Having asked me (as a condition of the 'Agreement and Release') to 'keep the nature of any discussions...confidential' has made quite clear to me your neglect to appreciate what happened to me.

Some twenty years ago Father Densmore said to me '...this is what the big boys do...' and made it easy for me to understand that I need not tell anyone. This in a sense was a 'code of silence' I lived with.

I know all to painfully how destructive silence is. Silence empowers an abuser and weakens the abused.

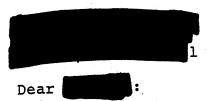
My silence has ended!

I will not sign an 'Agreement and Release' requesting I be silent.





May 10, 1993



I have received your letter of April 29 and have considered its contents. I understand your concern with your perceived need not to consider yourself to have compromised your principles in this matter and would like to explain the requests which were contained in my letter.

Basically, we believe Fr. Densmore has made significant progress in his life as you have in yours. As you know, he has admitted his problems and sought help for them. Making those problems public would destroy his ability to contribute further and would affect his problems. Your coming forward has been helpful and we trust has helped you. Should Father Densmore ever engage in destructive behavior, we would want you to come forward with that information, either to us or to the appropriate authorities. However, going public now with the events about which we have corresponded would not only put you in a compromising position due to the publicity, but would also jeopardize Fr. Densmore's limited ministry, to no constructive end.

It is for these reasons alone that we sought the confidentiality agreement. Should you wish to discuss these more fully, I would be pleased to sit down with you.

Sincerely in Christ, Francis V. Christia

(Msgr.) Francis J. Christian Secretary Chancellor

I FROM MORE

FULL NAME:	OBERT JOSEPH DENSMORE
DATE AND PLACE C	FBIRTH: CLAREMONT Aug. 19, 193V
DATE AND PLACE O	ORDINATION: DEC 20,1961 - St. Peter's ROME
NAME OF ORDAINING	BISHOP: MARTIN J. CICONNOR - TIT ABD OF
DATE OF INCARDINA	ATION (IF EXTERN): LAODICEA IN SYRIA, RECTOR OF
SCHOOLS ATTENDED	North American College YEARS ATTENDANCE:
Elementary:	St. MARY'S 1438-1944
High School:	STEVENS JR.+ SR 1944 - 1950
College:	Holy Cross, Warcester 1950-1954
Seminaries:	Portifical North
	American College, Rome - 1958-1962
Postgraduate	:
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College of the Holy Cross WORCESTER MASS.

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STATEMENT OF CREDITS

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	-E This is to Certify 2	
That_	Robert Clifton Densmore	
Child	of Alfred J. Densmore	
and	Catherine Rainville	
born i	m Claremont, N.H.	(STATE)
on the	2 19 day of August	1 <u>9_32</u>
was	Baptized	
on th	e 27 day of August	19 <u>32</u>
Acc	ording to the Rite of the Roman Ca	tholic Church
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the S	ponsors being Arthur N. Ra Roey E. Kelle	
us ap	pears from the Baptismal Register	
l Pated	July 4 1955	
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34 F. J REMEY CO. INC. N.Y

Robert C Densmore Disbursing Office Noval air Station Paterput River Md.

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C. E. Pensmore & Son, Inc.

WHOLESALE GROCERS CLAREMONT, N. H.

April 23, 1956

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancery Office 145 Lowell Street Manchester New Hampshire

Dear Monsignor Hansberry:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 20th. I was very glad to hear from you and I am forwarding same to Bob today.

Regarding news concerning Bob: I am attaching copy of his letter which he sent to Senator Bridges recently. I think this is self-explanatory and will convey to you more than I could tell you.

As you will gather from the letter, we felt that Senator Bridges did what he could for Bob last year. However, with the enlistments running as sparse as they were at that time, and the necessity for the Navy to draft men, which is very much against their policy, it seemed that it was almost an impossibility to release a man. However, I understand now that the quota is back to normal and the manpower situation is greatly improved, all of which makes me hopeful.

I might also add that Bob had a reply from Senator Bridges to the attached copy, which was mailed to Claremont and which I have forwarded to Bob so I am unable to send you a copy. It was a very favorable reply and promised help when Bob entered application for his release which he is in the process of doing now.

I feel that the fact that he has completed two of his four-year enlistment may be of some help this year, as two years represent what he would have to normally serve had he been drafted.

We will keep you posted on any proceedings, and I know that you will remember us in your prayers to this end.

Most sincerely

Chihirin Gerswore

April 20, 1956

Mrs. Catherine Densmore 10 Bailey Avenue Claremont, N. H.

Dear Mrs. Densmore:

This will be just a brief letter to ask for news concerning Robert. I have not had an opportunity to visit Claremont since last we met or I would have phoned you.

I hope that all is well with you and your family. We presume that efforts to get Bob out of the Navy and into a seminary have failed. However, he must have completed a good portion of his "hitch" by this time and we hope that he has persevered in his desire to study for the priesthood.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

5446

August 19, 1957

Mr. Robert C. Densmore 10 Bailey Avenue Claremont, New Hampshire

Dear Bob,

I was just about to write to you when His Excellency told me that he had received a letter from you. I had hoped you would be released from the service in time to enter a seminary this fall, but it appears that you have another year in the Navy.

You are carried on our books as officially accepted as a candidate for the priesthood in this diocese. This means that you will be assigned to a recognized seminary automatically next summer, unless you change your mind in the meantime. Since this is your status, the Bishop feels that it is not necessary to interview you at this time, so you will be saved a trip to Manchester. If you are down this way, however, I hope you will drop in for a visit. I would be happy to see you at any time.

With personal best wishes to you and your family, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

10 Bailey Avenue Claremont, N.H. August 17, 1957

Most Rev. Matthew F. Brady, D.D. 145 Lowell Street Manchester, N.H.

Your Excellency:

You will perhaps remember me as having sought, two years ago, acceptance as a candidate for the priesthood for the Diocese of Manchester, contingent upon the completion of my military service. Your generous and gracious treatment of me at that time was and is greatly appreciated.

My pastor, Father John J. McCarthy, has suggested that I contact you at this time and seek a personal interview with you. Since the date of expiration of my military service is August 30, 1958, which will leave little time for any extensive planning at that time next year, he feels that it would be advantageous for me to meet you now, in order that any preliminary steps which you might wish to take may be taken.

I shall be in New Hampshire until August 31st, and could come to Manchester any time before that date. If this meets with your approval, would you kindly advise me as to when you could receive me.

Asking your Excellency's blessing, I am

Yours respectfully, Robert 6. Deusmore

Robert C. Densmore



SCHOOL and TREMONT STREETS
BOSTON 7, MASS.

CLENWOOD J. SHERRARI

Jel. 2, 1958

Very Kev. and clear Migh. Mank you very much for your riply to my little of jast lugaret. It has been very discourteous of me not to reply insul, but somehow my good actuations were lost The Connecions of all the Elicitys which can tempen during a very short leave. matter has just told me That the will be in Mancheste

on business this Coming Trusday and that she would plant to see you for a few mornents. Therefore, I am Juny her this note to take to you, lecause I want to reafferne my very servere dedère à totte tue demanding This fall, is it carriedates for the descere of feel that, along with possession of the necessary qualifications of course, à firm acrère for, and ân inclination to, The priestly life is an important sign of a Weation, and I sim happy



BOSTON 7, MASS.

to report That God in Her goodium Till is pleased to favor me with this desire unig militari.

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Two intentions: Thist, to

tell you that I still very
deficitely wish to study for

the presidend, and second, to

tell you when I will be

available

There facto, you will set me provid what the next step is, when the proper time arrives

His Excellency The Bishops and
yourself, and legging the
flessing of you both, I am:
yours most Junearly.
Bak Kensmore

February 4, 1958

Mr. Robert C. Densmore Disbursing Office Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md.

Dear Bob,

Many thanks for your letter which your mother left with me this morning. It is good to know that you will be released from the Navy in August. In view of this news, we shall place you on the list of those to be assigned to First Theology in September.

Since the seminaries are very crowded, I hope that we shall be able to maks our assignments early in the summer. We had to hold up some of them last year because the applications were received quite late, so we had a bit of difficulty. You will be informed as soon as possible in order that you may be able to make the necessary arrangements for the G. I. Bill benefits.

In order to complete your file, we should like to have the following:

1) Letter of recommendation from your pastor.

2) Letter of recommendation from Holy Cross College.

3) Statement from you as to:

a) any indebtedness for education; b) affiliation with another diocese or religious society.

Statement from your mother to the effect that there is no insanity/or epilepsy in your family.

I believe that these items will complete the documentation. If you are given a medical check-up when you are released from the Navy, we should like a copy of the report. Otherwise, we shall send you one of our forms to be filled out by the examining physician.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

Diocese of Manchester

Sel. 1133 5453

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE SEMINARY

T. Robert Clifton Densmore Name? { Give all names in full, not initials } IO Bailey Avenue .. Claremont, N.H. Residence? { Street and Number } St. Mary. Claremont, N.H. In what Parish? Birthplace: Where? Claremont, N.H. When? {Full date of Birth } August 19, 1932 5 If not born in Diocese of Manchester, when did you locate permanently in this Diocese? ______ Enclose certificates of Baptism, Confirmation, and parents' marriage. II. 1 In what schools did you receive Primary and Grammar education? St. Mary 1938 111 Stavenes Junior High. 1944-46 During what calendar years? to inclusive. 2 What High Schools or Preparatory Schools did you attend? Stevens High School During what complete school years? 1946 to 1950 inclusive. 3 What College did you attend? Holy Cross During what complete school years? 19.50 to 19.51 inclusive. In what college grades? 4 During how many complete school years did you study Latin? _____ Greek? _____ Philosophy? _____ What College Degrees did you obtain? Enclose High School or College reports for each year. If your studies were notably interrupted, state when, for how long, why, and at what occupation. III. 1 For what year of College, Philosophy, or Theology do you apply? First Theology What Seminary would you prefer to enter? Lastre Suggest. N. Am. College Manufecture of Can you provide for your tuition expenses? Can you provide for your tuition expenses? .. Enclose the following:

Recommendations from your Pastor and School or College Superiors.

Statement from applicant concerning any indebtedness for education.

Statement as to previous affiliation with other diocese or religious society.

Report of complete physical examination by reputable physician.

Statement from parents as to insanity or epilepsy in family.



STATE OF VERMONT

5454

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		City Rutla nd
A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O		Clerk's Office November 12, 1830

Certificate of Marriage Declaration of Intention of Marriage

Full name of Groom (expectant) Alfred James Densmore
Place of residence West Claremont, NH Color White
Occupation Sale sman Number of Marriage 1st Divorced
Place of birth West Claremont, NH Age in years 28
Father's name Clifton E Densmore Birthplace West Claremont NH
Mother's name Florence C Whitney Birthplace No. Leominster, Mass.
Full name of Bride (expectant) Catherine Kelley Rainville
Maiden name, if widow or divorced
Place of residence Library Ave. 89 Rutland City, Color Vt.
Occupation Number of Marriage 1st Divorced
Place of Birth Rutland, V_rmont Age in years 29
Father's name Arthur N Rainville Birthplace Proctor, Vt.
Mother's nameJohanna Kelley Birthplace Rutland, Vt.
I, the expectant Groom or Bride named in the foregoing declaration, hereby certify that the information given is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Catherine Kelley Rainville
(Expectant Groom or Bride)

is is to certify that	אנומ				Clar	(Give name in full)	New	Hamp	shire	!	
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tended the Stever	15					High School of Clar	014011	T	- 3 P		
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as enrolled in this s	chool	8	ight			semesters. Below	is a co	rrect sta	tement	of his	record
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ated July	5,			19	<u>55</u>	<i>U'</i>	Princ	cipal		_Official	Positio
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Third Year		36	5	95	1	Physics	3	36	5	_86_	1
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A. Many, Clauser

July 13, 1955

Rev. John J. McCarthy St. Mary Rectory Claremont, N. H.

Re: Robert C. Densmore

Dear Father McCarthy:

Ordinariate that the Armed Forces take a dim view of releasing boys in the service for seminary studies. In particular the Navy requires that the full tour of duty be served before it will allow one of its members to go on inactive duty. Mence, it appears that Robert Densmore will be obliged to serve out his full tour of duty before being eligible for the seminary.

With regret and best wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. dansberry Chancellor

C. E. Deusmore & Son, Inc.

WHOLESALE GROCERS
CLAREMONT, N. H.

July 28, 1955

Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady Bishop's House 657 River Road Manchester New Hampshire

Your Excellency:

I wish to thank you for the statement which you left me to take to Senator Bridges.

I flew to Washington July 21 and was most graciously received by the Senator. He said he was glad I came direct to him and that he would do everything in his power to help, and I think he will. At the same time, he reminded me that it was a pretty tough job to get anyone out of the Navy. He ordered photostatic copies made of your statement.

He feels that this is not the time for him to act, but when Bob returns to the States in August and applies for release, he will no doubt be refused and that is where he will step in. At that time, he will confer with Secretary of the Navy Thomas, and Chief of Naval Personnel, Hallaway.

Thanking you again, I remain

Gratefully yours

Catherine Densmore

luly 20, 1955.

This is to certify that Mr.

Robert C. Densmore of Claremont, N. H., has been accepted as a divinity student for the foman Catholic Diocese of Manchester in New Hampshire, from the armsd services he wall be cestimed to a recognized divinity school for study and preparation for the ministry.

It is many that the strange of Manchester in Mew Hampshire, and Manchester in Mew Hampshire, and Diocese of Manchester in Mew Hampshire, it is a strange of Manchester in Mew Hampshire, and Diocese of Manchester in Mew Hampshire, and Mew Hampshire, and Manchester in Mew Hampshire, and Me

CATHERINE R. DENSMORE 10 BAILEY AVENUE CLAREMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

To the best of my knowledge, there has never been any insanity or epilepsy in the Densmore or

Rainville families.

signed- Whereve



St. Peter's Church

-E This is to Certify >-

That Alfred James Densmore
and <u>Catherine Kelly Rainville</u>
were lawfully -E Married >-
on the 22nd day of November 1930
According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church
and in conformity with the laws of
the State of <u>Bermont</u>
Reb. <u>J. M. Brown</u> officiating,
in the presence of Edward A. Sullivan
and Mary Frances Cawley Mitnesses,
as appears from the Marriage Register of this Church.
Bated February 24, 1958.

	as liferation of Mant:
	Certificate of Baptism
	Church of
	51. MARY
30	Clarement, N.H
	-E This is to Certify >-
	That Pobent Clifton Densmone
	Childr of Alfaed J. Densmine
	and atherine Mainville
	born in Care most (STATE)
	on the 19 day of August 1932
	was Baptized
	on the 27 day of August 1932
	According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church
	by the Refi- Patha L. Massicatre
	the Sponsors being \ \ \frac{\lambda ethur N. Painville}{\lambda \sigma \ \ \lambda ethur N.
	as appears from the Baptismal Register of this Church.
	Dated March 21-1958 She from Carry
577	NO. 314 F. J. REMEY CO. INC. N.Y

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

5 March 1958

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor, Diocese of Manchester Chancery Office 145 Lowell Street Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Monsignor Hansberry:

Robert Clifton Densmore, 10 Bailey Avenue, Claremont, N. H., is applying for admission to the seminary and has requested me to forward a letter of recommendation.

Mr. Densmore enrolled at Holy Cross in September 1950, and was graduated on 19 June with a Bachelor of Arts degree, Magna Cum Laude. He had a general academic average of 87.7, and ranked 34th in a class of 413. As his record indicates, he was well above average in ability and achievement. He was a serious-minded, cooperative student with broad intellectual interests and well developed cultural tastes.

Mr. Densmore was an even tempered, personable young man of excellent character and exemplary conduct, both on and off the campus. He made many friends on campus among his fellow students and faculty, and enjoyed the confidence and respect of all who knew him.

I am happy to recommend him as an excellent candidate for the seminary.

Sincerely yours in Christ

(Rev.) James E. FitzGerald, S.J.

Dean

JEF: bg

ST. MARY RECTORY 32 PEARL ST. CLAREMONT, N. H.

March 29, 1958

Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady, DD IL5 Lowell Street Manchester, New Hampshire

Your Excellency;

I am happy to recommend Robert Densmore who is seeking admission to a seminary to study for the priesthood. I have known Robert Densmore since 1951. His personal character and general behaviour are beyond reproach. He is an exemplary Catholic boy. Attendance at mass, reception of the Sacraments is frequent. His four years at Holy Cross speak for themselves. He is a gentleman in every sense of the word, intelligent, respectful, responsive. He will use his talents profitably in the service of God I trust that Your Excellency will consider him suitable material for the holy state of the priesthood.

Sincerely yours in Chris

This is to certify that	Robe	ert Cl	ifto	n Der	ısmor	(Give name in full)					
of Naval Air S						Patuxent River		Ma	rylan	d	
(Number and	street)		at C7	orem	on t	(City) _(City)Sullivan	(C	ountv)_	N. H	(State)	
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March 1, 1958

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that I am not indebteded financially to any individual or institution for any past education received.

Robert C. Deusmore
ROBERT C. DENSMORE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that I neither have had any previous affiliation with any other diocese or religious society as a candidate for Holy Orders or religious vows, nor have I made any such commitment to any other bishop or religious society.

ROBERT C. DENSMORE

Diocese of Manchester

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE SEMINARY

· I.
ame? { Give all names in full, not initials } ROBERT CLIFTON DENSMORE
esidence? {Street and Number Town or City } 10 Bailey Avenue, Claremont
what Parish? St. Mary's
rthplace: Where? Claremont When? {Full date of Birth } August 19, 1932
not born in Diocese of Manchester, when did you locate permanently in this Diocese?
Enclose certificates of Baptism, Confirmation, and parents' marriage.
II.
what schools did you receive Primary and Grammar education? St. Mary's Grammar School (six years
Stevens Jr. High School (2 years)
During what calendar years? 1938 to 1946 inclusive.
During what calendar years?
During what complete school years? 19.46 to 19.50 inclusive.
hat College did you attend? College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass.
During what complete school years? 19.50 to 19.54 inclusive.
In what college grades? Freshman through Senior
In what college grades?
uring how many complete school years and you study Latin:
What College Degrees did you obtain? A.B. (English major)
Enclose High School or College reports for each year.
f your studies were notably interrupted, state when, for how long, why, and at what occupation.
September, 1954, until the present time U.S. Navy
III.
for what year of College, Philosophy, or Theology do you apply? First Theology I will gladly enter any seminary, but I would prefer
or what year of Couege, rhuosophy, or I herboy to gladly enter any seminary, but I would prefer
not to go to a Canadian seminary.
What Seminary would you prefer to enter? not to go to a Canadian seminary. San you provide for your tuition expenses? Yes. I am entitled to \$4200, under the G.I. Bill. Also I feel I can take care of any further expense in

Enclose the following:

Recommendations from your Pastor and School or College Superiors.

Statement from applicant concerning any indebtedness for education.

Statement as to previous affiliation with other diocese or religious society.

Report of complete physical examination by reputable physician.

Statement from parents as to insanity or epilepsy in family.

May 14, 1958

Mr. Robert C. Densmore Disbursing Office Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md.

Dear Bob,

We are processing the applications of new candidates for the priesthood and trying to line them up for fall assignment. His Excellency is considering possible candidates for the American College in Rome. He has directed me to ask whether you would be interested in going there for four years of Theology. Will you please let me know your reaction?

I visited Claremont briefly the other night and had dinner with Hazel and Doc Lord, Polly and Frank Bush, and Jack Crapp. Your name came up in the course of the conversation. I didn't have an opportunity to see your mother. I understand that she is living just off Broad Street now and that she has sold her pusiness. The new St. Mary High School is not yet completed but the students should enter this fall.

Best wishes from all of us here at the office.

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

May 26, 1958

Mr. Robert Densmore Disburing Office Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md.

Dear Mr. Densmore:

Many thanks for your letter which arrived while I was in New York for a Canon Law meeting. I have referred it to Ris Excellency and he has made a note of your willingness to go to Rome for studies.

We are working on the seminary assignments now but it will be several weeks before we can let you know definitely what your fate will be. I presume that you will most likely get the chance to study in Rome.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

Disbursing Office Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md. May 19, 1958

Very Reverend Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor, Diocese of Manchester Chancery Office 145 Lowell Street Manchester, N.H.

Dear Monsignor:

Thank you for your letter of the 14th. I am not wholly unaware of the great honor which His Excellency the Bishop does me by considering my name in connection with assignment to the seminary holding the eminent reputation which the North American College holds. His Excellency's past kindness to me in accepting me so readily for his diocese would seem sufficiently magnanimous on his part, without his according me this latest mark of favor, which seems to me to be far out of proportion to my actual merits.

Knowing something of the exacting academic routine to which students at a North American College are subjected, I repeat that I find it sursing to learn that I am being considered for possible assignment there nowever, as I have indicated before, I will promptly and with good grace accept any seminary assignment which His Excellency decides to give me, and that would include possible assignment to the North American College. Furthermore, should I be so assigned, I would strive to the best of my ability to meet successfully the high standards proposed by that institution, and thus justify the wisdom of His Excellency's choice.

I expect to be discharged on July 30th, and after that date can be reached at 10 Bailey Avenue, Claremont. It was good to hear that you are able to see your old friends in Claremont occasionally. Should you be in our area of the state again, we would be very pleased to have you stop in.

Thanking you for your kind personal wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

Bob Deusmore

May 29, 1958

lir. Robert Densmore Disbursing Office Naval Air Station Patuxent, Md.

Dear Bob,

The Most Reverend Bishop has submitted your name to the American College in Rome as a possible candidate for the class of First Theology. You will probably hear from the rector, Bishop O'Connor, in the near future.

Since you have been away from the books for some time, you may find it to your advantage to poush up a bit on latin during the summer. I imagine that all of the lectures in Theology will be given in Latin, however, since you have had six years of it, you should be able to adjust without great difficulty.

With congratulations and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

5471

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS : VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

Yellowed :-

June 18th, 1958



His Excellency
Most Rev.Matthew F.Brady
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
MANCHESTER, N. H.

Dear Bishop Brady,

This will acknowledge your letter of May 29th about Mr.Robert C. Densmore whom you propose to send to the College this Fall for first theology.

Mr. Densmore's case is a bit complicated and to avoid any embarassment I have asked the Rev.Robert F.Willi, Assistant Vice Rector, who has just left for the United States to call on you personally by appointment and explain the situation. The substance of his message is that it will be prudent to forward before July 1st all the scholastic record of Mr.Densmore so that it can be submitted to the Gregorian University to see if they will approve his enrollment.

I would be very happy to accept another student from your Excellency and I do hope that it will be possible in the case of this seminarian, but it is well to avoid any misunderstanding now. Any help that we can give you will be a pleasure for us .

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ

Martin J.O'Connor Titular Bishop of Thespiae

Frantin J. O Common

Rector

June 19, 1958

Office of the Dean Holy Cross College Worcester, Mass.

Dear Father:

Will you kindly send us a transcript of the marks of Robert Clifton Densmore of Claremont, N. H. who entered the college in September of 1950 and graduated "magna cum laude" four years later? Our purpose in asking is that we wish to enroll the young man in the North American College in Rome and we had to rush off our only copy of his marks this morning.

Many thanks for your kindness in this matter.

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. Hansberry
Chancellor

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE



VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

R O M E

POSTAL ADDRESS: VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

July 4, 1958

Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady, D.D. Bishop of Manchester 657 River Road Manchester, New Hampshire

Your Excellency,

It has been necessary for the Most Reverend Rector to leave the city for a short time and in his absence he has requested me to look into the possibilities of registering Mr. Robert C. Densmore in the first theology class at the Gregorian University this fall.

With the receipt of Mr. Densmore's transcript from Holy Cross College it has been possible to make a thorough examination of the case with Father Zoltan Alszeghy, S.J., Dean of the Theology Department of the Gregorian University. I hope that the result of our conversations will meet with your satisfaction.

In brief Mr. Densmore may enter the first theology class at the Gregorian University but he must be prepared to take a comprehensive examination in philosophy when he arrives in Rome next October.

Father Alszeghy, who has an understandable desire to maintain the high standards of the University, was somewhat concerned about two of the University statutes. The rules require that candidates for the theology course take two years of philosophy in an unmixed curriculum (no arts courses such as those which Mr. Densmore took in English Literature while at Holy Cross) and that the institution which gives the philosophy courses have ecclesiastical approbation of their philosophic teaching.

In order to compensate for these rules Father Alszeghy said that Mr. Densmore would be required to take the examination mentioned above and also he would have to be assured that such theological faculties as our Catholic University would accept Mr. Densmore. Monsignor McDonald, Mector of Catholic University, who is visiting in Rome at the present time, said that a student with Mr. Densmore's qualifications would be accepted at their Theological College.

From my conversation with Father Alszeghy I gathered that the examination, although comprehensive, would be no more severe than the one taken by Mr. Densmore at Holy Cross. He must simply show that he has a reasonably good grasp of scholastic philosophy. Since the examination is not to be entered in official University records, it will be given in English. However, Mr. Densmore should use scholastic terminology and he should know a few technical terms and phrases in Latin. It was recommended that Mr. Densmore should give a little extra emphasis to Ontology, Natural Theology and Ethics.

Should Mr. Densmore find that it is impossible to prepare for the examination or should he fail to satisfy his examiners, the Most Reverend Rector would be happy nonetheless to have Mr. Densmore as a student at the North American College. A review of philosophy and a year's experience with Latin lectures would be an excellent preparation for theology.

Incidentally, Your Excellency, some years ago at the College new students were indoctrinated by undergoing a sham examination given by other students. Lest an Alumnus hear of the examination and tell Mr. Densmore not to study, he should be assured that the examination is not a student ruse.

With an assurance of my prayers and respectful best wishes. I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John W. marshall

(Rev.) John A. Marshall Asst. to the Vice Rector

July 14, 1958

Mr. Robert Densmore Disbursing Office Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Mi.

Dear Bob, -

This letter is being mailed to you at Patuxent and a carbon copy will be sent to your mother in Claremont so that you will get the information it contains as soon as possible. You said in your last letter that you would be released on July 30th but this precaution is taken just in case you have left your station already.

We have heard by air mail from Rome that it will be necessary for you to take a comprehensive examination in philosophy when you arrive there in October. The reason for this is that the rules require that candidates for the theology course take two years of philosophy in an unmixed curriculm (no arts courses such as those you took at Holy Cross) and that the institution which gives the philosophy courses have ecclesiastical approbation of their philosophic teaching.

In order to compensate for these rules, the Dean of the Theology Department of the Gregorian University requires the examination and assurance that such theological faculties as our Catholic University would accept you. We have cleared the latter requirement through the Rector of Catholic University; the former will be up to you.

It is our understanding that the examination although comprehensive, will be no more severe than the one taken by you at Holy Cross. You must simply show that you have a reasonably good grasp of scholastic philosophy. The examination will be in English but you should use scholastic terminology and know a few technical terms and phrases in Latin. It is recommended that you give a little extra emphasis to Ontology, Natural Theology and Ethics.

If you fail the examination, you may remain at the North American College in Rome where a review of philosophy and a year's experience with Latin lectures will be an excellent preparation for theology. I don't think you'll fail it.

July 14, 1958

Mr. Robert Densmore

Incidentally, a warning!!! Some years ago, at the College, new students were initiated by a sham examination given by other students. Some alumnus may tell you about this and say you need not study. He assured that this is not a fake and get the books out.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Very Rev. Harr. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor

5477 Jan

Disbursing Office U.S. Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md. July 16, 1958

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry, Chancellor Chancery Office, Diocese of Manchester 145 Lowell Street Manchester, N.H.

Dear Monsignor:

This will necessarily be brief, as circumstances here are such that I am working very hard these last few days. Sometimes I think that the Navy is determined to wring out of me my last cunce of strength before they let me go.

Your letter came this morning. Needless to say, ever since I learned that I might go to Rome, I have been more or less concerned about the fact that I have been away from the academic routine for some time; and, in the small amount of spare time that I do have, I have been doing a little reviewing in Latin and philosophy. I have also bought myself a philosophy textbook in Latin (written by some Jesuit at B.C. several years ago), and that is proving very helpful. During August and September, I hope to devote a great deal of time to this "brushing up" process.

Your information concerning the comprehensive in philosophy, although it jolted me a bit, is actually not too surprising, since I had thought that after all these years away from school, I would surely have to face some sort of examination when I arrived in Rome. I am grateful for the exact details which you have furnished me, and also for His Excellency's and your confidence in my ability to take this first hurdle in stride. I will certainly do my best to live up to your expectations.

I AM glad of one thing—that this exam will be in English. One of the things which distresses me the most about going to Rome is the idea of lectures in Latin, although I suppose this is a fear which is shared by all who go over there. I suppose I will readily get accustomed to the routine, but still, I would dislike the prospect of starting off at the beginning with a comprehensive oral in Latin.

My plans for leaving here remain unchanged (IF the situation in the Middle East does not explode), and I will be in Claremont after the first of August.

Thank you, again, for the detailed information.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Deusmore

BOB DENSMORE

September 5, 1958

His Excellency
Most Rev. Martin J. O'Connor, D.D., Rector
North American College
Via del Gianicolo, 14
Rome
Vatican City, Europe

Your Excellency:

Will you kindly arrange to have sent to our candidate, Mr. Robert Densmore, 10 Bailey Avenue, Claremont, N. H. U. S. A., the customary information concerning the requirements of the college for new candidates. I was talking with him yesterday and he said that he had not received it, however, Father Markham was able to brief him on many points.

With appreciation and best wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. Hansberry, Chancellor

October 8, 1958 Mr. Robert C. Densmore North American College via del Gianicolo, 14 Rome Vatican City (Europe) Dear Bob. It was good to receive your letter from the Mauretania. Hope you finally arrived safely in Rome. Apparently you went through quite a storm en route. The news of the Holy Father's death has been quite a blow and both radio and newspaper officials have kept us busy the past two days. I am supposed to go to New London, Conn. with the Bishop this afternoon but don't know whether we shall get away on schedule. The report of your physical examination is enclosed as requested. I think we can spare it from the file. Best wishes from all of us in Manchester for a successful year. Sincerely in Christ. Thomas S. Hansberry Chancellor Enc.

Cunard Line 548 RMS Mauretania September 26, 1958

Dear Monsignor,

This is being written in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. The roll of the ship is pretty bad today, and although I am not in the least seasick; this letter will probably look as if I were. The typewriter carriage refuses to respond in a normal fashion.

I finally heard from the College. They sent a printed circular, by airmail which listed the various requirements and necessities. Luckily, my talk with Fr. Markham covered mostly everything, so I was pretty well fixed when I received their letter. There is just one item-could you send me that report of physical examination which I sent you? They seem to require it, and it is the only one I have.

I expect to arrive at LeHavre on the 30th, and go from there by train to Rome, which should get me there in plenty of time to begin the year. However, there is talk on the ship today of our being two days late, because of this turbulence we are passing through. It seems to me that we are catching the fringe of a regular hurricane.

It was a pleasure to have a few words with you at the dedication at the beginning of the month, and I shall be looking forward to seeing you--isn't it next year?--when the Bishop makes his visit to Rome. Many, many thanks for the kindness of your many favors to me in the past.

Yours sincerely;

Robert C. Denemore