



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

October 27, 1997

Third Party Privacy Rights

Ms. Christine Bethard
1008 Neptune
Leucadia, CA 92024

Dear Christine,

Thank you so very much for the card you sent to Mel and for the generous donation. I certainly enjoyed speaking with you while we were at San Luis Rey.

I received a letter from Robert today. He sounds good. Christina, if we can be of any help, please do not hesitate to ask. Be assured of our prayers for you and for Robert.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address]

OFM VANH 1

0001



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TM

OFM VANH I
0002

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barn's burnt
down... now i can
see the moon.

--masahide

10/8

Mel-
Sorry it took me so
long to send this. But
given the situation, it's
still the perfect card.

Love to you and Mike
and Joel.

your friend,
Christine

Bethard

1008 Neptune
Lencadia Ca
92024



\$ 5,000

Fr. Mel Jurisich, OFM
1508 Arch St.
Berkeley, Ca. 94708



I answered this but-
I think you should also read



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

*Bay Area
SF
San Francisco*

- 1) Support of program
- 2) access to *psych on your care*
- 3) a group of friends & colleagues to help in

*housing jobs
job preparation
re-training*

September 25, 1997

Dear Robert,

I know how disappointed you must have been when you received my last letter. I hope in this letter I can give you better news.

I now have the final information from Pat.

I will summarize the letter:

1. Communication regarding the County of residence following the parole should be directed as follows:

Classification and Parole Representative
California Medical Facility
PO Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696

A copy of all correspondence (no matter from whom) should be sent to:

Ellie McGunnigle
Parole Agent III
Unit Supervisor
State Parole Office
411 East Canon Perdido Street
Suite 15
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

2. Pat has spoken to Ron Zonen, the DA who prosecuted your case and he is willing to write a letter to the CMPR at Vacaville indicating that he does not think it is a good idea to have you paroled to the SB county.
3. Pat feels it would be helpful if a local SB *(Virgil?)* would write a letter noting the current state of affairs re St. A *(Virgil?)*.

OFM VANH 1

0005



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

Classification and Parole Representative
California Medical Facility
PO Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696
January 19, 1998

COPY

Dear Sir,

I write this letter as provincial superior of the Franciscan Friars of California stating our concern and our willingness to help Robert Van Handel as he begins a new life on the outside.

In the areas of San Francisco, Alameda and Sacramento counties (in order of priority), where the friars are quite highly represented, we are willing and able to help Robert in the following ways:

1. to find adequate housing;
2. we have a net-work of people (friends, colleagues, other friars) who are willing to help Robert in his search for adequate employment; these people are also willing to help in job preparation and in re-tooling programs for different occupations;
3. we know professional therapists who are available to offer therapy programs and on-going care for Robert;
4. we, friars, are certainly committed to continual fraternal and moral support for Robert;
5. we are also committed to offer Robert some financial support as he gets started.

Thank you

Provincial of the Franciscans of the Province of St. Barbara

cf. to Edie M. ...
1. 1. 5

OFM VANH 1
0006

- you, and the impact that would have if you were paroled there.
4. Ron Zonen is also going to ask the victim to sign a request asking that you be transferred to another county. That will really help.
 5. Pat also spoke to someone from the State Parole Headquarters in SF. they said that if we (you) do not receive a response to our letters within a month or so of the expected parole date, we should contact Ms McGunnigle in the SB office.
 6. All of the above will be to no avail if you do not request that your housing be changed to the location and circumstances outlined in the Province letter (which tells me that we have to have all this figured out). Pat says your wishes have to coincide with our proposed plans.

I (we) should be very grateful to Pat for all his help. It took him over three weeks of phone calls to gather all this. I will write and thank ^{for} you on your behalf as well as the [REDACTED]. He is a good man!

I will make sure that Joe C and Michael get copies of this letter as well as Pat's letter. How all this plays out should be worked out with Michael and Joe as they talk with you and work with you. I am pleased to have been able to play a small part on your behalf.

Fraternally,
[REDACTED]

cc: [REDACTED]
Michael P. Doherty, [REDACTED]

Here is some additional information you may find useful:

Ron Zonen, the Senior Deputy District Attorney who prosecuted this case, told me that he will write a letter to the CMPR at Vacaville indicating he does not think it is a good idea to have Father Robert paroled to this county. I will send you a copy of that letter. I also think it would be helpful for a local representative of the Friars to include a letter, making particular note of the current state of affairs regarding St. Anthony's, Father Robert, and the impact it may have if he is paroled here to Santa Barbara.

In addition, I asked Ron Zonen to contact the victim of Father Robert's case and see if the victim would sign a request that Father Robert be transferred to another county. Under Penal Code section 3058 - If the victim so requests - the Parole Office will usually act favorably on a request to house the parolee in excess of 25 miles from the victim's residence.

I spoke personally to Ellie McGunnigle about the above information, and also to Linda Shutes - from State Parole Headquarters in San Francisco. Ms. Shutes suggested that if you do not receive a response to your letters that you contact the Santa Barbara Office to the attention of Ms. McGunnigle, within a month or so of the expected parole date.

One other final point -- all of this will be for nothing unless Father Robert himself requests that his housing be changed to the location and circumstances outlined in your letter. With this in mind, you might want to communicate with him directly at Vacaville to make sure that his wishes coincide with your proposed plans.

Father Mel -- If you need anything further on this, please give me a call at my direct number (805) 568-2305.

With kindest, personnel regards, I am,

Very truly yours,



PATRICK J. MCKINLEY
Assistant District Attorney

PJM:lf
cc: Ellie McGunnigle
State Parole Office

OFM VANH 1
0008

from the desk of...

Mel Jurisich, OFM

Local probate officer →
Encouraging -

6 County of Pinal
San Antonio

Olaf Wes
Ellison

408 422-2043

Dear Mel,

8 March 98

I hope this letter finds you well. Mike tells me about your various exploits including the important meeting of the Old Guard regarding my issues. Thank you again for the many kindnesses you have performed on my behalf.

Recently Herb Liberman was here for a visit. He was positively beaming about how you had thanked him for taking up my cause. He said to me that receiving thanks like that makes all his work worth doing. You really made him feel appreciated.

I just wrote to Mike D. telling him that my "counselor," Mr. La Bue, told me that parole had assigned me to Salinas. He knew we were trying for SF, so he faxed the Regional Headquarters in SF the letter I had given him stating the reasons for our choice. I don't think Mr. La Bue had a copy of the Provincial's letter to that effect. La Bue suggested that one of the priors should personally contact the Regional Headquarters and make the case for San Francisco. I will need to send a memo to Mr. La Bue about whom to contact. In a letter from Pat McK in SB which Michael sent me, he mentioned a Linda Skutes in SF. Perhaps she is the one.

The good news is that parole seems to realize I cannot ~~be~~ serve parole in SB. I can think of worse places than Salinas, but I'm sure I would make an ~~unhappy~~ unhappy splash in such a community.

OEM VANH 1
0010

I wrote all this to Mike, but if he is off preaching a mission it might be a while before you and the Provincial got the news.

I have cautious hopes of getting out on the morning of May 25. Probably the following day I will have to report to my parole officer. I have seen many men think they were being released only to be foiled days or hours before walking out the door — hence my hesitation. God willing I will see you before the summer!

Please give Joe C my best.

Fraternally,
Robert

Dear Christine

March 10, 1998

I just spoke with you on the phone.
Thanks very much for coming to visit - the last? -
and also many thanks for the package chock full of
goodies. This is the nice per you sent.

Enclosed is the fax from parole to my counselor.
Chuck La Bue is my counselor.

Rich Winistorfer is from parole headquarters, Region II.
His address and number are at the top.

Ray Willenberg is the Salinas Unit Supervisor. His
address is at the bottom along with Joe Rausch
who must be my parole agent.

I think Winistorfer is trying to establish that
Parole, not I, is in control of the show. In his view
it is the victim, not the prison, who got me out of
S. B. Further the reference about church involvement
is because he might be supposing that church and
my crime are interconnected. Again, I think he
wants to establish control.

I'm feeling better about the whole thing than
I was at first, partly because my group reacted
so positively.

Another thought about church involvement:
parole may think that I plan to step back into parish
work.

I will send a copy of this fax to Mike in

Malibu. Perhaps you could send it to Mel in the
Provincial Office, and to Mike in Washington.

Prov. office fax: 510 536-3970

FYI - Susan Retzsch

Malibu fax: 310 456-9417

Good luck, bad luck, who knows?

Love,
Robert

P.S. What is your fax number?

**Parole & Community Services Division
Region II Headquarters
1145 Market Street, 9th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103**

**T 415.557.2860
FAX 415.557.0934**

To: Chuck LaBue **Date:** Mar. 5, 1998

From: Rick Whistler

Re: VanHandel J. 30982

Message:

Regarding the fax that you recently sent me stating that Inmate VanHandel would like his parole transferred from the Santa Barbara area to San Francisco County. Because of victim concerns Inmate VanHandel's parole has been transferred to the Salinas area. It is also the Parole Division's intent for Inmate VanHandel to not have as much involvement in the church as he might want, because of the circumstances surrounding his commitment offense. Any arrangements that need to be made can be coordinated through the Supervisor, Ray Willenberg.

Salinas Unit
365 VICTOR ST. - STE P
Salinas, CA 93907

408-422-2043

Fax: 408-422-2254

P.A.: JOE ROUSH

cc: Ray Willenberg

Page 1 of 4

Third party privacy

THOMAS W. SNEDDON, JR.
District Attorney



PATRICK J. McKINLEY
Assistant District Attorney
CHRISTIE SCHULTZ
Assistant District Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

October 29, 1997

California Department of Corrections
Victim Services Program
P. O. Box 94283-0001
Sacramento, CA. 94283-0001

Re: **Robert Van Handel**
CDC# J-30982

Gentlemen:

I was the prosecutor assigned the case of People v. Robert Van Handel. Mr. Van Handel was a clergyman in Santa Barbara who during his many years of service to the church molested numerous boys, all of whom were his parishioners. There is still a great deal of animosity among members of this community, including his former victims and their families, directed against Mr. Van Handel.

I believe it is in his best interests, along with the best interests of the community, that Mr. Van Handel be allowed, and even directed, to relocate to a community other than Santa Barbara. I understand the church is prepared to place him in the Bay Area of Northern California should the Department of Corrections agree. I would join in that request. I believe placement there would be a very wise decision.

Enclosed please find a form titled "Request for Notification/Special Conditions of Parole", CDC 1707, filed by the now adult victim of this case, [REDACTED]

If I may be of any further assistance please feel free to call.

Most sincerely,

Ronald Zonen
Senior Deputy District Attorney

Enclosure

OFM VANH 1
0015

☐ Santa Barbara Office
Courthouse
1105 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

☐ Lompoc Office
115 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, California 93436
(805) 737-7760

☐ Lompoc Office
401 E. Ocean
Lompoc, California 93436
(805) 737-7777

☐ Santa Maria Office
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, California 93454
(805) 346-7540



THE FRANCISCANS
OLD MISSION
2201 LAGUNA STREET
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93105
(805) 682-4713

Oct. 25, 1997

Classification and Parole Representative
California Medical Facility
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696

Dear Parole Representative:

I have been told that arrangements are being made for the parole of Robert Van Handel, CDC number J 30982. The Franciscan Friars and I of Mission Santa Barbara, adjacent to St. Anthony's Seminary, and many other concerned citizens strongly urge that Robert Van Handel not be paroled in the County of Santa Barbara. There are a good number of persons in this area who are still very angry over what happened at St. Anthony's Seminary. They are strongly opposed to the re-entry of those who are accused of child abuse. They are ever on the watch to prevent this happening. We Franciscans continue to suffer from their animosity and the media attention still given to what happened some years ago. If Robert Van Handel were to appear in this County, there would in all probability be public demonstrations. Also Robert Van Handel's efforts at rehabilitation would be thwarted.

I and other concerned citizens ask your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Virgil Cordano
Rev. Virgil Cordano, O.F.M.

OFM VANH 1

0016

THOMAS W. SNEDDON, JR.
District Attorney



PATRICK J. McKINLEY
Assistant District Attorney
CHRISTIE SCHULTZ
Assistant District Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

September 19, 1997

Fr. Mel Jursich, OFM
Franciscan Province Office
1500 34th Avenue
Oakland, CA 94601

Personal and Confidential

RE: Robert Van Handel
CDC# J-30982

Dear Father Mel:

I will not bore you with the three weeks of phone calls I made trying to get an answer to your question. In any event, I personally followed up on the final information and feel pretty certain that this is the correct info.

Communication regarding the County of residence following the parole of Father Robert should be directed as follows:

Classification and Parole Representative
California Medical Facility
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696

On the letter that you are writing, but not on the envelope, make reference to Father Robert's full name and CDC number. You should also send a copy of all correspondence to:

Ellie McGunnigle
Parole Agent III
Unit Supervisor
State Parole Office
411 East Canon Perdido Street
Suite 15
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

OFM VANH 1
0017

☐ Santa Barbara Office
Courthouse
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Santa Barbara, California 93101

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Lompoc, California 93436
(805) 737-7760

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In addition, I asked Ron Zonen to contact the victim of Father Robert's case and see if the victim would sign a request that Father Robert be transferred to another county. Under Penal Code section 3058 - If the victim so requests - the Parole Office will usually act favorably on a request to house the parolee in excess of 25 miles from the victim's residence.

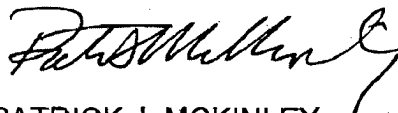
I spoke personally to Ellie McGunnigle about the above information, and also to Linda Shutes - from State Parole Headquarters in San Francisco. Ms. Shutes suggested that if you do not receive a response to your letters that you contact the Santa Barbara Office to the attention of Ms. McGunnigle, within a month or so of the expected parole date.

One other final point - all of this will be for nothing unless Father Robert himself requests that his housing be changed to the location and circumstances outlined in your letter. With this in mind, you might want to communicate with him directly at Vacaville to make sure that his wishes coincide with your proposed plans.

Father Mel - If you need anything further on this, please give me a call at my direct number (805) 568-2305.

With kindest, personnel regards, I am,

Very truly yours,



PATRICK J. MCKINLEY
Assistant District Attorney

PJM:lf
cc: Ellie McGunnigle
State Parole Office

THOMAS W. SNEDDON, JR.
District Attorney



PATRICK J. MCKINLEY
Assistant District Attorney
CHRISTIE SCHULTZ
Assistant District Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

September 8, 1997

Mr. C. Labue
California Medical Facility
Vacaville, California
By Fax Only (707) 448-6306

RE: Robert Van Handel
CDC #J-30982

Dear Mr. Labue:

Many thanks for taking the time to speak to me on the phone a few weeks ago. As I indicated in our telephone call, the above-named inmate is committed to the Department of Corrections from Santa Barbara County following child molest conviction. Next year, when his determinate sentence will be up, there will be a request by both the inmate and the Provincial Office of the Friars to house the defendant in a county other than Santa Barbara. The reason for this request will be spelled out by the Provincial Office at some later date.

My reason for writing to you is that they have requested the name and proper mailing address for whoever it is that makes the determination regarding the county of parole.

I am aware that you indicated that this usually happens three to four months before the actual parole date, which would mean that this would not really come up until January of next year. Nevertheless, the Provincial Office is quite interested in getting their material together, and hopefully into the appropriate hands of the entity that will ultimately decide this issue. Any help you can give me with respect to this will be very much appreciated.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

PATRICK J. MCKINLEY
Assistant District Attorney
Direct Fax No.: (805) 568-2398

PJM:lf

☐ Santa Barbara Office
Courthouse
1105 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101
(805) 568-2300

☐ Lompoc Office
115 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, California 93436
(805) 737-7760

☐ Lompoc Office
401 E. Ocean
Lompoc, California 93436
(805) 737-7777

OFM VANH 1
0019

☐ Santa Maria Office
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, California 93454
(805) 346-7540

Classification and Parole Representative
California Medical Facility
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696

January 21, 1998

RE: Robert Van Handel
J - 30982

Dear Sir,

I, Robert Van Handel, request to have my parole location moved from Santa Barbara County to San Francisco County. I am well known in Santa Barbara, and because of the amount of attention my arrest and conviction received, Santa Barbara County is not a viable place for me to live. This request has the support of the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office, as well as that of the Franciscan Friars of California, who are my social and financial support. My release (EPRD) is May 25, 1998.

I would like to settle in San Francisco County as it is not only a sufficient distance from Santa Barbara, but also there I will be able to find appropriate housing, I have a personal support group, my expenses will be covered by the Franciscans, I can receive therapy specific to my crime, and I am even now receiving assistance in getting employment, which is virtually guaranteed. Following are further specifics:

HOUSING:	Temporary Mailing Address:	c/o Franciscan Friars 133 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102
	Immediate Temporary Housing:	St. Boniface Friary 133 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco
	Proposed Housing:	A single men's boarding hotel or A studio apartment distant from schools and playgrounds

EMPLOYMENT AND EXPENSES:

Currently a network of friars and their associates are searching for suitable employment opportunities.

Franciscan Friars of California have agreed to fully fund all living expenses for an extended period, or until no longer needed.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES:

My primary support group would be the Franciscan Friars at St. Boniface Friary. Contact person: [REDACTED]
Secondary support by other friars and friends in the Bay Area.

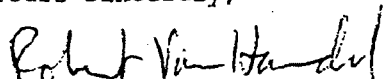
OFM VANH 1
0020

Two private therapeutic programs in San Francisco are being explored with the intention of contracting with one of them for psychological services and crime-specific group work.

ALTERNATE SITES:

If San Francisco County is not possible, I would be able to develop resources in Alameda County, or Sacramento County.

Yours Sincerely,



Robert Van Handel
J - 30982

cc: Ellie McGunnigle, Parole Agent III, Santa Barbara County
Franciscan Friars of California
Mr. La Bue, CCI, California Medical Facility

OFM VANH 1
0021



THE FRANCISCANS
OLD MISSION
2201 LAGUNA STREET
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93105
(805) 682-4713

Oct. 25, 1997

Classification and Parole Representative
California Medical Facility
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696

Dear Parole Representative:

I have been told that arrangements are being made for the parole of Robert Van Handel, CDC number J 30982. The Franciscan Friars and I of Mission Santa Barbara, adjacent to St. Anthony's Seminary, and many other concerned citizens strongly urge that Robert Van Handel not be paroled in the County of Santa Barbara. There are a good number of persons in this area who are still very angry over what happened at St. Anthony's Seminary. They are strongly opposed to the re-entry of those who are accused of child abuse. They are ever on the watch to prevent this happening. We Franciscans continue to suffer from their animosity and the media attention still given to what happened some years ago. If Robert Van Handel were to appear in this County, there would in all probability be public demonstrations. Also Robert Van Handel's efforts at rehabilitation would be thwarted.

I and other concerned citizens ask your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Virgil Cordano
Rev. Virgil Cordano, O.F.M.

OFM VANH 1
0022

THE PINNACLE

ber 36

SAN BENITO COUNTY'S BEST SOURCE OF LOCAL NEWS

Week of June 11, 1998

Spring Grove names interim superintendent to buy out Cavaliere's 4-year contract

Interim Cavaliere has been placed on paid leave by trustees of the North County School District principal Elizabeth White was named

to keep the superintendent's salary at \$74,000 a year, instead of increasing the amount to

were taken Monday night following a two special meeting of the board. Each vote was 3-2 with Mark Skow absent. Cavaliere did not attempt to reach him for comment were not successful.

As adjourned, trustee Steven Lindsay held a meeting with parents who had waited, while other board members were present. At one point, it was suggested that for four board members to be present and for one of issues after the meeting had been adjourned.

Parent Bob Davies told Lindsay parents are "encouraged progress is being made, but there is concern about the rest of the story. Why we are continuing (Cavaliere's) salary?" he asked. Lindsay responded by saying, "That is a personnel issue and must be kept confidential. He added that Cavaliere will only be on administrative leave until the board can negotiate a buy out of his contract. "Basically there are rules and laws that we didn't create. The state of California created them," Lindsay said.

Davies said several board members ran on a platform of they want to hear everything from everybody, "but now we are getting shut down when there is a controversial issue. The parents are the ones that brought to your attention some problems that were here. You guys had no clue," he said.

Parent Carl Donley said the teachers, parents, board and new superintendent need to work together, but it has been difficult for parents to get matters placed on the board's agenda for a full airing.

Trustees have held five special meetings since the last regular board meeting on May 13, four of them in closed session.

Parents have checked into Cavaliere's background and say they are concerned with the circumstances which led to his resignation one year ago as superintendent/principal at Vista del Mar Union School District north of Santa Barbara. That board issued a letter to parents, stating that boards of trustees and school administrators do not always see eye to eye on issues of performance, philosophy and leadership and that continuing conflict over such matters is never in the best interest of a school district.

Cavaliere has stated the Vista del Mar board signed a statement when he resigned, saying his departure was not a reflection on his performance.

Vista del Mar is paying Cavaliere \$119,803 over an 18 month period as a result of provisions in his contract when he resigned. He signed a similar contract last year with North County's board, which has three years remaining.

Spring Grove parents say they have been frustrated over the district's lengthy negotiations with teachers, which have yet to be resolved. Teachers are asking for a 6 percent on-schedule salary hike, while the district has offered a 1.26 percent on-schedule increase and a 4.74 percent one-time bonus.

OFM VANH 1
0023

Robert Van Handle, 51, has completed four years of an eight-year prison term for his 1994 conviction on charges of molesting a boy in his care.



STEVE MALONE/NEWS-PRESS FILE

ST. ANTHONY'S SCANDAL

Ex-priest paroled in molestation

By **BARRY BORTNICK**
NEWS-PRESS STAFF WRITER

Robert Van Handle, a former St. Anthony's Seminary rector and confessed pedophile who received an eight-year prison term in 1994 for molesting a boy, was released Sunday for time served at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville.

The 51-year-old former priest

reported to his parole officer in Salinas on Monday morning and is expected to reside in the small mission village of San Juan Bautista while on parole.

Van Handle is considered a high-security case by the state Department of Corrections and will remain under rigid controls by his parole officer, officials said.

"He is in a lodging in San Benito County that has been careful-

ly selected so it is not near schools or children," said Fran Berkowitz, deputy regional administrator for the state Department of Corrections.

"He is under the highest level of supervision. That means very frequent contacts in the community and at the parole office. We are being very careful watching him."

Under the terms of his three-year parole, Van Handle may not live

SEE **MOLESTATION ON A10**

In File

OEM VANH 1

0024

"Visitors have had cars towed away for lack of a permit, despite the fact that they have been unable to obtain such a permit because the main office has been closed and/or management has been unavailable to issue temporary permits," the report said. "There have been angry and potentially violent confrontations between tow operators and residents."

"The proposed ordinance regulates contract patrol towing and insures that

carefully," he stated. "We would be prosecuted."

Cardinalli said that if the City were

and Police Department."

Cardinalli said that he does respond

(continued on Page A3)

Convicted child molester now living in San Benito County

By Dan Gleason

A former priest who was convicted and served time in prison for child molestation has been paroled to San Benito County, which has made some area residents very uncomfortable.

Robert Van Handle, 51, was sentenced to an eight-year prison term in 1994 but released from California Medical Facility in Vacaville late last month for time served. He reported to his parole officer in Salinas and is considered a high-security case by the State Department of Corrections, who have indicated he will remain under rigid controls by his parole officer.

A spokesperson for the department said Van Handle is residing in San Benito County in an area that was carefully selected so it is not near schools.

Julie Hicks, a teacher at San Juan School, said people in San Juan are really concerned. She said some parents have indicated Van Handle is living right downtown in San Juan, but San Benito County Sheriff Harvey Nyland disputes that.

(continued on Page A2)

Good claims

(AMBAG) is trying to establish a meeting near the end of June involving a small group. Sanders said AMBAG has been doing a study of the Pajaro. "The City of Hollister has used that study as a basis to show AMBAG and other joint power agencies exist and there is no need to create this new monster Keeley is attempting to create," Sanders added.

The County Counsel also reported on efforts under way in Sacramento to reduce or repeal the Vehicle License Fee as a way of returning money to taxpayers in this year of budget surplus. He said the issue is very fluid and is being

(continued on Page A4)

enega Road

slide, looking at ways to place the road-way so it crosses the slide area without removing the material so there won't be any additional movement. He said providing drainage through the slide mass for water from Anzar Lake will likely be an expensive proposition.

"We are looking at well over \$1 million to address that location, in rebuilding the road and allowing for drainage,"

(continued on Page A4)

Two month deadline set on fate of historic bridge parts

By Dan Gleason

San Benito County Historical Society has been given two months to come up with a viable plan and timetable for installing the historic 1914 Pratt Truss Bridge over Tres Pinos Creek at the county's Historical Park.

Currently the bridge is partially buried in the creek bed following this winter's storms. Society member Ted Thoeny visited the park recently and inspected the bridge. He feels its parts

are still in place, though buried in dirt. Businessman David Grimsley has volunteered to dig out and stack the bridge nearby at the park.

Supervisors Tuesday agreed to the delay after hearing from several members of the society, who said the goal of the society is to restore and erect the bridge over Tres Pinos Creek near the entrance to the park.

Recently the board agreed to declare

(continued on Page A2)

School districts place compliance of Prop. 227 on temporary hold

Unlike districts in the Bay Area who are attempting to get around requirements of Proposition 227 passed by voters last week to end bilingual education, San Benito County schools are waiting to decide how they will proceed.

Gary Bloom, outgoing superintendent of Aromas-San Juan Unified School District, said there has already been a meeting of the district's leadership team to discuss the situation and he expects a task force will be established over the summer. Bloom said the talk has focused on how to implement the law,

Eastin has urged districts not to act hastily, but rather to wait for guidelines that will be coming from the state.

Hollister School District Superintendent Tom Andrade said his district is focusing on finishing up the school year this week and that he is looking for direction from the state Education Department. "We don't know what we will do at this point. We will do what is right and legal," he said. If the law is ruled legal Andrade said his district will make the necessary modifications to implement it.

Officials in San Jose, Oakland and

intendent resigns

down considerably over the past year. Instead of packed school board meetings and heated debate, as was the case at the height of the high school controversy, attendance in recent months has been limited to staff and a few parents.

"We are on a high right now," Bloom said, noting the district is in a wonderful position with the first high school graduating class as well as being in "sound financial shape." After difficult negotiations with teachers last year, Bloom said the teacher union now has

Defrocked priest to be under strict control while on parole

MOLESTATION

Continued from Page A1

within a mile of any school or find work that involves children. He must attend counseling, have no contact with his past victim, and avoid all minors. He could face an additional year in prison should he violate parole, Berkowitz said.

Once parole is over, Van Handle is on his own.

"We hope the police will watch him," Berkowitz said of Van Handle's life beyond parole. "He will be known in the community. He has to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life."

Van Handle was the last rector at St. Anthony's Seminary before it closed in 1987. He was one of 11 seminary faculty members linked to the molestation of 34 boys from the 1960s to the 1980s by an independent board of inquiry formed in 1992 to examine the sex scandal.

Most of the accused clergymen avoided prosecution because the alleged acts did not come to light until the statute of limitations on those crimes had expired.

Van Handle and fellow priest Philip Wolfe were prosecuted. Wolfe spent a year in prison following a 1989 conviction for oral copulation and child fondling. He committed suicide in 1994.

Van Handle, who formed the Santa Barbara Boys Choir, admitted molesting several children during his life.

Santa Barbara police investigators seized a journal of his thoughts when they arrested Van Handle in March 1994 at a San Juan Bautista religious retreat. Investigators called the diary "sad and disgusting," but useful in terms of prosecution.

"It reveals the mind of a pedophile," Detective Mike McGrew

said at the time of Van Handle's arrest. "As I read it I thought, 'This was like reading the thoughts of a serial killer.'"

Van Handle's journal outlined his sexual history. He wrote of being molested as a boy at the hands of a St. Anthony's Seminary priest.

Van Handle ultimately evolved into a molester himself in the '70s when he attended graduate school in Berkeley. His first victim was either a 5-year-old relative in Oregon or a young choir boy he met in 1972, according to the journal.

"There is something about me that is happier when accompanied by a small boy," Van Handle wrote in the journal. "I think it is probably a combination of sexual feelings, emotional attachment and perhaps the child in me wants a playmate."

Van Handle is no longer a priest or member of the Franciscan Friars. The church, however, remains interested in his welfare. Church officials have promised Van Handle financial support, provided he lives up to the terms of parole.

"We don't have to support him, but this is charity to get him started in life," said Father Virgil Cordano, pastor emeritus of the Santa Barbara Parish. "If he is well set up and gets a job, there will be less chance he will fool around with boys. It is the best preventative measure we can offer... He will be under close supervision with state employees, so we are giving him motivation to follow the rules."

Cordano described Van Handle as a likable guy and a talented musician during his time at St. Anthony's Seminary.

"This (crime) came as a big surprise to us," Cordano said. "How do you understand a sickness like this? He had been abused as a boy. He came into life handicapped."

The church's current hopes and the

“
We hope the police will watch him. He will be known in the community. He has to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.”

FRAN BERKOWITZ,
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

parole board's rules did little to calm Santa Barbara resident Ray Higgins, whose son was victimized by Van Handle.

"He's a danger to society," said Higgins. "In his court documents Van Handle said he had started the boys choir to have fresh young boys to molest. He is a very dangerous perpetrator."

Higgins, who worked to create a 1995 state law that forced priests to report suspected molesters in their midsts, wondered why some of the other clergymen believed by some to be linked to the seminary crimes remain employed by the church.

"There was a commitment by the Franciscans to keep the perpetrators away from children," Higgins said. "But several of them are on assignments that have access to children."

Cordano defended his organization, saying the guilty had been convicted and removed from the church.

"I know of no other organization that has dealt with this as openly as we have," Cordano said. "What more can we do?"

PRESS RELEASE

Robert Van Handel has been (will be) released from prison in May 1998. While Robert Van Handel was in prison, he asked for and received an indult from the Vatican to be released from his vows and dispensed from priestly obligations. Robert Van Handel is now a layperson.

Although Robert Van Handel is no longer a Franciscan Friar of the Province of St. Barbara nor a Catholic priest and is not now a member of any Catholic religious order, the Franciscan Friars of the Province of St. Barbara have agreed under specified conditions to help in supporting him for a period of time, in finding suitable employment, in obtaining a suitable place to live, and in receiving needed preventative therapy to help prevent re-offending.

The Franciscan Friars have agreed to provide this financial support for several reasons. Among those reasons is the requirement of Canon Law that a religious order is, "to observe equity and evangelical charity toward the member that is separated from it." In addition, however, the Franciscans remember the hope expressed by many victims that their painful disclosures would at least help prevent future wrongs. That hope of prevention of future wrongs cannot be best achieved if the Franciscans simply wash their hands of Robert now that he has left the Order. Therefore, the financial support to Robert Van Handel has certain conditions attached. To receive financial support Robert may not accept work with children. He must remain in preventative therapy, and he must comply with the terms of his parole, including registering as a sex offender, among other things.

In 1993, the Franciscans made a public apology and a promise to work to prevent harm in the future when the Board of Inquiry publicly released the report of its investigation into the accusations of misconduct by friars at St. Anthony's Seminary. The Franciscans have endeavored to honor that pledge by addressing the needs of victims and their families who have sought help through the Board of Inquiry, many of whom are still receiving therapy. Robert Van Handel is in

need of this healing assistance as well and does not, as yet, have the ability to provide it for himself.

It is the hope of the Franciscans that the assistance they offer to Robert Van Handel, as well as the assistance they continue to offer to his victims and others, will help prevent other wrongs in the future and will help restore the health and faith of so many people that has been tested.

Although the Franciscans are required by Canon law to act with charity toward our former member, Robert Van Handel, we have not forgotten the past. Our support of Robert Van Handel has conditions attached. For instance, in order to receive financial support from the Franciscans, Robert has agreed that we may speak with his therapist to determine whether Robert remains committed to the goals of his therapy. In addition, to receive financial support from the Franciscans, Robert has agreed that we may speak with his parole officer to determine if Robert is obeying all the terms of his parole. As long as Robert receives any financial support from the Franciscans, he has agreed that the Franciscans may disclose to his employers, co-workers, and others his conviction and its nature.

The Franciscans have attached these and other conditions to their financial support for Robert not so that he can begin a new life in a new place free of his past, but so that he can begin a new life in a new place in light of his past. When many of the victims came forward and shared their pain with the Board of Inquiry, they expressed the hope that their disclosure would make a difference for the future. They asked important questions about what the Franciscans would do to prevent such a thing from happening again and, more specifically, what the Franciscans would do to prevent Robert Van Handel from repeating his behavior. Robert Van Handel has left the Franciscan Order and the Franciscans cannot control his life. But by helping Robert to establish a new life for himself, and attaching conditions to the support, the Franciscans hope that the new life Robert builds for himself will be amid a network of people who are aware of his past and in that way may serve as a check against any reoccurrence of his behavior. [The Independent Response Team, created by the Franciscans to

identify and offer aid to victims, will be asked to monitor the conditions on the assistance offered to Robert Van Handel.]

The Franciscans have not forgotten the needs of Robert's victims in agreeing to provide financial support to Robert Van Handel; to the contrary, the Franciscans have remembered the needs expressed by Robert's victims that their pain and disclosure should help spare children in the future.



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

May 22, 1998

Dear Brothers,

May the Lord give you peace.

I am sending this letter to each friar individually. I hope this letter finds you well - preparing for the feast of Pentecost. First, I'm sure I speak for Robert Van Handel when I thank the many friars of the Province who have written to him, visited him, prayed for him, and shown him brotherly understanding and kindness during his stay in prison. I write this letter today to inform you that Robert will be released from prison sometime toward the end of the month of May.

While Robert was in prison, he asked for and received an indult from the Vatican to be released from his vows and dispensed from priestly obligations. Robert Van Handel is now a lay person. Although he is no longer a friar, the Province has agreed to support him for a period of time in order to help Robert find suitable employment and to help him to find a suitable place to live. We have also agreed to help him receive needed therapy during this time. We have agreed to provide this financial support for several reasons.

We know as members of the Roman Catholic Church and as members of our Franciscan brotherhood, that both our Order's statutes and canon law demand of us to observe evangelical charity and equity toward a member who has left the Order (Canon 702, General Statute 237). In addition, however, we remember the hope expressed by many that the painful disclosures would at least prevent future wrong. Therefore, the Province has agreed to offer Robert support. To receive this support, Robert has agreed to fulfill certain conditions among which are the following: (a) he must remain in therapy; (b) he must comply with the terms of his parole including registering as an offender, and (c) he must not accept any work where children are present. [There will be a responsible person selected by the friars to see that these and all the other significant conditions are met.]

We remember the evening of November 29, 1993 when the Provincial, in our name, made a public apology and a promise to work to prevent harm in the future and, publicly released the Board of Inquiry's report of its investigation into the accusations of misconduct at St. Anthony's Seminary. The friars have endeavored to honor that pledge by addressing the needs of victims and their families who have sought help through the Independent Response Team. Many of them are still receiving therapy. Robert Van Handel is in need of this healing assistance as well. He cannot, as yet, provide it for himself due to the vow of poverty under which he has lived for so many years. It is the hope of the friars that the assistance we offer to Robert, as well as the assistance we continue to offer to the victims and to others, will help prevent such wrongs in the future and will help restore the health and the faith of so many people. I am sure you can see that the Province is very concerned about the victims' demands for future protection; our attempt to meet these demands has led us to place the many conditions on the financial support to Robert.

My brothers, I hope this letter helps to answer some of the questions you may have about this issue. I feel that we are trying to do the best we can for our brother, Robert, and also for the victims and their families. Should you have any further questions, please call the Provincial Office. Fr. John Hardin, OFM, is the spokesperson. Please be assured of my prayers. Please pray for Robert.

Fraternally



ISRAEL B. ROSALES, Ph.D.
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
1734 FILLMORE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94115
TEL: 415-441-9504
FAX: 415-383-3074

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Client: Robert Van Handel Birthdate: 4/2/47

I, Robert Van Handel and/or N/A
Parent or Guardian

authorize the party below to disclose to and to receive information from Israel B. Rosales, Ph.D., with the knowledge that such contact discloses the fact that the named person has received psychological services:

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: _____

The disclosure of records is required for evaluation, treatment planning, or for the following purpose:

It shall be limited to the following specific information:

1. ☒ Diagnosis
2. ☒ Legal Status
3. ☒ Results of psychological/vocational tests
4. ☒ Educational assessment
5. ☒ Pertinent summary of psychological/psychiatric history
6. ☒ Treatment summary
7. ☒ Medical information
8. ☒ Other: pertinent personnel records

This consent is subject to revocation by the undersigned at any time except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance thereon, and if not earlier revoked, this consent expires on:

8/1/00

x Robert Van Handel
Client/Parent/Guardian

x 7-17-98
Date

Client/Parent/Guardian

Date

COPY

Robert VanHandel
Page 2
September 28, 1994

life and also in my life and in the life of the province. In this sense, Robert, God is very present with you. And we give great thanks that this strength has been given to both of us and to so many friars to move forward.

Mel and Mike and I plan to have dinner with Christine sometime this week in San Luis Rey. I'm looking forward to it. She's been a great support, not simply to you but to all of us. Please be assured of my prayers and support. Do write. I am very concerned and want to know all that is going on. I talked also with Monica on the phone. She sounds pretty good, with a little bounce in her voice and she is feeling well. Of course she is very concerned, but so are we all. We'll muddle through together.

Love,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

OEM VANH 1

0032

Note: 0114 is the message pg. to this ltr.

COPY

Robert VanHandel
Page 2
September 28, 1994

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Love,



OFM VANH 1

0032

note: 0114 is the missing pg. to this ltr.



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

File

June 22, 1994

Dear Robert,

Just a note to let you how much the Province is concerned about you. Yesterday, I received many calls about you -- in fact, the Provincial phoned from England to show his concern. You are loved by your brothers.

I'm in the office while [REDACTED] is on sabbatical. It's nice to know that he can have it back when he returns in mid-August. I work in the office and live in Danville. If I leave early enough I can miss the traffic and make good time -- if I have to stay late, I end up eating at St. E's and driving home around seven.

I'm gradually getting settled in the Bay Area. After 26 years in Fresno it was quite tough to leave.

Robert, please be assured of the prayers of your brothers and of my own. Know that you are in our prayers daily.

Fraternally,

[REDACTED]



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

he
Robert Van Handel

XII
B.

To: Definitorium
From: [REDACTED]
Re: Misconduct Cases
September 8, 1994

Attached please find some documents we need to review at the definitorium level.

1. Your opinion is asked for with respect to future actions re Robert Van Handel.
2. Attached is:
 - a. the questions I have posed with respect to the actions of the Independent Response Team on friar confidentiality.
 - b. the response of an American canonist, David Deibel to my memorandum;
 - c. notes from my conversation in Rome with Gilles Bourdeau, procurator general.

In my conversation with the Procurator General, he encouraged us to develop general procedures which will cover these cases, and to attempt to make a contribution to this "frontier issue" in the law. He will be glad to have any of our procedures reviewed and then advocate for us at the Congregations in Rome.



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

To: Provincial Definitorium

From: [REDACTED]

Re: Meeting with Gilles Bourdeau, OFM, Vicar General, on misconduct cases.

September 7, 1994

I. Robert VanHandel, OFM

Q: Because of Canon 1395.2, would we be obliged to dismiss Robert from the fraternity?

The operative words here are, "si casus ferat," and this makes the institution of the canon dependent on the decision of the minister provincial. Since some ecclesiastical penalties have already been assessed (e.g. removal of faculties, disciplinary regulations about following aftercare, oversight of progress, etc.), anything further would be discretionary. Discretionary sanctions, including dismissal, can be addressed in the following way:

1. Consult with definitorium: Is it our judgment that Robert VanHandel should be dismissed from the Order, or is another action deemed appropriate at this time? If second option,

2. Keep current evaluation of the case, weigh the prudential actions involved; return periodically to the situation for review (once a year); indicate in the record that the decision is made at this time for the following reasons, and that there is no intention here to limit the actions of future definitoriums or provincials. "We considered dismissal, but it did not seem opportune at this time (state reasons)..."

[These notes based on conversation with the Vicar General, July 12, 1994, in Rome, JPC]

OFM VANH 1

0035



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

November 16, 1994
(dictated Nov. 8, 1994)

Robert Van Handel - J30982
Cell # 6233
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

Dear Robert,

Peace!

Thanks so much for your letter to me of November 3rd. I really appreciated hearing from you. I'm so happy that you're stationed there at the California Men's Colony. That's a great gift to you and to us. And I think now that things are settling down a bit that we can get in and see each other through for the long haul. Please remember me in your spare time in those prayers that you are offering. I appreciate very much your forwarding to me the chaplain's card so that I can contact him. And also, I'm really glad that you are able to see him so frequently. That's a wonderful opportunity.

I'm sure you're glad to be processed out of Wasco and able to view the train and the terrain in and around San Luis Obispo. That's wonderful.

Mel has been gone, of course, for the last about six weeks and he has another two weeks left. I just sent him a fax bringing him up to date on some of the news lest he get too removed from all of us. Anyway, we look forward to his return. I understand that it has been a very restful time for him. I did tell him that you have been moved to the California Men's Colony --- news in which he will rejoice also. Mike has talked with Christine and she seems to be doing fairly well. I just sat down and wrote to Ann and talked with Monica on the phone about two weeks ago. Everything seems pretty good on that front. I think Monica is feeling pretty well.

For myself, it's good to get the regionals over and to stop so much traveling. I was pushing myself a little bit too much there and I'm glad now for a brief respite. This coming weekend I'll be in Santa Barbara to visit my mom and then go down to San Luis Rey for visitation. [REDACTED] is making visitation in the Central Valley. We're trying to establish a new house there in Delano so everyone can live in a regional house and minister out of it.

OFM VANH 1
0036

Robert Van Handel
Page 2
November 16, 1994

The community : Arturo, Marco Antonio, Ponchie and Emérito have been very cooperative. [REDACTED] going down to look at the new house which they propose, not too far from the parish complex. I hope that it works out.

Here in the office we're continuing to make progress on some of the settlements of the civil suits and I'm fairly optimistic about that. I find the negotiations with the insurance agents have gone along well. Really, I could not ask for a better development at this time. So that is fairly good news.

Today is the feast day of Don Duns Scotus. I wish there were some way in which we could celebrate that a little bit more in the province, as I think the theology of love which he presents would go a long way toward enabling us to understand a lot of the things that are happening to us. I want you to know, Robert, that this vision of Scotus which places love at the center of reality and brings all of creation into the context of a loving, working God making us and molding us into greater human beings and a beautiful life with God applies in a particular way and in a special way to you, and to the way in which you have handled the present situation. I thank you for your example and ask for your prayers. Please be assured of my continued prayers and support.

This letter is just a short update just to let you know I'm thinking of you and am very grateful for your letter to me.

Love,





Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

December 12, 1994
(dictated Nov 22, 1994)

COPY

Robert Van Handel - J30982
Cell # 6233
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good!

I wanted to write you this brief note before the Thanksgiving holidays, and even if you get it a week later, I wanted you to know that I was thinking of you. I think that it's appropriate - I would like to give thanks to you for your presence in my life, for the friendship that you've given, for the trips that we've taken together, for the service that you gave at St. Anthony's and as my provincial secretary. I appreciate all of this. And no matter what's happened, no matter what water has gone under the bridge, no matter what difficulties we've experienced together, still, it does not outweigh the good and the value of your life for me. And I want you to know that.

Things in the office have quieted down a little bit as they always do around these Thanksgiving holidays as the world shuts down. I'm glad that the world shuts down because it gives us a chance to shut down a bit too. Tomorrow morning I'm going to leave for Santa Barbara and drive down there with my sister and then take my mom out to have dinner with my brothers on Thanksgiving Day. It should be a nice family occasion. It's always a little bit difficult to go into Santa Barbara these days as I'm associated with so many events of the past two years. But it will be nice to see my mom and to have a good visit with my sister as we travel down together in the car.

■ gets back from Australia tomorrow. I'll be eager to see him. I think he's had a great time. He sent me a progress report on his trip. You can imagine it. It was structured in categories with a description of each category, what he had done in each category, and how he was responding in each category. I thought it was really quite informative and I was glad that he was able to share it with me. At the same time I was especially glad to see that he's happy to come back and continue on as Provincial Secretary. He's done an

OFM VANH 1

0038

3RD PARTY PRIVACY

COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM

Page two

December 12, 1994

outstanding job, I think, really, one of the finest we've ever had in the Province. Anyway, it will be good to have my good friend home.

Mike's doing fine. We had dinner together in our new house, just the two of us, the other day. It was a good meal and we spent about an hour and a half talking. Also I find that as a friend that knows me so well I'm able to discuss a lot of my own personal issues with him and he's always ready to give a willing ear and then to respond in kind. I really appreciate his love and friendship.

We are making some progress settling the abuse cases. In fact we've made a good deal of progress the last few weeks. A couple of the insurance companies have been very cooperative and although it's true we're entering into an arrangement with them whereby some of the monies will be coming out of the province, I'm optimistic that we can reach an equitable solution for all concerned. And I believe we will be able to extricate ourselves from some of these difficulties without doing any lasting damage. In fact, as I've mentioned to you in many letters, there's been a great deal of fruit borne from the whole affair.

By this time you've certainly found out about Phil Wolfe. It was a real tragic affair. I was comforted by the thought that Louie called me up after Phil had taken his life and indicated to me that this had been an outstanding issue. In fact, it had been an issue with Phil since his young adulthood, previous to any of the abuse cases in Santa Barbara and previous to his involvement with the [REDACTED]. I gather that it was something that stemmed way back into his family history. He was a very bright man and I think he did great work for many people. And yet he was troubled always by these inner demons. In addition he had a very rigid personality. I understand the friars had a very good service for him at Huntington Beach. God bless Gus Krumm. He did an outstanding pastoral job. I just wrote him a letter congratulating him for this. I was glad he was able to do it. I did not attend as I think it would have been a lightening rod for some news media and these days I try to avoid that. Most of the friars seem to be taking the death fairly well, although I'm sure it has been a real discouragement for some. I hope not so much for you and I hope you've had somebody to talk with. If there's anything I can do, don't hesitate to ask.

Thanks for the visiting forms. I'll fill them out and hopefully they will be processed in due time and I'll be able to get to see you sometime in the next eight weeks or so. At least I hope so. It will be good to sit down and have a chat. I like the description of your 'digs' which you offer periodically in your various letters which I see. It's not exactly the same as mine at Oxford, but

Robert Van Handel, OFM
Page three
December 12, 1994

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let's face it, Greyfriars was somewhat of a prison. So we can share that experience together.

Please remember me and all the friars in your prayers, Robert. We certainly remember you continually and let us pray that we might move forward together in great wisdom and peace.

Fraternally,

[REDACTED]

Provincial Minister

[REDACTED]



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

COPY

December 13, 1994

3RD PARTY PRIVACY

Robert Van Handel - J30982
Cell # 6233
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good! Happy Advent! Happy Christmas! May God bless you. I just wanted to write a short note to let you know that I'm thinking of you and certainly will be praying for you during the holidays. I hope that by then the visitor forms come in so that as I pass through the area I may be able to stop and see you. That would be a wonderful visit.

We finished the definitorium meeting just after Thanksgiving and this past week I made a visitation in Albuquerque and then at Tularosa and Mescalero. The friars seem to be doing very well in Tularosa and Mescalero. I think we'll be asking Emil Kryanon to go to Tularosa and I trust that it will work out. The experiment in Mescalero continues well. The friars pray together regularly and their witness among the Native Americans is very good. It certainly is a very difficult place psychologically. It is very depressing. I hope that you will pray for them in particular as they try to maintain their hope and give witness to the Light in a very dark part of the Native American experience.

Well, I see the 49ers just whipped the San Diego Chargers into proper perspective. I didn't see much of the game on TV as I was up at Hannah Boy's Center visiting Mary Lyons' son, Tim, and checking out the place, seeing if all the rumors I'd heard about it were true. They are true. It seems to be very good.

For myself I'm going to stay up here at Christmastime. My mother is coming up with Peter and we'll have Christmas dinner over at Rosemary's. I would appreciate it if you could remember my mom in your prayers. She's having a little bit of a difficult time of it right now and we're discussing whether or not she should move out of her apartment and into a single room place connected with some health care. I don't know how it will develop but Mom certainly wants to make her own decisions and we want to support her in

OFM VANH 1

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Robert Van Handel
Page two
Decemb er 13, 1994

that. It is very difficult to see this. Don't mention it to anyone, but I just would appreciate your prayers.

Everything goes well in the office. The staff is working fine. I think they're looking forward to the Christmas holidays. We should have a good time. Our staff party is this coming Saturday.

God bless you, Robert. Please be assured of my continued prayers and love. By now you've heard that Ann Linnehan's father died. I wrote to her and heard that she was going to call me. But then Monica called and said that Ann didn't want to talk with anybody. You know how Ann is. No doubt she'll surface sometime in the future.

Fraternally,


Provincial Minister




3RD PARTY PRIVACY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

February 8, 1995

Robert Van Handel - J30982
Cell # 6233
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

COPY

Dear Robert,

Peace and good. Well, the Super Bowl is over; San Diego got whipped. Not whipped but annihilated. I suppose it was to be expected to be that way but I want you to know that yours truly lost ten dollars, two five-dollar bets with various individuals. They gave me San Diego plus twenty points. I thought for sure that San Diego would at least make a game of it. I think they did a wonderful job getting into the finals and I was particularly happy for Bobby and Christine.

Both Bobby and Christine have been exceedingly gracious to the friars and particularly to me, [REDACTED] and to [REDACTED] when we have been at San Luis Rey. September seems to be our annual get together. I've really enjoyed meeting your sister. What a wonderful person she is. I know that it is her love and support that has been such a substantial gift to you during these difficult times.

I'm glad everything is going well. By now you've seen Berard and I hope he's indicated to you that I still have not heard about my visiting rights. This bothers me a bit since I know that [REDACTED] was refused. Perhaps I'm refused simply because I'm Provincial Minister. I do not know, but maybe there's something that's holding the whole thing up, or maybe it just takes a long time. We'll see.

Things in the province are going fairly well. In terms of yourself, I want you to know that we have managed to settle quite a few cases, among them the settlement with the two [REDACTED] This is of great benefit, obviously, to the province and to yourself. If I have not told you this before, we have also settled with [REDACTED]

So this means that in terms of major people to be concerned about, I think we've taken care of quite a few of them. Obviously we're not completely out of the woods yet but I'm fairly optimistic that we'll be able to negotiate this at

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COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
Page two
February 8, 1995

least by the time I end office two years from now. Hopefully, even in the next six months we will be ninety percent out of the woods in terms of any civil cases that have been brought to bear against the friars. Again, I want to indicate to you that a sizable number of these cases are not due to anything that you have done in the past but all of them are spread out among various members of the fraternity. Surely we must help each other to bear our burdens. And I think that because we have been helping each other, God has been gracious and good to us. God will continue to bless us. I count on your prayers very much.

Life at Arch Street is going fairly well. It's fun to live with the guys and I really think it came up for me at a good time in my own life. It feels like a real house and a real community. It would be nice to have you there to share this.

This is just a short note to bring you up to date a little and to let you know that I'm thinking of you. God bless you, Robert. Please be assured of my continued prayers and support. From my understanding, Monica is doing well. Ann's father died and so Ann is weathering that experience. It's difficult but I'm sure she's tough and can come through it.

Hope to see you soon

With fraternal love,



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

March 2, 1995
(dictated Feb 18, 1995)

Robert Van Handel - J30982
Cell # 6233
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

COPY

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good.

This is just a short note to thank you very much for the letter which you sent me on the sixth of February. I have passed on some of the contents to our attorneys and I am sure it will be very helpful.

Things are going along fairly well in the province. We continue to move ahead with the case settlements on the one hand. On the other, and more importantly, we are beginning to see the fruits of all the difficulties that we have gone through -- very positive fruits. The friars are coming together in convocation much more enthusiastically and with a much greater sense of interdependence and generosity. This is evident every place I go. I also believe that the fraternity is praying a lot more. Each is praying for himself and for the others and they are coming together in daily prayer. There is a real revival of interest in the Spirit. I do not believe any of this could have been accomplished were it not for the fact that we have faced the storm and tried to weather it. This includes yourself. God always brings good out of the mistakes we make, as Paul says in Romans. And I think we can see this to be the true case with our province. I'm very optimistic about developments.

Most recently we had a facilitator's meeting in Danville at which Fran Ferder and John Heagle came and led a group of sixteen friars through a process which would enable them to work with local communities in the discussion of fraternity in mission, particularly in the areas of chastity, sexuality and intimacy. The meeting was great, one of the best we've had in many years. This week [REDACTED] and I are meeting with all the pastors and associates to discuss the thirteen parishes we will be releasing in the future. I hope this meeting is as successful. Last week also, we had a

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Robert Van Handel, OFM
Page two
March 2, 1995

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meeting of the Hispanic friars at Mary Help of Christians. It too was very positive and upbeat.

I've been encouraged by the Visitations I've done in the Northwest, Southwest, Las Vegas and Scottsdale.

Thanks so much for your support and prayers, Robert. I'm doing fairly well. I'm getting a little tired and I don't have a lot of emotional energy for all these meetings and engagements but I feel good about the direction of the province and am beginning to get some distance from all of the difficulties. I think now, for the first time maybe, I'm able to look backwards and appreciate at least a little bit of what has happened and the role that I have played in it. It hasn't always been easy, nor have I always been successful, nor even good at it. But I think something is happening.

I do look forward to seeing you soon. I'll let you know when I can get down there. God bless you.

Love,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3RD PARTY PRIVACY



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

March 13, 1995

Robert Van Handel - J30982
Cell # 6233
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

COPY

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good.

This will just be a short note to kind of bring you up to date. I want you to know that your provincial minister is now 50 years old! I know that is hard to believe from your perspective and that of Mike Doherty. But it is true. Of course with 50 comes certain rights: the right to make judgments on others; the right of the gift of wisdom; the right to be served; the right to take vacations when and where one wants; the right to take nothing all that seriously. At least I'd like to think it was this way. But of course it isn't. In these fifty years I think I've learned a few things and mostly I simply am very appreciative for the love and friendship that so many people have given me. Yours is among them. And I wanted to send you this thank you note in honor of all the great support you've given me over so many years. I know these last years have been difficult, Robert, and perhaps you've questioned your own contribution. But as I have told you many times, love has no bounds and deep waters cannot quench love. We will move through whatever happens together.

What a great party yesterday! I went up to Mary Lyons' house and there was a surprise there composed of many different people. Among them, of course, Mary, my sister, Terry and Chris Wenzl, Larry and Liz Schafer, [REDACTED] my friend from Southern California, Fran Campbell and Giles. It was a great time. I really enjoyed it and would recommend it for everyone!

The province seems to be perking along fairly well. We have settled most of our cases with respect to St. Anthony's. The [REDACTED] case is still outstanding. I will certainly keep you posted. I appreciate very much your response to my inquiries.

Yes, I thank you for sending me permission to come visit you which I will do probably in the month of April. I'll try to arrange it through Albie. I know that we'll have a good time and a good conversation. I do look forward to it.

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Robert Van Handel

Page two

March 13, 1995

The Definitorium meeting is just a week from now in Scottsdale, Arizona. Between now and then we have a meeting of the Guardians and Vicars at San Juan Bautista and the Southwest Regional and two more birthday parties. It should be an exciting week.

I'm glad to hear that you are learning so much about computing and accounting. This will enable us to -- like Scrooge in the comic strip -- sit down and count the coins, toss them in the air and you can add them all up.

God bless you, Robert. I hope you are having a very grace-filled and hopeful Lent.

Fraternally with love,

[REDACTED]
Provincial Minister
[REDACTED]

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Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

April 11, 1995

Robert Van Handel - J30982
California Men's Colony East #5197
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

Dear Robert,

Peace and good. Happy Easter!

Things are going along fairly well in the province, Robert. The program we put together called "Fraternity in Mission" which will require the friars to meet in clusters and local community groups to discuss friendship, communication and other things has been very well accepted. In the last eight weeks we've had about five provincial meetings involving Hispanics, pastors, guardians and vicars, facilitators plus three of the regionals. All of the meetings have gone exceptionally well. In fact I would say there's more interest and activity going on in the province now than I have seen in many, many years. I think we are finally coming together in new ways and with new vitality. I mean this in all honesty and I simply don't think it's the vision of a myopic provincial minister.

For myself I just returned from Milwaukee, having re-entered the ranks of historians. I gave a talk at the Spring meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association on the History of Contemplative Prayer. It seemed to go over fairly well. I think there were one or two people in the audience who understood what I was talking about and the rest, well --- it was probably too much theology and too much history. Either that or I simply wasn't clear. As you know, I've been working in this kind of esoteric field for so many years now that I kind of take it for granted and sometimes the people get lost. At any rate it was good to see a lot of friends and I do think the work I did present was fairly well accepted. It's nice to return to the Society at least in a more active way.

I'm going down to visit my mother at Eastertime. Sometime in the next six weeks or so I hope to get down to San Luis Obispo so we can have a good long visit. The settlement of the cases moves along well and I want you to know that all the cases involving yourself have been settled as of this date. I am not anticipating new ones, but let us continue to pray that nothing may surface.

Please remember all of us in your prayers, Robert, particularly myself. I very much depend on the witness that you give and am very grateful for the offering of your prayers and hopes for the good of the province. I hope the family is well. Be assured of my love and support.



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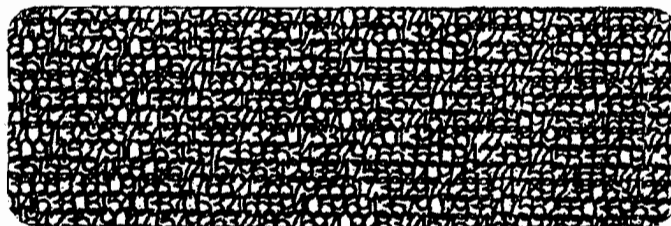
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m.d.

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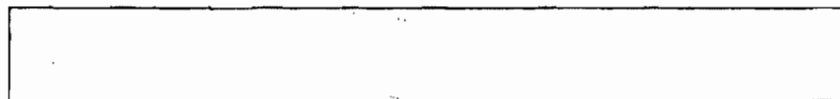
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AT 7 DAYS NOTICE - EXCEPT BY CASHPOINT

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R M VANHANDEL ESQ
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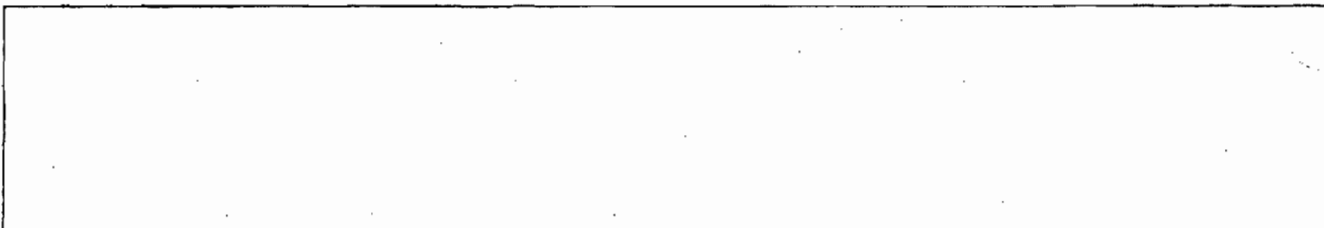


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All entries to 27APR95 inclusive are complete

When overdrawn marked OD

All entries to 27/1/75 inclusive are complete									
Date	Particulars	Payments		Receipts		Balance			
1995	Opening Balance						1288	56	*
	TOTAL PAYMENTS/RECEIPTS		NIL		NIL				

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0054



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BERKELEY
CALIFORNIA 94709
U S A

ANNUAL INTEREST SUMMARY

This summary details credit interest earned on this account during the tax year ending on the 5 April 1995 to help you complete your tax return. If you wish to reclaim tax deducted, the Inland Revenue will require a Tax Deduction Certificate which your branch will be pleased to supply.

TAX YEAR 6 APRIL 1994 - 5 APRIL 1995

Gross Interest Paid (no tax deducted)

Nil

Gross Interest (before tax)
Tax Deducted

£2.02
£0.50

Net Interest Paid

£1.52

Please note: If your account has changed from joint to sole or vice versa during the last tax year you may need to refer to your statements to help you work out the amount of interest and tax paid by each person.

The items and balance shown should be verified. Any interest rates shown are the rates in force only on the date shown. Details of all other rates and calculations of any interest charged are available on request to your branch.

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Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

July 12, 1995

COPY

Robert Van Handel - J30982
California Men's Colony East #5197
P O Box 8101
San Luis Obispo CA 93409-8101

Dear Robert,

It was great to see you recently! I was very gratified to know that your health is basically good and that you're receiving fair treatment at the facility. Please be assured always of my prayers and support.

Thanks very much for your followup letter. I will wait to hear from the person so that we might discuss some of the issues in more detail. I appreciate very much your openness and willingness to explore some of these areas.

I know that any plans for the future are difficult to consider for yourself and also for me. But mostly for yourself. Please be assured, Robert, always, of my love and support. We will try to do the best we can. I think you and I both recognize we are in very different positions with different responsibilities. But both of us have a desire to do what is best for the other. I so much appreciate your openness in speaking with me. After talking with a few more people I will get aback to you. In the meantime, I would appreciate it if you have any more reflections on options you could pass them on.

We had a great Fourth of July. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and I went down to eat dinner at 7th St with Giles, Ben Innes and Tommy King who had just returned from Guatemala. It was just a very relaxing time and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Did I tell you also that I managed to go to Cambria the week after I saw you at San Luis Obispo? I had a good time there just visiting and walking on the beaches. I also managed to go visit Hearst Castle for a morning. It was more impressive than I had remembered it.

The summer has slowed things down a little bit. At least that's my perception. If you talk with [REDACTED] you might get another one. But he's always afraid that when I say things are slowed down, they begin to speed up. As you might imagine, he believes that my word is the curse of death for himself and most other people around here! But we get along well and I'm very grateful still that he's the Provincial Secretary. You know how that is, Robert.

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Robert Van Handel
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July 12, 1995

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██████ seems to be doing fairly well. I've talked with him about going to visit you and I'm sure that he's moving to arrange that as quickly as possible. I know that you and I had a very good visit and he is eager for the two of you to speak together. He had to go down south because his niece was having some difficulties. But he's returned now and seems to be in a fairly good space.

Not much other news. I'm still negotiating, would you believe it, with the bishop in Los Angeles over the property at St. Joseph's. That seems to go on and on. We thought we had it all wrapped up about a month ago but the diocese backed out of the plan over which we had labored for several months and to which they had previously agreed. It just shows that it's the big rock-little rock thing. As my brother told me years ago, little rocks --- that is, ourselves, don't play with big rocks -- that is the Archdiocese of Los Angeles because the ultimate result is that one or the other turns into powder. Well, I'm doing my best but we'll see what happens.

We've notified all the bishops now in places that we're going to pull out of in a year or a year and a half. Most of them have been very receptive to what we've had to say. It's my hope that the province can continue with its plan so that it can expand into more creative ventures in the future. Let's pray that this happens.

Robert, I want you to know how dependent we are on your prayers and support and really want to offer you mine. May God bless you.

Love,

██████



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

March 4, 1996

Robert Van Handel - J30982
California Men's Facility - I215u
P. O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696-2000

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good.

How wonderful to receive your last couple of letters in the last two weeks or so. I very much appreciate hearing from you. In addition, of course, I've talked to Fay and understand that the difficulties with your medicine have been worked out. At least, I hope so. That's wonderful. Please be assured always of my continued prayers and support.

I very much appreciate your referring to some of the things that I've done. I found this very supportive, Robert. I had forgotten about some of the things you mentioned. Certainly, when Monica called me up about the difficulty in receiving those materials from Santa Barbara, I was somewhat stunned and I was glad that she did call me up and that I was able to give her the advice simply to discard it. Robert, we have enough things to deal with. You and I don't have to deal with all this other nonsense created by people. Certainly, Monica is a great and faithful friend and loves you very much and I'm very, very happy for that.

The convocation went superbly, as you might imagine. Yours truly even did a song and dance at the end. That may have been the most stunning experience for most of the friars! They had never seen my personality come out in that fashion. Well, too bad! They've missed a great thing!! They don't know my Mom who has a real silly nature and my Dad who had a rather bizarre sense of humor. Couple that with my histrionics and you never know what's going to happen.

Things seem to be going along fairly well in the Province. I was very pleased, as I mentioned, with the convocation. Of course, maybe they're going along well because I'm looking forward to going to England. It will be good to see Monica

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and Anne and I anticipate a joyful reunion when I get off the plane. No doubt, we will spend some time talking about yours truly, but be assured it will be uplifting and supportive.

I still want to get up there for a visit. As you are aware, I do need to continue to talk to you about some issues. I am very sorry that my last visit was so disturbing to you. It's just very hard to know how to approach all of these questions. On the other hand, I want to assure you of my continued love and support always. And I do really believe that God's grace has been at work in this whole process, Robert, and good has been brought out of the harm that has been done. Good for yourself, good for the friars, good for families. In addition, there is all the good that has surrounded your work and ministry from the beginning. In the long run, when our dear God looks at us, He sees the good that we do and the good that we are. He does the same for you and I hope, and know, the same for me. We can all deal only in the best way that we can. I always remember one of the letters I read from Finbar after he died in which he wrote to the Provincial Minister and said: "I know that when I come before my Maker, He will not ask me what I accomplished or what I did. He will simply say, did you try? And I will be able to answer with all my heart, I tried". That quotation keeps coming back to me in my own work and I pass it on to you with the assurance that we remain brothers together.

Faternally,


Provincial Minister




IL MINISTRO GENERALE
DELL' ORDINE DEI FRATI MINORI

February 9, 1996

Robert Van Handel-J 30982
California Medical Center-P230u
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696-2000
U.S.A.

Dear Robert,

I noted your change of address in the recent issue of FRIARS NEWS and thought that I would drop you a line.

Please me assured of my prayerful support during your time of difficulty. Bob Karris has kept me informed of what's been happening, and he, too, sends his prayerful best wishes.

I know that you have the support of the brothers of your Province and that you are sustained by their love and concern.

For our part we take each day at a time as we prepare a major document on Evangelization for the entire Order and also make preparations for the General Chapter to be held in Assisi May 4-25, 1997. From Feb. 12-24 the General Council and I will be in session during what we call our tempo forte or days of intensive meetings when everyone must be present.

Let us continue to pray for one another.



Bro. Hermann Schalück, OFM
Minister General



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Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

May 23, 1996

Robert Van Handel - J30982
California Mens Facility - I215u
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696-2000

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good.

Thanks so much for your letter of April 29th. Let me wish you with this letter a happy Ascension day and a most glorious Pentecost. I pray that the Holy Spirit who is, after all, God's gift of love to us, might continue to bind you more strongly to your sister, your family, your friends, the friars, myself, and all those who love you and want to support you. Thanks very much for your last letter, Robert, which I found most encouraging.

I know that the situation in which you find yourself is not easy, not easy at all. I can't imagine doing it myself. I want you to know that I want to be very supportive. At the same time, we know that there are certain things that we need to discuss and look at most directly. I know that we will be able to do this in the best way possible. I do think our situation at Santa Barbara has cooled down immensely. We are in the last stages of settling a few more cases and I think this has all been able to happen because of the prayers of so many people and the help of so many lay collaborators. At the same time, I want you to know that I think your own witness, in terms of prayer, perseverance and acceptance of your situation, also has contributed to our settlement. God works in mysterious ways, Robert, and we are all part of a piece. If we all died together, we also all live together. I want you to know this.

For myself, obviously I'm beginning to be a little bit in transition and the anxiety level is raising a little bit. Things are going along fairly well in the Province and I feel good about what we've been able to accomplish and the place in which the friars find themselves. Currently, I would ask for your prayers for Brother Bede who continues to decline from cancer, for Father

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Third Party Privacy Rights

██████ who has had his stomach removed because of cancer and is now awaiting further tests to see if the cancer has spread to other parts of his body. Right now the prognosis is fairly good, but we will know more about this next week. In addition, we have numerous other friars who are very sick. Father John Flajole is recovering from some chemotherapy which has made him very weak. Bob Williams is about the same. He showed up at the 7th Street end of the school year party this afternoon and looked pretty good. Father Sigmund Snyder, who we just moved to Arizona because of Alzheimer's disease, suddenly passed away on Friday. His funeral will be conducted by Finian on Monday. He was a good friar and did outstanding work, particularly in Sacramento and Los Angeles. One of the early ones to be bilingual in Spanish. I, myself, will be leaving early tomorrow morning for Provincial visitation in Tularosa, Mescalero. Fortunately, Warren's going along, so that will give us a chance to visit.

I'm thinking about doing a renewal course in Rome after I get out of office in January. In the meantime, between now and then, there's quite a bit to pick up. I'll keep you posted more in the future, Robert, and I do look forward to our next visit. Be assured of my prayers and support, always.

Love,

██████



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Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

August 7, 1996

Robert Van Handel, OFM - J30982
California Men's Facility - I215u
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696-2000

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good.

This is just a short note to thank you for your last letter. I very much appreciate your concern for me and your response to the situation. We're trying to handle the C.E. matter in the best way possible. The lawyer we had on the other cases, who was excellent, has agreed also to defend us in this situation. I cannot give you any update on it, as it's still too early. But, I'm sure that, if history is any indication, we will be able to move this in a constructive direction.

I am also sorry for the pain, obviously, that this is causing you. Please be assured always of my prayers and support.

I'm glad you had a good visit with your parents. I had a great lunch with Christine and it was so good for the two of us to meet again. I think when we're down at San Luis Rey [redacted] and [redacted] and I will call her up and see what we can do together. You have a wonderful sister.

Keep the faith, Robert. I hope sometime in the next six or eight weeks to get up to Vacaville to visit you. Obviously, there are some things we need to talk about, but I'm sure we can do this in the most personal and encouraging way possible. I thank you so much for your witness to the faith and your continued kindness and outreach to myself. As I have mentioned to you many times, yes, these are difficult situations; yes, they do cause a good deal

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of suffering for everyone involved. I am grateful for the protection of God and the leadership of the Holy Spirit and the support of the friars and for your cooperation and good will towards me. These far outweigh any of the disadvantages and pains that might occur. I'm glad that I am in this situation to be able to help, in some small way, a friend. God bless you, Robert.

Faternally,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



COPY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

October 8, 1996

Robert Van Handel - J30982
California Men's Facility - I215u
P.O. Box 2000
Vacaville, CA 95696-2000

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good.

I'm off to Dayton for the Provincials' meeting, and from there to Minneapolis for the weekend, and then to the Southwest Regional. I'll be back in about 10 days. I did want to write you a short note to say how much I enjoyed seeing you. You look so much better than the last time and I was so grateful to hear that you feel pretty good about your situation. I want you to know that I continue to pray for you and am always concerned for your welfare.

I also appreciated the spirit with which we had our discussion. It was most helpful to me, Robert, and I will do my best, always, to support you and I can assure you that the friars will continue to care for you and support you in whatever way we can. The fact that we would be able to move forward to establish a solid base of friendship and fraternity, even if in a different way, is exceedingly important to me.

I just finished dedicating the center at Old Mission San Luis Rey. It's called the Junipero Serra Center and it holds about 1,200 people. It would hold 900 for a sit down dinner. It's beautiful. On either side of the huge auditorium, which is shaped somewhat like a gymnasium, but done extremely tastefully, are two murals - one representing the men of the Americas and the other representing the women of the Americas. Pictured among these peoples is Father Alfred Boeddeker, of course, and Junipero Serra, in addition to Martin

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Luther King and Cesar Chavez and others. Unfortunately, they did not put up Francisco Palou. Among the women is Kateri Tekawitha and Mother Seton and Dorothy Day. I think you would love it. I was just really impressed when I had the first Mass there this morning.

I've heard from Monica. It looks like she'll be out the end of February, beginning of March. I do look forward to seeing her. She sounds like she's doing very well in Washington, DC.

God bless you, Robert.

Love,





Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

To: Robert Van Handel, OFM
From: Finian
RE: response to letter of Jul. 20, 1997

July 22, 1997

Dear Robert,

I hope this letter finds you well. Thanks so very much for your letter of July 20th.

Everybody's gone. I'm alone in the office and it's a good time to answer your letter. At times this life is calm and easy -- at others -- it is hectic and quite difficult. Tomorrow I leave for Santa Barbara for Theophane's funeral. Giles died. Bede is quite ill. So many of our heroes are aging and coming close to death!

On the other hand, the young friars are doing wonderful things. MarcoAntonio, for example, is the new pastor at St. E's and is really taking charge. He's painting the offices, landscaping the front of the house, and really making the place look different. The people are responding to him quite positively. It's good to see.

Mike D. got back from his world journey. He lost some weight and looks fine. He's genuinely happy with his new change. I will miss him. We played a lot of golf together and had many good talks.

At the end of September I plan to go to Ireland for the English Speaking conference. It'll be my first time so I'm planning to leave a little early to enjoy some of the sights and perhaps to touch "roots" there. I'll consider it my vacation.

Robert, thanks for your tolerance in reading this stream of consciousness account of the life and times of [REDACTED]. Please know that I think of you and pray for you. Know, too, that there are many friars who ask about you with fraternal affection.

Take care. I enjoy your letters.

Fraternally,
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

20 July 1997

I hope this letter finds you well and not too smothered by work and the burdens of office. Various friends have written me about the splendid talks you have given.

I want to thank you and the province for the \$50. per month allowance which you have sent since Alberic is no longer able to do. I use the money for personal expenses, toiletries, snacks, etc.

After an 80-day lockdown, we are now more or less on a normal schedule. I get up at 5:30, have breakfast, and then go to the chapel at 8 AM to prepare music for Sunday and the week. At 4 PM, after rosary and Mass, I return to my "house" for count (a big item in the prison day). Then around 6 PM I get called for dinner. After that I write letters, read, or watch television. On my days off, Friday and Saturday, I try to get out to the yard for some exercise. I have been blessed with a good cellie, which is important as we spend so much time together in a small room. Hopefully in less than a year I will be out on parole.

Please give my greetings to [REDACTED] and the friars there.

OFM VANH 1
nn64

Fraternally,
Robert

Classified
w Robert
by letter
9-22-97

Dear [REDACTED]

Sept 11, 1997

This is just a note to thank you for meeting with Pat McKinley. I was at my annual classification hearing today. As expected, the board decided to continue my program here without change.

My counselor said he had received a letter from Mr. McKinley stating that I would not be doing my parole in L. B. county, and that the fians would be taking care of housing expenses. Further he said Mr McKinley sent me greeting and good wishes. I did not get to read the letter, but this let me give a great sigh of relief. It seems to me that you have solved one of the major upcoming problems. I guess into which county I am going is not decided, but the counselor didn't seem too concerned by this.

I phoned Christine today and told her the news. She was very pleased, and said that you and [REDACTED] were going to meet with her before long.

Thanks again for working your wonders. I will sleep much better now.

My best to the PD staff and fians.

Fraternally, etc.

Robert

Dear [REDACTED]

4 August 1997

Thank you very much for your letter of July 22. What a prompt response! I could hardly believe it. Take it easy. Such efficiency is bad for the organization. I always feel that letters need to age a bit before they should be answered.

I'm glad you are beginning to find your own pace in dealing with provincial business. You certainly are having a bevy of funerals. I understand Bill Dish just died. As you say, many heroes are passing away.

I didn't realize Marco Antonio was at St. E's. I thought he was studying in Mexico City. He certainly is a fine fellow. He will become a giant in his own right.

Mike Boherty came to see me before he went to Malibu, and he told me some of his stories ^{about} the great trek. I'm sure he has it all in notebooks and the tales will leak out for years. I know that trip was a fulfillment of one of his life-long dreams. He and Warren together in Malibu will be the Jordan-Pippin team of the retreat houses. Good move.

I know you will enjoy your trip to Ireland. I have been there a couple of times, and have ~~always~~ found the countryside enchanting. I'm not much of a Dublin man, but I like the south and west coasts. I have avoided northern Ireland. September should be a fine time to be there. I hope some day I can go

Third party privacy

There again, and to England also.

The last weekend in July my sister, Christine, flew up from San Diego for a visit. She came with my friend Peggy Jackson, whom you may have met some time at FST. I have been blessed with terrific friends, and Christine has helped me more than I would have imagined. Later she is going to get together with Joe C. and me to try to develop a short term plan for my future. Most men leave this prison with nothing, and nowhere to go. I am very fortunate to have the backing of the fians and the support of family and friends. Louie Vitale promises to keep a bed open at his shelter should I need one.

Please greet Mel and the P.D. staff for me.

Fraternally,
Robert

Third Party Privacy Rights

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

VISITING QUESTIONNAIRE

CDC 108 (5/87)

READ CAREFULLY. Please print or type. The information requested will be used by officials of the Department of Corrections to determine whether your application will be approved or disapproved. The information provided will be maintained in a file pertaining to the inmate.

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (PL 93-579), providing your Social Security number is optional. Any omission or falsification on this questionnaire may be cause for denial of visiting. Please mail this form directly to the visiting office of the institution where the inmate is confined.

1. NAME OF INMATE YOU WANT TO VISIT <i>Robert Van Handel</i>		INMATE'S NUMBER <i>J30928</i>	
2. YOUR NAME (FIRST) <i>[REDACTED]</i> (MIDDLE) <i>[REDACTED]</i> (LAST) <i>[REDACTED]</i>		HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER/AREA CODE <i>[REDACTED]</i>	
3. MAIDEN NAME (if applicable)		3A. HAVE YOU EVER USED ANOTHER NAME? IF SO, PLEASE LIST.	
4. BIRTHDATE (MO/DAY/YEAR) <i>[REDACTED]</i>	AGE <i>62</i>	BIRTHPLACE (CITY, STATE, COUNTRY) <i>Phoenix, Arizona, USA.</i>	
5. DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER AND ISSUING STATE <i>[REDACTED] CALIF</i>		6. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (OPTIONAL) <i>[REDACTED]</i>	
7. PRESENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS (NO. AND STREET) <i>[REDACTED]</i>		CITY <i>San Francisco</i>	STATE <i>CA</i> ZIP CODE <i>94110</i>
7A. IF DIFFERENT THAN RESIDENCE ADDRESS, PRESENT MAILING ADDRESS		CITY	STATE ZIP CODE
8. PREVIOUS ADDRESS (No. and Street) WITHIN PAST TWO YEARS <i>San Damiano Retreat PO Box 767</i>		CITY <i>Danville</i>	STATE <i>CA</i> ZIP CODE <i>94526</i>
9. RELATIONSHIP TO INMATE (Parent, Spouse, Friend, Brother/Sister) <i>I am the superior of the Franciscan Friars of Cal.</i>			
10. I VISIT (OR HAVE VISITED) ANOTHER INMATE(S) IN A CALIFORNIA PRISON. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES If Yes, complete Item 10A. Attach additional sheet if more than two inmates.			
10A. INMATE'S NAME		NUMBER	INSTITUTION WHERE YOU VISIT INMATE
11. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED OR CONVICTED OF A CRIME? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES			
If yes, complete Item 11A. List all arrests and/or convictions. Failure to list all arrests may result in denial of visiting. Attach additional sheets if necessary.			
11A. OFFENSE	APPROXIMATE DATE	DISPOSITION/DISMISSED, PROBATION, JAIL, PRISON	

CONTINUED ON BACK

OFM VANH 1

0069

Dear [REDACTED],

13 Oct 1997

I hope this letter finds you well. Actually you may be in Europe. What could be better?

I have had a recent letter from [REDACTED], who has been doing excellent work on my behalf with the district attorney in Santa Barbara, particularly toward moving my parole out of that county.

My sister, Christine, was here for a visit in early October. She told me of her informal meeting with you and [REDACTED] in Lencadia. Thank you for your support.

Mike Doherty has written that Rome has responded to my requests. I can't say that brings me any happiness, but I do think it is a necessary step for me to travel now on a different road. I will always be grateful to the friars, and I am most appreciative of their continuing friendship and support.

Fraternally,
Robert



FILE

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

May 18, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

I hope that the Spirit blesses you in abundance during this Pentecost Season.

It was good meeting with you when I was down in Santa Barbara, Robert. Thanks very much for your support. I really appreciate it. I'm very happy that you're able to go to England this summer, as I think it will be good for the boys and I think the vacation will be excellent for you. Please give my love to our friends.

There were many issues which came up at our last Provincial Council meeting, and we had a long discussion with the finance council with respect to the education fund. I believe that our discussion certainly laid the groundwork whereby we would be able to make a decision with respect to the property at the Casa in Santa Barbara. At this time I would like to say that we have made no decision. I would like to discuss the issue of those properties with the finance council between now and July in detail, and then get back to you with a specific recommendation after the July meeting. I believe that the education fund now is completely depleted and we are deficit spending in that area. In addition, the costs are escalating. I think I've really got to come up with a single plan that is going to cover all eventualities, touching not only the property in Santa Barbara, but other properties which we have in order to maintain our current fiscal stability in the area of education. So, I ask you patience in this matter. I thank you for all the hard work you've done, and I'm sorry for any inconvenience that my latest vacillation has caused. The truth is that the situation is much more difficult than I had anticipated.

I hope to see you before you leave, Robert. Again, thanks for everything.
Fraternally,

for Bob Van Handel

S.B.B.C. ITINERARY 1990

18 JULY - WEDNESDAY (1)

~~12:30~~ ~~1:00~~ PM arrive at St. Anthony's; load bus
1 ~~1:45~~ leave for LAX
3 ~~4:00~~ arrive LAX
5:40 TWA #760, non stop to London

19 JULY - THURSDAY (2)

12:00PM arrive London, Heathrow
3:00 arrive Abingdon: **Our Lady's Convent School**
Radley Road
Abingdon, Oxon OX14-3PS
England
telephone: 011-44-235-520075

get settled, relax & play

5:30 tea
6:30 choir practice
8:00 showers
9:00 bedtime

20 JULY - FRIDAY (3)

8:00 breakfast
9:00 choir practice
10:30 play time
12:00 lunch
1:00 quiet time
2:00 recreation: walk along Thames in Abingdon
(small groups)
4:30 choir practice
5:30 tea
6:30 recreation
8:15 showers
9:00 bedtime

JULY 21 - SATURDAY (4)

8:00	breakfast
9:00	choir practice
10:30	play time
12:00	lunch
1:00	quiet time
2:00	Leave for Oxford (small groups)
6:00	attend Evensong at Christ Church
7:30	supper
8:15	showers
9:00	bedtime

JULY 22 - SUNDAY (5)

8:00	breakfast
9:00	choir practice
10:00	Mass at Convent in Abingdon
12:00	lunch
1:00	quiet time
2:00	leave for Oxford
4:00	meet at Christ Church
4:15	vest in cassocks
4:30	choir practice at Christ Church
6:00	Evensong
7:00	coach to Abingdon
7:30	supper
8:15	showers
9:00	bedtime

JULY 23 - MONDAY (6)

8:00 breakfast
 9:00 coach to London (sack lunches)
 tour London in small groups (supper)
 7:00 meet coach at Westminster Abbey, return to
 Abingdon.
 8:15 showers
 9:00 bedtime

JULY 24 - TUESDAY (7)

8:00 breakfast
 9:00 pack & clean school
 9:30 load coach
 10:00 leave for Lichfield
 1:30 arrive in Lichfield - Lichfield Cathedral School

The Palace
 Lichfield
 Staffordshire, WS13 7LH
 England

telephone: 011-44-543-263326

3:00 choir practice
 4:30 vest & practice in cathedral
 5:30 Evensong
 6:30 supper
 7:30 recreation
 8:30 showers
 9:00 bedtime

JULY 25 - WEDNESDAY (8)

7:30 wake up
 7:45 boys practice
 8:30 breakfast
 9:15 choir practice
 10:30 play time
 12:00 lunch

12:30	quiet time, followed by recreation
3:30	showers & snack
4:30	practice in cathedral
5:30	Evensong
6:30	supper & play time
8:45	bedtime

JULY 26 - THURSDAY (9)
 SAME SCHEDULE AS ABOVE

JULY 27 - FRIDAY (10)
 SAME SCHEDULE AS ABOVE

JULY 28 - SATURDAY (11)
 SAME SCHEDULE AS ABOVE

JULY 29 - SUNDAY (12)

7:30	wake up
7:45	boys practice
8:30	breakfast
9:15	choir practice
10:30	Eucharist in cathedral
12:00	lunch
1:00	quiet time or recreation
2:15	choir practice
3:30	Evensong in cathedral
4:30	play time
6:30	supper & recreation
8:15	showers
9:00	bedtime

JULY 30 - MONDAY (13)

8:00	breakfast & clean school
9:30	load coach
10:00	leave for Wales

2:00 arrive Rhos-on-Sea: **St. Mary's College**
Rhos-on-Sea
Colwyn Bay
North Wales LL28 4NR
Great Britain
telephone: 011-44-492-44777
 get settled; play time

6:00 supper & recreation
 8:15 showers
 9:00 bedtime

JULY 31 - TUESDAY (14)

8:00 breakfast
 9:00 choir practice
 10:15 leave for Conway Castle (small groups)
 4:00 meet coach at Conway Castle
 4:30 arrive St. Asaph's Cathedral
 6:00 Evensong
 7:00 coach to Rhos-on-Sea
 7:30 supper
 8:15 showers
 9:00 bedtime

AUGUST 1 - WEDNESDAY (15)

8:00 breakfast
 9:00 seaside walks & shopping (small groups)
 6:00 supper
 7:00 choir practice
 8:15 showers
 9:00 bedtime

AUGUST 2 - THURSDAY (16)

8:00 breakfast; pack; clean school
 9:30 load coach
 10:00 leave for Holyhead, Wales

2:15 ferry boat to Dublin
 6:50 arrive in Dublin; load coach
 7:30 leave for Cork, Ireland
 12:00 arrive Cork; lodging in
 St. Fin Barre's choir school:
 Rochelle House
 Old Blackrock Road
 Cork
 Republic of Ireland
 telephone: 011-353-21-964774
 (or) 966460

AUGUST 3 - FRIDAY (17)

9:00 breakfast
 10:00 leave for Blarney Castle & Woolen Mills
 4:00 return to Cork
 6:00 supper
 7:00 attend Evensong at cathedral
 8:15 showers
 9:00 bedtime

AUGUST 4 - SATURDAY (18)

8:00 breakfast
 9:00 choir practice
 10:30 play time
 12:00 lunch
 1:00 quiet time
 2:00 trip to Cobh Cathedral; sing Mass; coach back
 7:00 supper
 8:15 showers & bedtime

AUGUST 5 - SUNDAY (19)

8:00 breakfast
 9:00 choir practice
 11:15 Eucharist at St. Fin Barre's Cathedral

12:30	lunch
1:30	quiet time
2:30	play time
4:00	showers & practice
5:30	supper
6:15	cassocks & practice
7:00	Evensong
9:00	bedtime

AUGUST 6 - MONDAY (20)

8:00	breakfast
8:30	pack; clean school
9:30	load coach
10:00	leave for Limerick
1:00	arrive Villiers House North Circular Road Limerick Ireland telephone: 011-353-61-51447
2:00	play time; shopping, etc.
6:00	supper
7:00	recreation
8:15	showers
9:00	bedtime

AUGUST 7 - TUESDAY (21)

6:15	breakfast
6:45	load coach
7:00	leave for Shannon airport
9:00	Aer Lingus #142 to London
10:20	arrive London, Heathrow
11:30	TWA #761 non-stop to Los Angeles
2:35	arrive LAX; customs; coach to S.B.
6:00	arrive Santa Barbara



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

August 14, 1990

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, California 93105

Dear Bob:

Enclosed please find a letter which I have sent to Mike Doherty, who has volunteered to chair a committee for an evangelization center at Old Mission Santa Barbara. I believe the letter speaks for itself. On behalf of the Definitorium, I would like to request your presence on this committee as I believe that you could contribute a great deal to it.

Thanks very much for considering this. I trust that you will contact Mike or that he will be able to contact you as to your participation.

Fraternally,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

encs.

Letter sent to:
R. Van Handel
Sal Parisi
Gene Piccoli
Pat Groves

OFM VANH 1
0077



FILE

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

Oct. 10, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

Enclosed, please find a memo which I have given to Lupe Aceves about the St. Anthony Seminary budget and different accounts. You will see my recommendations in there which I think are sufficient summary of what we discussed at that time. Again, Robert, I would like to thank you very much for your help in this matter, and for your cooperation. I think this will go a long way toward helping both the Province and keeping St. Anthony's on an even keel. We believe that you are managing the monies very properly, and I'm very grateful there is someone like you in the position.

Fraternally,

[Redacted signature]

OFM VANH 1

0078



COPY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

Oct. 10, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

It was good talking with you last week, and I really want to thank you so much for the openness of the conversation, particularly about the financial situation at St. Anthony's. I want to congratulate you on getting the whole institution through a very difficult period. Really, Robert, I think the Province is tremendously in debt to you. Thank you very much.

I want to write a formal note giving approval to your request and that of the Middle School to extend the contract to the upper portion of the west wing, and to 1996. Thanks very much for arranging this.

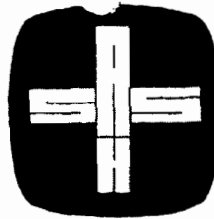
Fraternally,



OFM VANH 1

0079

st. anthony's seminary



high school

8 November 1990

Dear Members of the Definitorium,

I am coming to you with a familiar request at an awkward time. I would like permission to go to England in the late summer or early autumn of 1991. This is the occasion of Sister Monica Sheehy's twenty-fifth jubilee as a Sister of Mercy.

Just this past summer I was in England, Wales, and Ireland with the Santa Barbara Boys Choir. For myself, I would not request permission again so immediately. Certainly I would enjoy going to England, but I am really asking for Sr. Monica more than for myself. The jubilee is immensely important to her and the Abingdon community. It is seen not only as a major celebration of twenty-five years, but as an affirmation of her vocation as a Sister of Mercy. She has asked me to be the major celebrant at her Jubilee Mass when she will renew her promises. It would be difficult to overestimate how much this means to her. As Sr. Monica is one of my closest friends and has been a great support to me, I cannot refuse her. She would understand only that we did not care enough.

I do not know the exact date of the jubilee celebration. It will probably be in the late summer, or early autumn, perhaps at the school's midterm break in October. I would hope to spend my vacation in England at that time.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel

OFM VANH 1

0080

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

TRAVEL FORM

To help the Provincial and the Definitorium with regard to travel requests, please fill out this form and return it to the Provincial Office, Attn: The Secretary of the Province.

NB The Guardian can give permission to travel within the United States (PS, 21). This form is for travel overseas.

1. Name ROBERT VAN HANDEL
2. Destination ENGLAND
3. Dates: Departure _____ Return _____
4. Purpose of Travel: please see accompanying letter

<input type="checkbox"/> Jubilee Trip	<input type="checkbox"/> Visit to Family
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Lead a pilgrimage
<input type="checkbox"/> Central American Pilgrimage	<input type="checkbox"/> Member of a pilgrimage
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacation outside the US	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: Sister's Jubilee
<input type="checkbox"/> Assisi Experience	
5. Estimated Cost: \$1,000
6. Source(s) of funding: vacation allowance & private donations
from family & friends
7. Travel History:
 - a. When was the last time you travelled outside the US? summer 1990
Where did you go? England, Ireland
For what purpose? Santa Barbara Boys Choir
 - b. Have you previously been to the place where you are asking to go?
Yes
 - c. What has been your international travel in the last five years?
List dates and places:
1987 - Switzerland & England - SBBC
1990 - England & Ireland - SBBC

(Rev. 2/89)

1500 Chicago - Fourth Avenue
Oakland, CA 94601

III A 1
OFM VANH 1
0081

Provincial Minister (415) 536-3722
Provincial Office (415) 536-1266



FILE

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

November 20, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

Happy Thanksgiving. It's been good talking to you the last couple of days. Thanks so much for your support and understanding.

Robert, with this letter I would like to officially communicate to you the definitorium's permission for you to travel to England. Your petition was very well received, and I want you to go certainly with the Province's delegation and with my own greatest congratulations.

I know you are wondering about your future, Robert, and I talked to you a little about it on the phone. Certainly the definitorium has made the decision that we would definitely like you to move come this summer. We had a long discussion about where your talents might best be used, both for yourself and the good of the Church and the Province. I think at the moment I am seriously considering the possibility of your coming to Berkeley, helping Esther Soriano in the development work at the School of Theology, taking over the development of St. Anthony's Bread from John Hardin, perhaps attending some classes in pastoral theology and helping out in retreat work or parishes. Perhaps if you could do this type of work for a year, it would become clearer to you as to a future course of work to pursue. I know this is a time of transition for you, Robert, and I want to assure you of my prayers and support. Certainly the definitorium is not fixed on any particular thing, but most of our ideas revolved around what I am stating here. The issue of San Luis Rey came up, but I think given the fact of transition, it would be good for you to have a fine, solid and supportive community. I think you would certainly find that in Berkeley. Be assured that you have my prayers and support as we continue this conversation.

Fraternally,

OFM VANH 1

0082

3RD PARTY PRIVACY

*file
Robert Van Handel*

3065 Marilyn Way
Santa Barbara, Calif., 93105
November 18th, 1990

The Definitorium,
Franciscan Province,
1712 Euclid,
Berkeley, Calif., 94709

Attn., Joe Schwab, OFM

To the members of the Definitorium,

Today Robert Van Handel informed the greater Community at St. Anthony's that he will be transferred in August.

I want to share with you my opinions and feelings about his work at St. Anthony's since the school closed.

He has provided superb leadership through all of our grieving and has given a good example in his own healing in the matter. His homilies have grown increasingly inspiring and significant as the time has gone by. Since Robert does so much and gives so much to all of us, it must be that his homilies take precedence in his activities - a top priority with him.

Like other Franciscans I have known and worked with, Robert is absolutely amazingly versatile! He shows concern and really helps with families' crises and functionings within the greater community, yet so often he can be seen with Fabian, putting a battery in the truck, for example, or making sure that the cleaning crew has done a good job.

All of his work is done with a sense of unflagging enthusiasm, and an underlying feeling for the joy of living. I am always surprised to see how much energy he has for St. Anthony's.

Robert also shows ingenuity in dealing with situations as they arise. He has so many new ideas - this year we (members of the liturgy committee) worked through twice a new method or manner of presenting the Advent wreath. All of the logistics had been carefully considered by him before the meeting. He also is aware of the status of St. Anthony's and wants to keep it as it is. All of us are greatly relieved at that. We are so in hopes that we can still have St. Anthony's for Mass.

It seems to me that Robert is an innate administrator - he has the talent for delegating activities and tasks, knows how to choose the right people, has thought out each part of each situation, with attention to the minutiae thereof, without any visible strain. Nothing seems too small, if it is valid, for his concern.

OFM VANH 1

0083

There is a sense of family between Robert and the Religious at St. Anthony's - he functions well as a pastor for them .

Also, he has inspired a group of men to come and do repairs all over the campus, so that the plant itself has greatly benefitted, and the men (whose number continues to increase) have a feeling of solidarity - they have fun doing the work - I am often there on Saturday mornings and I see that Robert is there with them at least some of the time each week.

Speaking as one who has worked closely with Robert for a number of years, and especially since the school was closed, I would like to say that Robert's enterprising, enthusiastic approach to St. Anthony's in general has been consistent and very helpful to the greater community, as I see the situation. He is getting a higher degree in California history, managing the institution beautifully, running the Boys's Choir, evidently maintaining a sound spiritual life, and seeming to enjoy the whole process.

Since I work at the Peabody school as a volunteer, I have heard such good reports about the Boys' Choir! Some of the students with whom I have worked in a reading program, for a number of years, now, have been members of the Boys' Choir. I know the parents as well as the children, and can see clearly that the experience of membership has been of great value for the many families involved. I remember once that Robert had taken the family of a former member of the choir on a vacation camping trip, since the father of the family had been killed in an accident. His sensitivity and ability to put it to good use can often be seen in his work.

Once, years ago, Robert took my place in the library one night a week, so that I could take some library courses. He did such a good job - I had often thought that he would be a good librarian, even, perhaps, at the Mission, where there is a need for such a person. But I was not thinking of the present time.

As I sit here writing this letter, and feeling stunned to think that we have now been given this double loss in such a short time, I think of Robert as one who dealt with his own grief at the closing of the school, provided good strong leadership with his enthusiasm and imaginative leadership, and has created a new kind of community, really, without the students we all have missed so much. In addition, he deals expertly with the Waldorf school, as well as with the Middle School. The place seems to me to be building community (we have new members often, now) in an abiding sense of our value to each other. The leadership for these attitudes has come from Robert.

In Santa Barbara, the reputation of St. Anthony's which was considerably tarnished by the closing of the school, has been being healed by Robert's willingness to, for example, allow certain groups to use the playing field, to present the Boys' Choir in concert as well as at churches and even, annually, at The Nutcracker .

Third Party Privacy Rights

-3-

I'm glad Robert has been Rector long enough to bring about this healing and enrichment of community relationship; it's a pity to take him away just when the healing is really taking hold.

I noticed that Brother Timothy Arthur was able to run St. Anthony's quite well during Robert's absence this past summer. I personally have always felt that that is the final proof of good management - indeed, of a job well done; when the job can be taken over by another person with no difficulty. Timothy remarked to me that the place ran itself, really.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the Community with its religious functions and their expressions in various fellowships has meant a great deal to me. I have been really glad to be a member of the greater community. A good deal of these feelings of gratitude have come from the good work that Robert has done at St. Anthony's, with his kindness, his sense of humor, and his perception.

Sincerely,

Pat Livingstone

Pat Livingstone



ALL COPY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

April 3, 1991

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

Happy Easter! It was so good to visit with you a while back. I appreciate very much all the help you've given me, both there at SAS and your personal support. Thanks very much.

Robert, this is just a short note to say that at the Provincial Council meeting in March your appointment was affirmed to be in residence at the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley to be an associate director in the formation program with particular charge of the students in the house at FST and to engage in some continuing education activities.

I'm also very glad that we will be able to work together in the office more. I know that Mel and I look forward to your presence among us.

Thanks very much for being open to this, Robert. May the Lord give you peace.

Faternally,

enclosure

PS: I think we can make it official that Albie will be taking your place at SAS. I'll leave it to the two of you to negotiate the timing on this.

OFM VANH 1

0086



FILE

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

April 4, 1991

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

This is just a short note to follow up on the decisions made at the definitorium in early March.

First of all, we would like to give you permission to replace the staircase on the northside of the kitchen building, the cost being from about 12,000 to 14,000.00.

Second, the definitorium agreed in principle to the renewal of the lease with Waldorf School. The following questions were raised: 1) do we have an escape clause? What will be the financial increase if we lease them two additional classrooms? You can proceed with the lease along the lines we talked about. I look forward to receiving it from you. Third, Waldorf has asked to lease two additional classrooms in the dorm above the kitchen. Certainly the definitorium agreed to this request. Fourth, in order to use the two classrooms as you indicated, it is necessary to build a staircase in the breezeway between the dining room and the main building. Waldorf would pay for this. The definitorium also approved the addition of the staircase. Fifth, with respect to the Casa, the definitorium received the report from the consultants who evaluated the use of the casa property. The definitorium accepts the idea that the casa be leased to a non-profit group. I look forward to working with you and the consultants in the near future.

I hope this answers the questions and gives a formal response to your inquiries. Thanks very much for your hard work.

Fraternally,



OFM VANH 1

0087



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

COPY

April 29, 1991

Most Reverend John S. Cummins, DD
The Diocese of Oakland
2900 Lakeshore Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610

Dear Bishop Cummins:

I am writing on behalf of the [REDACTED] Provincial Minister of the Franciscan Friars, to request faculties of the Diocese for **Father Benedict Innes, OFM**, who is being assigned to our Formation Community located on Seventh Street in Berkeley as Formation Director, effective August, 1991. I attest to the fact that Father Innes is a friar-priest in good standing in the Province of St. Barbara, of which I am the Provincial Secretary.

✓ [REDACTED] is also requesting faculties for **Father Robert Van Handel, OFM**, who is being assigned to the Formation Community at the Franciscan School of Theology, Berkeley as Formation Director, effective August, 1991. I attest to the fact that Father Van Handel is a friar-priest in good standing in the Province of St. Barbara.

I would also like to inform you of some other changes involving the Franciscan Friars who will be leaving the Diocese:

Father Josef Prochnow, OFM, who has been the Province's Prefect of Formation in residence at St. Elizabeth's, Oakland; effective June 1991
Father Richard McManus, OFM, who has been Director of Formation at the Franciscan School of Theology; effective June 1991
Father Rusty Shaughnessy, OFM, who has been a retreat master at San Damiano, Danville; effective August 1991.

The Friars of the Province continue to pray for you and the well-being of the Diocese.

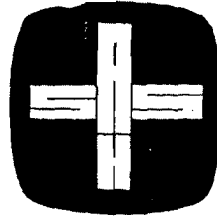
Sincerely yours in St. Francis,

Melvin A. Jurisich
(Rev.) Melvin A. Jurisich, OFM
Secretary of the Province

OFM VANH 1

0088

st. anthony's seminary



pe Bult

May 1, 1991

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope you are well and not too harassed.

I received a card from Monica. She is not sure they can do much of a holiday after the jubilee because they may have to entertain guests from Ireland. I don't think that makes very much difference to us. Did you find out anything more about the plane ticket, or should I make my own arrangements?

May 9 I take my Spanish exam. Should I pass (I probably will) I will have to turn the night oil to finish my thesis on time.

Work on the down staircase is nearing completion. They have done a very thorough job. Good people.

I am enclosing a memo on the Casa for your information.

Take care. All the best.

Robert

OFM VANH 1

0089



COPY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

May 14, 1991

Dear Bob:

peace and all good!

Thanks very much for your letter of May 1st. I appreciate very much the information you have given me on the Casa. I wrote to Monica recently and said that I didn't see any need for us to take some time out and travel together if she would be busy with relatives. I have no problem with her having to stay in Abington and I'm sure you don't either. We can always find something to do, and I can always run over to the ? and get my work done. I think you should go ahead and probably make your own arrangements. In the past I've tried to align my arrangements with other people and it just doesn't work out. So, rather than mess up your life, why don't you just go ahead and make your arrangements.

I hope you did well in the Spanish exam. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Fraternally,



OFM VANH 1

0090

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

April 3, 1991
(date)

To Robert Van Handel, OFM

From [REDACTED]

Provincial Minister

After prayer and consultation, and considering the many needs of the people to whom we minister, I am formally requesting that you accept a change of assignment from Santa Barbara to Berkeley, FST: to be in residence and as an associate director of the students.

For the convenience of all concerned, I ask that this change of assignment become effective August, '91 (date).

As a sign of your acceptance, please sign below and return to the Provincial Office.

N. B. Sign and mail back immediately upon receipt.

Fraternally, [REDACTED], Provincial Minister.

To the Provincial Minister:

In accordance with the promises I have made to the Lord and to our Brotherhood, I accept this new assignment. Robert Van Handel

(signature)

9 April 1991

(date)



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

file
Brit

April 17, 1992

1500 - 34th Avenue
Oakland, CA 94601

Dear [REDACTED]

With this letter I would like to ask permission to resign from my duties as local director of post-novitiate formation at the Euclid community, effective June 1, 1992. I came to Berkeley ten months ago with the intention of "helping out" with the formation students. There have been five, and then four of these students this year. While I have enjoyed working with Ben Innes, Brian Flynn, and the other friars in formation, in no satisfactory sense could it be said that I have been active in the formation process. The students have had very little formation direction from me these past months.

The reason why I have been inadequate as a formation director is quite clear: my other duties as your secretary and chairman of continuing formation have taken the majority of my time, energy, and interest. Post-novitiate formation has suffered the position of being a distant third. In the light of our recent discussions and planning for the next two years, it is apparent to me that this situation will become worse, not better. It is unfair to the students, the program, the Guardian, and the other friars to allow such an unsatisfactory situation to continue. Next year, with the additional numbers of friars in formation, this lack of attention to them will be far more evident and damaging. I do not have a sense of failure or frustration, just a realization that what we are now doing is in no one's best interest.

I do not know who could replace me as formation director, although we have discussed a few possibilities. Both Brian Flynn and Ben Innes are aware that I am asking permission to resign, effective June 1, 1992.

Thank you.

Faternally,

Robert

Robert Van Handel, OFM

cc Fr. Ben Innes, Director of Post-novitiate Formation
Fr. Brian Flynn, Secretary of Formation and Studies

OFM VANH 1

0092

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93106-9410

November 15, 1992

[REDACTED]
1500 34th Avenue
Oakland, CA 94601-3091

Third Party Privacy Rights

Dear [REDACTED]

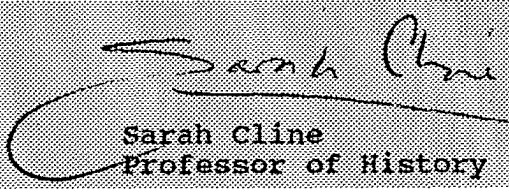
I am writing regarding Robert Van Handel, who wrote a master's thesis under my direction before his transfer to the Bay Area. I was of course distressed to hear of his conduct many years ago, but I have known Robert not only as an excellent student but also as a patient and discerning listener as I sorted through spiritual concerns following the deaths of my husband and of my mother.

I realize that it is unlikely that Robert would be allowed to function in positions such as the director of the Santa Barbara Boys Choir. But he has gifts of great value, and as the Order and he sort out his future, I would hope that the good is preserved so that he can then give his best.

I think that Robert would do well in an academic or archival setting, which would require further education. Should he wish to pursue further study I would be happy to aid him in finding appropriate programs and writing letters of recommendation. Should he return to UCSB in the doctoral program, I would be pleased to serve as his doctoral advisor.

Should you wish to contact me about Robert, please do not hesitate to write me at the above address or phone (805) 968-8782.

Sincerely,


Sarah Cline
Professor of History

OFM VANH 1

0093



FILE

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

Professor Sarah Cline
Department of History
University of California,
Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410

December 11, 1992

Third Party Privacy Rights

Dear Dr. Cline,

Peace and all good!

I want to thank you very much for your letter to me of November 15th., 1992 which I passed on to Fr. Robert. He is currently in a treatment center in Maryland, and he was very much supported and encouraged by the reception of your letter. I want to thank you so much for taking the time to write to him.

You are right, of course, about his abilities. He is a tremendous asset to our community and I know that he would do well in an academic or archival setting. I really do hope that he can pursue some of these areas and do it in the best way possible. Obviously the last several months have been extremely difficult for him as they have been for so many others, and he is very contrite and chagrined by what has happened. I ask you please to remember him and to continue to offer your support. It means a great deal.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

Provincial Minister

OFM VANH 1

0094

Third Party Privacy Rights

Jeffrey Burton Russell
Professor of History
University of California
Santa Barbara CA 93106 USA
e-mail address: russell@hcfmail.ucsb.edu

November 12 1992

[REDACTED]
Provincial
1500 34th Avenue
Oakland CA 94601-3091

Third Party Privacy Rights

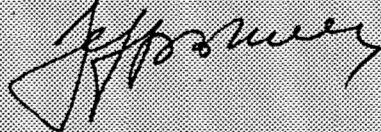
Dear [REDACTED]

May I add my voice to that my colleague Sarah Cline on the subject of Father Robert Van Handel? I have known Father Robert for at least six or seven years both as Director of the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir and as a graduate student in this department. I think extremely highly of him in both capacities.

I understand what has happened and why the Order would not wish to put him in charge of children again, but I hope and pray that no further action will be necessary. This is a fine man with excellent intellectual and (though admittedly he had a serious problem) I would say moral virtues. He is a bright man and a kind man, and my wife Diana joins me in praying that he will continue his valuable career in the Order and as a priest.

Thank you for your very kind attention.

Yours sincerely,





Third Party Privacy Rights

FILE

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

Professor Jeffrey Burton Russell
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

December 11, 1992

Dear Professor Burton Russell:

Peace and all good!

I want to thank you very much for the letter which you sent to me on November 12 with respect to Fr. Robert Van Handel. He certainly is a very fine person, and although he is in an extremely difficult situation for which he is responsible at the moment, I believe that he has the resources to move on with his life and to continue to do a great deal of good. I appreciate very much the way you have phrased this in your own letter as it is good to see that others can see that he is a fine man with excellent intellectual and even moral virtues. Robert continues to be very contrite about what has happened and is doing his best to move on with his life. We ourselves are trying to support the individuals involved in all ways possible.

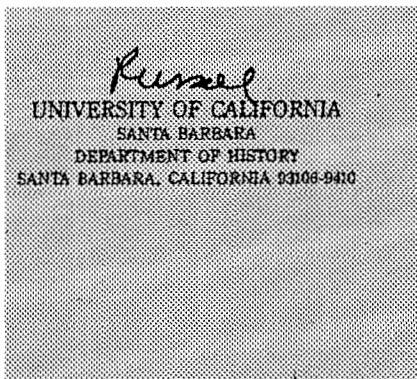
I have over the years much admired your work, Dr. Russell, as I too am an historian with specialization in American religious history. Certainly you can understand the difficult situations that Christianity is experiencing at the present moment. I wish that all could be exposed to your fine thinking which deals so much with the difficulties of good and evil in our world.

Thank you very much for your concern, especially for Fr. Robert.

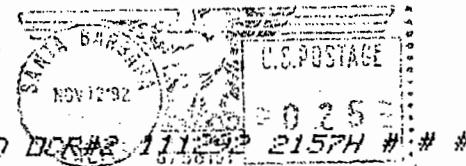
Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]
Provincial Minister

OFM VANH 1
0096



OXNARD, CA
DROP SHIPMENT
AUTHORIZATION 101
PRESORTED MAIL



1500 34TH Ave.
Oakland CA 94601-309,

OFM VANH 1
0097

3RD PARTY PRIVACY

Dear [REDACTED]

This is the first Christmas card I'm writing. I am deeply grateful to you for being my friend, and for all the pain you have had to bear because of me. Thank you for helping Monica, and for all the things you have done that only God knows about. You know how sorry I am for all the harm I have done. I pray this Christmas that God will be able to bring some good out of even this evil.

Eczema is an irritating and occasionally disfiguring skin condition affecting an estimated one in ten of the UK population.
The National Eczema Society works to improve the quality of life for people with eczema through funding research and providing information and support.

For more information contact:
National Eczema Society,
4 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9RA
Tel: 071 388 4097
Charity Reg. No 1009671

With all good wishes
for Christmas
and the New Year

May God bless you and give you peace.

Love,

Robert

OEM VANH 1
0098

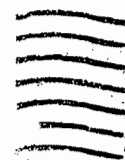


THE HEART OF THE CITY

With a style combining the most charming features of an English manor house and a French chateau, the world famous Empress Hotel stands majestically beyond the stone walls of Victoria's vibrant Inner Harbour. Here is the very heart of the city - where boats of all sizes come and go, and where it is only a few steps in any direction from many of the delightful attractions that await the visitor.



CANADA 14



Dear [redacted]

We couldn't find a 6-Motel so had to stay here. Bill follows - just give to Fr. Martial. We're saving gas by taking the cruise boat to Prince Rupert, B.C. - Scouting new provincial commitments.

Love

Robert + Mike

Made by Alex Wilson Publications Limited, Dryden, Ontario, Canada

(OFM??)

Wilson's  Superb

VAN HANDEL

1500 - 34th Ave.

Oakland, Calif.

USA 94601

20853R

OFM VANH 1
0099



The Empress Hotel on the Inner Harbour, Victoria, British Columbia

Photo by Marty Sheffer

OEM VANH I
0100

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Luke Institute
2420 Brooks Dr.
Suitland, MD 20746

January 22, 1993

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

I hope this letter finds you well. It was good to see you in Washington a couple of weeks ago. I was glad to be able to speak with you and for us to at least have lunch with "the girls." It was a lot of fun.

Robert, I want to take the opportunity to thank you for all the effort you've put into the last couple of months. I know that it has not been very easy, but I really appreciate the way in which you have attempted to address the issues, work in great detail with them, and suffer through all the ups and downs. I think this is a testament to your courage and also an example to all of us, particularly myself. I do pray that the next six months will go as well as the last six months and that you will be able to find a job which is both profitable and rewarding for yourself.

When I came back to the province and just this past Thursday and Friday I met for two days with this Board of Inquiry in Santa Barbara. They will be sending out a letter sometime in the next ten days, requesting of students of St. Anthony's to come forward if they have been victimized during the period from 1964 to the closure of the seminary. I am not anticipating that a lot more information will surface other than what we have, but it is important that we move in this direction of an independent board both to resolve the pastoral situation and to continue to move in the best way possible. Although it is a very difficult situation it seems to be moving in a good direction. I think the friars are responding very well. I want to thank you for your agreement so that we could move in as open a direction as possible. This has been extremely helpful to myself and I think a blessing for everyone. God bless you for your truthfulness and openness to the brothers.

Please remember me in your prayers, Robert. Be assured of mine. Let me know your phone number.

Faternally,



COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
2420 Brooks Drive
Suitland, MD 20746

April 1, 1993


Dear Robert:

peace and all good1

Happy Easter. This is a formal note to say that upon the receipt of a request from the Santa Barbara Mission Archive Library the definitorium has decided to go ahead with the appointment of Br. Joseph Schwab as Archivist Delegate for the Santa Barbara Mission Archives Library Board. I want to thank you for the way in which you have served the board for many years and it is unfortunate that the present circumstances do not allow your continuance. I am sure that you can understand their need for an Archivist Delegate present at each of their meetings.

Thanks very much, Robert. I hope you had a very joyous birthday and have a great Easter. Please be assured of my prayers and support. We will move forward patiently and courageously in grace.

Faternally,



OFM VANH 1

0102

St. Francis Retreat Center
P.O. Box 1070
San Juan Bautista, CA 95045

[REDACTED]
1500 34th Ave.
Oakland, CA 94601

August 19, 1993

Dear [REDACTED]

With this letter I give permission to you to to give access to my personnel files to those you deem necessary for my personal defense and for that of the Province. I authorize you to release these files in any manner that you find suitable and necessary, and to restrict further access as you deem fit.

Thank you.

Robert Van Handel, OFM
Robert Van Handel, OFM

witness: *Richard McManus*

OFM VANH 1
0103

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

Third Party Privacy Rights

NOTIFICATION OF NEXT OF KIN

(please print/type)

VAN HANDEL ROBERT MICHAEL
Last Name Christian (Religious) Middle
Birthdate Apr. 2, 1947 Birthplace Georgetown, British Guiana (Guyana)
Social Security # 548-78-1791 Drivers License # P0454060 State CA

Address of two (2) persons to notify in case of sickness/death:

- 1) Robert/Joyce Van Handel Parents (503) 283-0359
Name Relationship (AC) Phone
7234 N. Seward Portland, OR 97217
Address City/State/Zip
- 2) Christine Beathard Sister
Name Relationship (AC) Phone
1008 Neptune Ave Lencudin, CA 92024 (619) 632-2314
Address City/State/Zip

Do you belong to another Province? If so, which?

Please carry your Insurance ID card with you.

Your medical doctor (MD) Dr. Dean Nickles
Your Dr.'s Address and Phone 350- 30th Oakland
465-6700

Blood Type: _____ Medical Allergies None

Your Insurance Carrier Health Net

Have you made a last testament? If so, you are asked to attach a copy to this form and send it to the Provincial Office.

Additional copies of this request/testament should remain with you and with the local Guardian. When you are reassigned, your new Guardian should get a copy of this testament.

Do you have special requests for your funeral service/arrangements? E.g., special hymns, type of music, homilist, closed casket, a family member or friend to help with the funeral? Any other wishes you might have that will help those planning the funeral.

Are there any personal items you want given to your family?

Do you have insurance policies, pensions, veteran's benefits, etc.? If so, please list.

If you have a bank account by reason of ministry, who is the co-signer on the account? (Any individual friar account must have at least one other friar as a co-signer.)

Michael Dolan

St. Monica Sheehy

In the event of a Friar's death, the Guardian should secure the Friar's room. All documents and personal effects should be sent to the Franciscan Province of St. Barbara Archives. If you have a file in your room for "sensitive" materials, please provide instructions for its disposal. Family photographs and other items not needed for Provincial History, may be given by the Provincial Archivist to the next of kin who requests them.

Signature of Friar

Robert Van Houten

Date

2/5/92

A copy of this document goes to the Provincial Office and a copy remains with the local Guardian.

PERSONAL DATA
AND EXPERIENCE SURVEY

INSTRUCTIONS: Print or type one character in each box. Leave line blank if information is unknown. Use no punctuation. Use spaces between words for clarity. Use extra pages, if required, for Sections H and I. Refer to glossary and codelist in appendix.

NOTE: Information on page 1 of this form is for publication in the Schematismus Totius Ordinis. That on pages 2 and 3 is for internal office use by the Order.

SECTION A -- NAMES

01. Family name: VIAM HANIDIEL
(Surname/Last name)
02. Religious name:
(From novitiate)
03. Baptismal name: ROBERT
(Given legal name)
04. Any other name: MICHAEL
(Omit if none)
05. Mother's name: JOYCE JONES
(Given & maiden name)
06. Father's name: ROBERT
(Given name)

SECTION B -- BIRTH

07. Country of birth: BAHAMAS
08. City/place of birth: GEORGETOWN
09. Diocese of birth:
10. Date of birth: 02/04/71
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr
11. Country of citizenship: UNITED STATES
12. Country where living now: UNITED STATES

SECTION C -- ORDER MEMBERSHIP

13. Reception to novitiate: 14/09/69
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr
14. First profession date: 17/09/70
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr
15. Solemn profession date: 01/10/73
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr
16. Entity of reception: P83
(Use Province/Vice-province codelist)
17. Entity of membership: P83
(Use Province/Vice-province codelist)
18. Entity where living now: P83
(Use Prov/Vice-pr/Genl House codelist)

SECTION D -- ORDINATION DATES

19. Permanent Diaconate:
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr
20. Priesthood ordination: 17/05/75
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr
21. Episcopal ordination:
(Use digits 0-9) day mon yr

SECTION E -- POSITION / WORK EXPERIENCES

'a' grid use: Cook/Guardian/Definitior/Teacher/Gardener/Provincial/Tailor/Guide/
 Pastor/Porter/Infirmarian/Secretary/Professor/Writer/Missionary/
 Vicar Provincial/Custos/Visitator General/Librarian/Sacristan/Etc.
 'b' grid use: If Position/Work title in 'a' grid is unclear, use 'b' grid to
 describe it.

22a. Position/Work: S E M I N A R Y P R O F E S S O R
 (Identify Position/Work name)

b.

23a. Position/Work: S E M I N A R Y R E C T O R
 (Identify Position/Work name)

b.

24a. Position/Work: S E M I N A R Y A D M I N I S T R A T O R
 (Identify Position/Work name)

b.

25a. Position/Work:

 (Identify Position/Work name)

b.

26a. Position/Work:

 (Identify Position/Work name)

b.

SECTION F -- LANGUAGE FACILITY

27. S E M I N A R Y
 (List 1st language)

(Facility scale: 0 = low, 5 = med, 9 = high)
Speaking Listening Reading Writing

28a. S P A N I S H
 (List 2nd language)

28b. 1 28c. 1 28d. 2 28e. 1
 (Rate facility in 2nd language)

29a.

 (List 3rd language)

29b.

 29c.

 29d.

 29e.

 (Rate facility in 3rd language)

30a.

 (List 4th language)

30b.

 30c.

 30d.

 29e.

 (Rate facility in 4th language)

31a.

 (List 5th language)

31b.

 31c.

 31d.

 29e.

 (Rate facility in 5th language)

32a.

 (List 6th language)

32b.

 32c.

 32d.

 29e.

 (Rate facility in 6th language)

SEC I G -- A C A D E M I C D E G R E E S

33a. BACHELOR OF ARTS
Degree name
 b. BA AB BRV c. Degree Honors d. 31 05 1971
Deg Abbrv Date: day mon yr
 e. PHILLOSOPHY Degree Speciality
 f. SAN LUIS REY COLLEGE Granting Institution
 g. Explanatory Remarks

34a. MASTER OF ARTS
Degree name
 b. MA AB BRV c. Degree Honors d. 24 05 1972
Deg Abbrv Date: day mon yr
 e. ENGLISH CHARACTERISTICS Degree Speciality
 f. GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY Granting Institution
 g. Explanatory Remarks

35a. MASTER OF DIVINITY
Degree name
 b. MD LV AB BRV c. Degree Honors d. 06 04 1975
Deg Abbrv Date: day mon yr
 e. THEOLOGY Degree Speciality
 f. FRANCISCAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY Granting Institution
 g. Explanatory Remarks

SECTION H -- SPECIAL SKILLS / TRAINING / LICENSES

'a' grid use: Mechanic/Pilot/Electrician/Painter/Typist/Cabinetmaker/Musician/Computers/
 Nurse/Photographer/Tailor/Writer/Cook/Sculptor/Gardener/Preacher/Actor/Etc.
 'b' grid use: Give speciality training details, sources, titles, licenses, dates received.

36a. Skill name:
(Identify speciality name)
 b.
(Describe speciality training)

37a. Skill name:
(Identify speciality name)
 b.
(Describe speciality training)

38a. Skill name:
(Identify speciality name)
 b.
(Describe speciality training)

SECTION I -- P U B L I C A T I O N S / W O R K S / A R T

39a. Title:
(Identify publication/work/art name)
 b. Description:
(Describe work)
 40a. Title:
(Identify publication/work/art name)
 b. Description:
(Describe work)

P ROVINCE, VICE-PR INCE
AND GENERAL-HOUSE MODELIST

AEGYPTUS			
S FAMILIAE	V01	IAPONIA	
AEQUATORIA		SS MARTYRUM IAPONIENSIVM	P39
S FRANCISCI DE QUITO	P01	INDIA	
AFRICA MERIDIONALIS		INDIAE S THOMAE APOSTOLI	P40
NOSTRAE DOMINAE REGINAE PACIS	V03	INDONESIA	
AFRICA ET MADAGASCAR		S MICHAELIS ARCHANGELI	P41
S FRANCISCI	V02	ITALIA	
ALBANIA		APRUTIORUM S BERNARDINI SENENSIS	P42
ANNUNTIATIONIS B M V	P02	APULIAE S MICHAELIS ARCHANGELI	P43
AMERICA CENTRALIS ET PANAMA		BAUSANENSIS S FRANCISCI ASSISIENSIS	P44
DOMINAE NOSTRAE DE GUADALUPE	P91	BONONIENSIS CHRISTI REGIS	P45
ANGLIA		CALABRIAE SS VII MARTYRUM	P46
IMMACULATAE CONCEPTIONIS B V M	P03	LIGURIAE SS CORDIS MARIAE	P47
ARGENTINA		LYCIENSIS ASSUMPTIONIS B M V	P48
FLUVII PLATA ASSUMPTIONIS B M V	P04	MEDIOLANENSIS S CAROLI BORROMAEI	P49
S MICHAELIS	P92	NEAPOLITANA SS CORDIS IESU	P50
AUSTRALIA		PEDEMONTANA S BONAVENTURAE	P51
SPIRITUS SANCTI	P05	PIEENA S IACOBI DE MARCHIA	P52
AUSTRIA		ROMANA SS PETRI ET PAULI	P53
S BERNARDINI SENENSIS	P06	SALERMITANO-LUCANA IMMACULATAE CONC	P54
TYROLII S LEOPOLDI	P07	SAMNITO-HIRPINA S MARIAE GRATIARUM	P55
BELGIUM		SARDINIAE S MARIAE GRATIARUM	P56
S JOSEPH SPONSI B M V	P08	SERAPHICA S FRANCISCI ASSISIENSIS	P57
S MARIAE MEDiatricis	P09	SICILIAE SS NOMINIS IESU	P58
BOLIVIA		TRIDENTINA S VIGILII	P59
MISSIONARIA S ANTONII	V04	TUSCIAE S FRANCISCI STIGMATIZATI	P60
BRASILIA		VENETA S ANTONII PATAVINI	P61
IMMACULATAE CONCEPTIONIS B V M	P13	IUGOSLAVIA	
NOSTRAE DOMINAE SEPTEM GAUDIORUM	V05	BOSNAE ARGENTINAE S CRUCIS	P62
S ANTONII	P10	CROATIAE SS CYRILI ET METHODII	P63
S CRUCIS	P11	DALMATIAE S HIERONIMI (ZADAR)	P64
S FRANCISCI ASSISIENSIS	P12	DALMATIAE SS REDEMPTORIS (SPLIT)	P65
SANCTISSIMI NOMINIS IESU	V07	HERCEGOVINA ASSUMPTIONIS B M V	P66
CANADA		SLOVENIAE S CRUCIS	P67
CHRISTI REGIS	P96	MELITA	
S JOSEPH SPONSI B M V	P14	S PAULI APOSTOLI	P68
CZECHOSLOVAKIA		MEXICUM	
BOHEMIAE ET MORAVIAE S VENCESLAI	P15	S EVANGELII	P69
SLOVAKIAE SS SALVATORIS	P16	SS FRANCISCI ET IACOBI DE JALISCO	P70
CHILIA		SS PETRI ET PAULI DE MICHOACAN	P71
SS TRINITATIS	P17	NEDERLANDIA	
COLUMBIA		SS MARTYRUM GORCOMIENSIVM	P72
S FIDEI	P18	PAPUA NOVA GUINEA ET SAL INSUL	
S PAULI APOSTOLI	P94	S FRANCISCI ASSISIENSIS	V11
COREA		PAKISTAN	
SS MARTYRUM COREANORUM	P93	S IOANNIS BAPTISTAE	V10
CURIA GENERALIS		PERU	
CURIA GENERALIS-ORDO FRAT MINORUM	G00	S FRANCISCI SOLANO	P73
DOMUS GENERALIS		SS XII APOSTOLORUM	P74
DOMUS GENERALIS-ORDO FRAT MINORUM	G00	PHILIPPINAE	
GALLIA		S PETRI BAPTISTAE	P75
AQUITANIAE S LUDOVICI EPISCOPI	P19	POLONIA	
ARGENTORATENSIS S PASCHALIS	P20	ASSUMPTIONIS B M V	P76
FRANCIAE S PETRI APOSTOLI	P21	IMMACULATAE CONCEPTIONIS B V M	P78
GALLIAE S DIONYSII	P22	S HEDVIGIS	P77
LUGDUNENSIS S BERNARDINI SENENSIS	P23	S MARIAE ANGELORUM	P79
GERMANIA		PORTUGALLIA	
BAVARIAE S ANTONI PATAVINI	P24	SS MARTYRUM MARROCHIIENSIVM	P80
COLONIAE SS TRIUM REGUM	P25	ROMANIA	
SAXONIAE S CRUCIS	P26	TRANSYLVANIAE S STEPHANI REGIS	P81
THURINGIAE S ELISABETH	P27	TAIWAN-FORMOSA	
GERMANIA ORIENTALIS		BMV REGINAE SINARUM	P95
S FRANCISCI	V09	TERRA SANCTA	
HELVETIA		CUSTODIA-TERRAE SANCTAE	P90
CHRISTI REGIS	V08	USA	
HIBERNIA		ASSUMPTIONIS B V M	P82
HIBERNIAE	P28	IMMACULATAE CONCEPTIONIS B V M	P85
HISPANIA		NOSTRAE DOMINAE DE GUADALUPE	P88
BAETICA	P29	S BARBARAE	P83
CANTABRIAE NOSTRAE DOMINAE A RUBO	P30	S CASIMIRI IN USA (LITHUANIA)	V13
CARTHAGINENSIS	P31	S IOANNIS BAPTISTAE	P86
CASTELLANA S GREGORII MAGNI	P32	SS CORDIS IESU	P84
CATALAUNIAE S SALVATORIS A HORTA	P33	SS NOMINIS IESU	P87
GRANATENSIS NOST DOMINAE A REGULA	P34	SS SALVATORIS IN USA (SLOVAKIA)	V12
S IACOBI A COMPOSTELLO	P35	VIETNAMIA	
VALENTIAE ET ARAGONIAE S JOSEPH	P36	S FRANCISCI IN VIETNAM	P89
HUNGARIA		ZAIRE	
S IOANNIS A CAPISTRANO	P37	S BENEDICTI AFRICANI	V14
S MARIAE	P38		

Dear

Thank you very much for your welcome card. I'm glad all of you will have a week together and I hope you can relax and enjoy it.

As you know I had a lengthy talk with Tom West on Friday as I was feeling rather poorly, but I am much better now. I will stay in close contact with Tom and will continue to express my needs to him. I'm glad he is my "contact" person.

Monica phoned today from Ireland. She is doing reasonably well, and expects to meet with her doctor upon returning to England July 31. She is sure they will operate but she doesn't as yet know how extensively. She sounded in good spirits.

I am going to San Juan now to see Richard. He will be gone next week but Bernard will be there. I think I'll be back in Berkeley next Saturday with my brother to help move things.

Joe, Thanks again for all you have done for
me and on my behalf. I very much realize
your care for me.

Enjoy your week. I will
be a real help to you. I will
be a real help to you. I will

Robert

It is not a bad idea to have a
little bit of a change in the
house. It is not a bad idea to have a
little bit of a change in the
house. It is not a bad idea to have a
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house.



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

September 12, 1994

COPY

Robert Van Handel J30982
FBB3-127u
Wasco State Prison
P O Box 5500
Wasco CA 93280-5500

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good!

Well, it's Labor Day and I'm sitting here in our new house in Berkeley which I know you will see in due course. Time will go quickly and I look forward to sharing this view of the Golden Gate with you.

No doubt the last few weeks have brought a great deal of anxiety to you and to your family. Robert, please be assured of my prayers and support always. I want you to know that I think of you constantly and pray for you almost daily. It is a great heartache for me to realize the present circumstances. I very much appreciate the dignity with which you approached the sentencing and the statement which you made at that time. I am very sorry for the press coverage which has followed in the wake of such an admirable and dignified, responsible position which you took.

Mel and Mike and I intend to have dinner with Christine when we are down at the Definitorium meeting at San Luis Rey in mid-September. We're all looking forward to that. She's not only been a great support for you, I know, but she's also been a support for the three of us and particularly for me. God bless you for people who love you so very much.

Robert, I think all things being equal, God will bless you in abundance for the position you have taken and for the strength you have shown throughout this ordeal. I know that it has not been easy. I pray that all of us, I in particular, have only lightened your burden. Sometimes, undoubtedly, it probably seems like a black hole and that you sort of free fall into it. But be assured it is not a black hole. The Holy Spirit is there to guide you. The love of the brothers continues for you. The love of your family, particularly your parents and sister, is very evident. And there is so much good in who you are and what you represent that this will more than assimilate any darkness

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0112

Robert Van Handel
Page two
September 12, 1994

COPY

which appears in any of us. Be assured of my prayers and support. I do look forward to seeing you sometime in the near future.

With respect to myself, I've had a good sabbatical and have gotten a good rest. I feel so much better. I actually feel like I can handle the next two and a half years with some degree of equanimity and peace. I do have much more energy and I look forward to getting back to the administrative work. I know that's hard to believe, but I really am. Even the situation in Santa Barbara I find not so discouraging anymore. In fact, I think I'm kind of determined to see it through and have been given enough support to be able to do that. The friars are in a good space. All of the experiences have simply created more life in them. We have a great deal more solidarity in the fraternity. People are more reliant on each other; there's a good deal more prayer and a good deal more cooperation among the friars. All of these are great blessings which have come to us from the situation at St. Anthony's Seminary. I think in the long run God will bring good out of all this, and has already begun to do so. At least I can see this and this is a great encouragement to me. At the same time I can acknowledge the difficulty. But, Robert, this is life and God blesses us in it. Be assured of my love.

Faternally,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (510)536-3722 Fax (510)536-3970

September 28, 1994

Robert VanHandel-J30982
FBB1-A-123u
Wasco State Prison
P O Box 5500
Wasco CA 93280-5500

COPY

Dear Robert,

Peace and all good!

Thanks very much for the letter that you sent to [REDACTED] and me most recently. I'll pass it on to Mike when he returns from vacation.

Oh, I wish there was something I could do, somehow reach out and make that system more compassionate and reasonable, particularly for someone like you. I want to encourage you, to say that I remember you in prayers and really pray that the Holy Spirit might give you the wisdom, courage, strength and peace to continue on this road which has been given to you. It is a road you are on not alone. I want to walk with you as much as possible, and in my own life try to be friend and brother to you and to the others who have been hurt by the activities of the friars. As I've told you many times, your own story fits into the much larger story of the province and into the story, clearly, of many other friars who have been touched by this tragedy. Because of this, your own witness in courage, in perseverance and in healing is great strength to the story of the Province. And it enables us to move forward with some degree of hope.

Since I've returned from the Sabbatical I feel much more able to put these things in perspective. It's true that at times I do feel very much beat up and that all the old feelings of public pain which both you and I experienced, you in particular, come back. But these feelings are temporary. And I think that now we are beginning to move forward in the province. A great deal of solidarity has been created among the brothers. We have a greater understanding of forgiveness and compassion, a greater realization of our need to witness and to be examples of life, and a greater support for each other, both in our strength and in our weakness. One of the definitions of God that someone gave me over the past few years is that God works together to turn all things towards the good. I believe God is doing this for you in your

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0114

Note: 032 is the missing pg to this ltr.

NAME (Type or Print) Robert M Van Handel Rev.
(Religious) (Baptismal) (Family)

PARENTS

(father)

(mother)

BIRTH Georgetown, British Guiana
(place)

April 2, 1947
(date)

EDUCATION (date, place)

Grade School

High School

College

Seminary

Novitiate

Philosophy

Theology

INVESTED Sept. 14, 1969
(date)

(place)

SIMPLE VOWS Sept. 17, 1970
(date)

(place)

SOLEMN VOWS Oct. 1, 1973
(date)

(place)

(place)

PRIESTHOOD May 17, 1975
(date)

St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, CA
(place)

Archbishop Joseph T. McGucken
(ordaining Prelate)

SPECIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS e.g. Post-Graduate Degree work, published works, buildings, etc.

APPOINTMENTS (dates, positions held, places)

Deacon year: St. Mary's, Phoenix, Ariz.

1975 May St. Anthony's Seminary, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Prof.; July 1978 Loc. Min.

1984-85 sabbatical

1985 - appointed Rector of SAS

1987

OFM VANH I
0115

NAME (Type or Print)

Robert

M

Van Handel

Rev.

(Religious)

(Baptismal)

(Family)

APPOINTMENTS (continued)

1991 August FST, Berkeley: Formation Director, Development work for FST+ Province; Secretary to the Provincial Council
1993 July San Juan Bautista; in residence St. Francis Retreat; assist Retreat Ministry

OEM VANH 1
0116

NOTITIA

Peractae Votorum Sollemnium Professionis
Ad Ministrum Provinciale Mittenda
Const. Gles. Art. 85

Nomen profitentis:

Nomen ordinis: Robert

Nomen baptismi: Robert M.

Nomen familiae: Van Handel

Status (clericus, laicus, sacerdos): clericus

Locus originis profitentis: Georgetown, British Guiana (now Guyana)

Professionis:

Dies-mensis-annus: 1st October 1973

Documentum emissae professionis sollemnis subscripserunt:

Neo-professus: Robert M. Van Handel

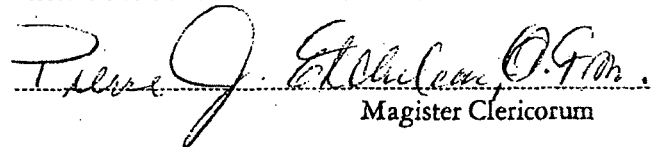
Testis: Pierre J. Etchelecu, O.F.M.

Testis: Kenan B. Osborne, O.F.M.

Professionem recepit:

Delegationem ad professionem recipiendam concessit:

Haec notitia concordat cum professionis sollemnis attestazione in librum ad id destinatum relata.


Magister Clericorum

OATH BEFORE SOLEMN VOWS

I, the undersigned Robert M. Van Handel, member of the Order of Friars Minor, having presented to my superiors a petition for the profession of solemn vows, and after mature reflection before God, do hereby testify under oath:

- (1) that in taking these solemn vows I am not influenced by any force, fear, or violence, and that of my own full and free will I wish to embrace this life with its accompanying obligations;
- (2) that I am fully acquainted with the obligations which follow from these solemn vows; that I freely accept these vows which, with the help of God, I intend to observe until the end of my life;
- (3) that, in regard to the vow of chastity and the law of celibacy, I clearly understand what they entail and, with the help of God, I propose to be faithful to these obligations until the end of my life;
- (4) that, in conformity with the sacred canons, I promise most sincerely to obey all the orders of my superiors according to Church law, and that I am ready to give an example of virtue both in word and in deed, so that I may deserve to receive from God the reward promised for the acceptance of so great a responsibility.

So I attest and so do I swear on these holy Gospels of God, which I touch with my hands.

Sept. 29, 1973
(date)

Robert Michael VanHandel, OFM
(signature)

Sworn in my presence:

Fierre J. Etchelus, OFM
(superior, or delegate)

Witnesses:

Anthony M. Grubaldi, OFM
Thomas F. Rosenberger, OFM

RENUNCIATION AND DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY
Before Solemn Profession

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

RENUNCIATION OF PROPERTY

I, Friar (name: religious and family) Robert Michael Van Hende, O.F.M.,

formerly known as (name: baptismal and family) Sanc
the undersigned, a member of the Order of Friars Minor of the Province of Saint Barbara, pursuant to Canon 581 of the Code of Canon Law and Article 80, 1, of the General Constitutions of the Order of Friars Minor, do hereby, in view of and in dependence on my Solemn Profession, freely renounce and abdicate ownership of all property which I now actually possess, and also of whatever property may come to me after my Solemn Profession by paternal and/or maternal inheritance, and I hereby freely dispose of the aforesaid property in the following manner.

DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY

First: All the property which I now actually possess I hereby freely dispose of by giving it to:

Robert Joseph van Hende

Second: I also freely dispose of whatever property may come to me after my Solemn Profession by paternal or maternal inheritance, and I hereby direct that such property shall be given to:

a) Robert J. Van Hende

and, in the event of his/her/their previous demise, to:

b) Joyce C. Van Hende

and, in the event of his/her/their previous demise, to:

Sandra A. Weirli

IN CONFIRMATION of the above, I, Friar Robert Michael Van Hende, O.F.M.,

have set my hand to this Renunciation and Disposition this 29 day of September, in the year of Our Lord
Nineteen Hundred and 73

(Signed) Robert Michael Van Hende O.F.M.

Signed by the above-named Friar Robert Michael Van Hende, O.F.M.,
in the presence of us who have hereto subscribed our names at his request, as witnesses thereto in the presence of the above-signed

Friar and of each other, this 29 day of September, 1973, at Berkeley
(City - State)

Berkeley, Calif.
(City - State)

(Witness)

(Witness)

ATTEST:

Francis J. Tule
Notary Public

NOTITIA

Peractae ~~Votorum~~ ~~Temporarium~~ Professionis Vitae Franciscanae
Ad Ministrum Provinciale Mittenda
~~Const. Glor. Art. 76~~

Nomen profitentis:

Nomen ordinis: ROBERTUS
Nomen baptismi: ROBERTUS
Nomen familiae: VAN HANDEL

Status (clericus, laicus, sacerdos):

Locus oroginis profitentis: Georgetown, British Guiana

Professionis:

Dies-mensis-annus: 17a Septembris 1970

Documentum emissae professionis temporariae subscripserunt:

Neo-professus: fr. Robertus Van Handel, o.f.m.
Testis: fr. Godefridus Bridges, o.f.m.
Testis: fr. Petrus Etchelecu, o.f.m.
Professionem recepit: [REDACTED]
Delegationem ad professionem recipiendam concessit:

Haec notitia concordat cum professionis temporariae attestazione in librum ad id destinatum relata.

fr. Ioannes Vaughn, ofm
Magister Novitiorum

CESSION OF ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSITION OF USUFRUCT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I Robert Michael Van Handel
otherwise known as Bro. Robert Van Handel, now of Berkeley
.....in the County of Alameda
and the State of California

IN CONSIDERATION of the laws of the Roman Catholic Church concerning the administration of the property, its use and usufruct, of a member of a religious community acknowledged by said Roman Catholic Church (Codex Juris Can. 569,580),

First: Do hereby cede the administration of any and all property, whether real, personal or money which I now have or which may accrue to me therefrom, to Mrs. Robert J. Van Handel now residing in the County of Orange, State of California and I do hereby constitute and appoint him to be my attorney-in-fact for such administration giving unto him full power and authority to make all contracts and to do all other acts and things of every kind and nature whatsoever, necessary in and about said administration, including the sale and conveyance of real property as effectively as I myself could do if personally present, and

Second: I do hereby ordain, declare and direct that all the use and usufruct of said property, to-wit: the interest, rents, income, securities, royalties, bonuses and all other benefits arising from or out of such property, shall be disposed of or expended by my said attorney-in-fact as he may see fit, according to his best judgment, and

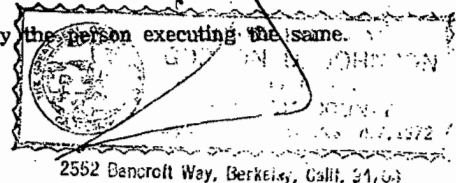
Third: I hereby ratify and confirm all acts that my said attorney-in-fact may lawfully do in pursuance of the power herein conferred.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this twenty-first
day of October, in the year of our Lord 1970

(Signature) Robert Michael Van Handel

NOTE: This instrument should be acknowledged before a Notary Public by the person executing the same.

OFM VANH 1
0121



NOTIFICATIO

De Vestitione in Primo-Tertio Ordine
Ad Min. Provlem Transmittenda

Nomen candidati:

Nomen ordinis: Robertus

Nomen baptismi: Robertus Michael

Nomen familiae: Van Handel

Nomen parentum:

Patris, nomen baptismi: Robertus I.

Matris, nomen baptismi et nativitatis (maiden-name):

Joyce Jones

Nativitatis:

Dies-mensis-annus: 2a Aprilis 1947

Civitas, Dioecesis, Status: Georgetown dioecesis Georgipolitanae, Guyana

Baptismi:

Dies-mensis-annus: 11a Maii 1947

Ecclesia: Sm.i Cordis Iesu

Civitas, Dioecesis, Status: Georgetown, Demerara, dioecesis Georgipolitanae, Guyana

Vestitionis:

Dies-mensis-annus: 14a Septembris 1969

Locus: Ecclesia S.P.N. Francisci, Sacramento, California

Officiator: R.P. Fr. Alanus McCoy, O.F.M., Minister Provincialis

Festum Patroni:

Dies-mensis: 13a Maii

**DECLARATION OF INTENTION
BEFORE INVESTURE IN THE FIRST ORDER**

(Gen. Const., Art. 23)

BY THESE PRESENTS, I Robert Michael Van Handel
declare that of my own free will I ask to be admitted to the Order of Friars Minor in the Province of
St. Barbara.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 8 day of September
in the year of Our Lord 19 69.

City Sacramento County Sacramento
State California

(Signature) Robert M. Van Handel

(Superior) Fr. Manuel J. Vaughn, O.F.M.

(Witness) William Halverson

(Witness) Robert M. Bennett

DECLARATION CONCERNING FREEDOM FROM DISEASES

(Gen. Const. Art. 23, #1, 1)

Place Sacramento, Calif.

Date Sept. 8, 1969

This is to certify that I, the undersigned, in accordance with the General Constitutions of the Friars Minor, Art. 23, #1, 1, am free from all contagious, epileptic, or any other serious or lasting malady, or sickness, and that I have been informed that my reception and profession would be invalid should I be subject to any of the aforementioned sicknesses and have concealed the fact.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 8 day of September
in the year of our Lord 1969.

(Signature) Robert Michael Van Handel
(Witness) William J. Halverson
(Witness) Robert M. Regmentell
(Superior) Fr. Manuel Vaughn, O.F.M.

DECLARATION AND RELEASE

Note: To be signed by candidate (Gen. Const. Art. 23) on arrival and signature to be witnessed by two priests of the order.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That I, the undersigned, being about to enter the Roman Catholic religious order known as the ORDER OF FRIARS MINOR, (incorporated under the laws of the State of California as THE FRANCISCAN FATHERS OF CALIFORNIA, and hereinafter referred to as the "religious order"), do hereby attest and declare that I am entering said religious order voluntarily and of my own free will, and am not acting under force, coercion or undue influence of any kind.

That for good and sufficient consideration and in consideration of the benefits received and to be received as a candidate, postulant, novice or member of the said religious order, I am prepared to and hereby promise and agree to give without compensation all of my services freely and to perform any and all work required of me by my superior in said religious order; and that for myself and my heirs I do hereby waive and forever discharge any and all right or claim which I might otherwise have to any wages, compensation, remuneration, annuity, pension or reward for the time that I shall devote or for the services or work that I shall perform with or for said religious order during the time I remain in said order, and do hereby expressly release said religious order from any claim on account thereof.

I understand and agree that the provisions of the Rules and Discipline of said religious order, and the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws of The Franciscan Fathers of California, a California corporation, now in force and as hereafter amended, and the Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church, and the substantive law of the State of California relating to the subject matter hereof are incorporated herein, and are to govern the interpretation and determine the legal effect of this instrument.

I do further certify that I have read and fully understand the foregoing instrument and that I sign and execute the same voluntarily.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 8 day of Sept. 1969, at Sacramento, California
(city, state)

Robert Michael Van Handel

ACCEPTED and signature witnessed on behalf of said religious order.

By..

By..

By..

OFM VANH 1

0125



Jacobus Franciscus Cardinalis McIntyre

Dei et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Archiepiscopus Angelorum
in California

Per praesentes litteras cunctis fidem facimus atque testamur dilectum Nobis in Christo

ROBERTUM MICHAЕLEM VAN HANDEL

qui ratione commorationis post pubertatem per sex saltem menses in Nostra Dioecesi, litteris testimonialibus Nostris indiget ut ad Ordines vocari possit, per totum illud tempus ita vitam et mores instituisse ut, quantum sciamus, liber ab omni censura et ab omni ordinationis impedimento e Dioecesi Nostra discesserit, adeoque ex hac parte nihil obstare quominus ab Episcopo suo aut a quocumque Episcopo cum Sancta Sede Apostolica gratiam et communionem habente ad Tonsuram aut Minores Maioresve Ordines promoveri possit, et ad Novitiatum admittatur.

Servatis in reliquo de iure servandis. Contrariis quibuscumque non obstantibus.

Datum in Civitate Angelorum, die 12a Mensis Aprilis A.D. 1967

DE MANDATO EMINENTISSIMI AC
REVERENDISSIMI ARCHIEPISCOPI


Cancellarius

Omnibus has Litteras Visuris

SALUTEM IN DOMINO.

Cum dilectus in Christo filius Robertus Michael Van Handel
filius legitimus Roberti Michaelis Van Handel
ejusque uxoris Joyce Cameron Hones
natus die 2a mensis Aprilis 19 47 .., in Paroecia Sacri Cordis
Georgetown, British Guiana .., Dioecesis Georgiopolitana
baptizatus die 11 Maii 1947 (nulla nota de confrimatione)
..... ad habitum religiosum Ordinis Fratrum
Minorum qua clericus admitti intendat, Nos ad normam
Can. 544, § 2 et Can. 545, § 4 hisce Litteris juxta scientiam Nostram testamur,
eundem Robertum Michaellem Van Handel
et nullam rationem habemus dubitandi eum esse
legitimis natalibus ortum, /pie educatum, bonis moribus ornatum, in fide christiana
..... bene instructum, fama bona et conditione libera
gaudere, nunquam inquisitum, neque alia censura, irregularitate aut alio canonico
impedimento irretitum, vel reddendae rationi alicujus administrationis obnoxium esse:
eundem porro aere alieno non gravatum, nullis quoque promissionibus aut initis con-
tractibus impeditum, nec habituali morbo affectum existere, quibus omnibus fieret, ut
habitum religiosum Ordinis S. Francisci Seraphici suscipere non possit.

Datum Apud Georgetown sub nostris Signo Sigilloque
Die 28 mensis Maii 19 67 ..

..... + R. L. Guilly S. J. ..

..... + R. L. Guilly S. J.
Bishop of Georgetown

OFM VANH 1

0127

St. Francis Church

Franciscan Fathers

1112 - 26th STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95816

BROTHER ROBERT VAN HANDEL, OFM

Discussion prior to first profession, 1970
five affirmative votes, no negatives

Bob has made continued progress: he is frank and open, with a good sense of humor. He is conscientious in his work and considerate of others. He is very frank and genuine.

He helped out at Ascension in Portland for a number of weeks during the summer.

St. Francis Church
Franciscan Fathers
1112 - 26th STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95816

BROTHER ROBERT VAN HANDEL, OFM

First votation, Feb. 16, 1970

Four affirmative votes, no negatives

Opinions of the Professed Community:

Bob seems very sincere, but about what? He impresses some as being in a bubble: every once in a while he opens it and says hello to the world. He is very conscientious about his work with the boys at St. Patrick's Home, and this means a great deal to him.

Is his prayer-life developing?

He is open and sensitive to the needs of the community; he thinks in terms of the community. He is so taken up with this work that he might want to do this professionally; he asks himself what the priesthood would add to this. He may well be relating his present activity to what he's striving to become; we just don't know.

Bob seems lost (to some); he doesn't seem to be with us. Will he be happy next year at Berkeley? Sometimes he seems almost a stranger in the house.

ROBERT VAN HANDEL

Age: 23 (April 2, 1947)

vows: Promises Sept. 14, 1970

Bob is presently in his first year of theology and in the M.A. program.

Bob seems to have a good understanding of fraternity and what it means in the practical order. He is responsible in the work that has been assigned him to do, though sometimes falling down in expectations one might have of him in the line of volunteering.

There is a kind of "absent-mindedness" that shows itself occasionally, as well as a kind of lack of "organization" and planning that will have to be worked on. On the other hand, Bob does show initiative. He is intelligent, and seems to be maturing.

His principal interest has been in the area of working with children. One of his projects has been to organize and direct a boys' choir for the Newman Center. He remains faithful to this project, despite the normal difficulties involved in ^{such} work and the built-in disappointments.

1971-1972 Semi-Annual Report # 1

VAN HANDEL, Robert

Age: 24 (April 2, 1947)

Promises: Sept. 17, 1970

In these last five months, Bob seems to have developed a real interest in his studies. He is in the M.A. program and taking it quite seriously.

Bob is very prayerful. Along with serious participation in the various community gatherings we have for prayer, Bob manages consistently to include private prayer and reflection as an important part of his day.

His work with the Boys Choir at the Newman Center, demanding as it is, is well worked into his schedule and he shows good sense in making necessary choices.

At present, we feel that there are several areas where Bob is not clear in his own mind as to where he stands; he needs some room and some time to think.



May 17, 1972

The Franciscan School of Theology is happy to announce that on:

June 2, 1972, the following students will receive their M.A. degrees in theology. Eucharistic liturgy and the awarding of the degrees will take place at 5:00 p.m.

Name	Title of Master's Paper
1. Lawrence Campbell	Theology and Film: Franciscan Communication Center.
2. Michael Craig	Fundamental Ontology and Absurdity: Heidegger and Camus.
3. Patrick Groves	The Environmentalization of Christian Doctrine: A Project Report in Adolescent Religious Instruction.
4. James Luguri	The Encounter with Nothing: A Reflection Drawn from John of the Cross and T.S. Eliot.
5. David Valtierra	Shaping the Future of Special Ministry: Three Themes.
6. Robert Van Handel	In Quires and Places Where They Sing: The English Chapel Royal: Its History and Function in Relation to the Liturgical Reform of the Church of England.

On the same day the following will receive their B.Th. degrees:

Bruce Kliukas, O.S.M.

On May 7th, Bruce Kliukas, O.S.M., was ordained a priest at St. Philip Benizi's in Fullerton, California.

On June 17th, at Old Mission Santa Barbara (11:00 a.m.) **[REDACTED]** will be ordained to the priesthood. On the next day, Sunday, June 18th, he will celebrate his first Mass at Old Mission Santa Barbara (12 noon).

On April 22nd, William Cieslak, O.P.M. Cap., was ordained deacon in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Bill will be at St. Bonaventure's in Concord for his deacon year.

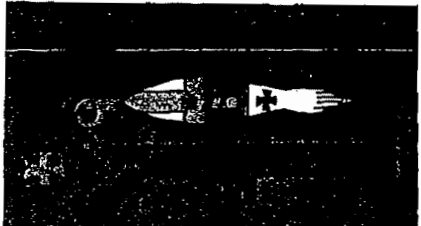
Clare Denton will take her comprehensive examinations for the Ph.D. degree in the area of Religion and Society at the Graduate Theological Union on June 1st.

During this coming summer David Drain, O.S.B., will make his final vows at St. Leo's Abbey, Florida, on June 29th, and he will be ordained deacon on July 1st.

We are also happy to announce that the faculty for FBT during 1972-73 will be:

Full-time:	1. Pierre Etchegoin, O.P.M.	Liturgy and Patristic Theology
	2. Neal Flanagan, O.S.M.	New Testament
	3. Francis F. Smet, O.P.M.	Church History
	4. Michael D. Quinn, O.P.M.	Semitic Languages & Old Testament
	5. F. Patrick Michelson	Ethics
	6. Kenneth B. Osborne, O.P.M.	Systematic Theology

Beginning Winter Quarter 1973, David McElroy, O.P.M., of the Franciscan



Confirmation Certificate

This is to certify that

Robert J. M. Van Handel
on the 22 day of February 1943

received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the

CHURCH of St. Peter's

in the city of Brunswick and state of Cal.

MINISTER of the Sacrament was:

Most Reverend Alden J. Bell

CONFIRMATION NAME taken was Dominic and

SPONSOR was Marian Allard

SIGNED and SEALED on this 1 day of March 1943

at St. Peter's Church

SEAL

s/ John Allard
Minister

STATE OF WISCONSIN }
COUNTY OF OUTAGAMIE } ss.

I, S. M. Peeters, Register of Deeds of the County of Outagamie, in the State of Wisconsin, do hereby
certify that the marriage of Robert Joseph Van Handel
and Joyce Cameron Jones was performed by
Rev. M. A. Hauch at Appleton
County of Outagamie, State of Wisconsin, on June 22, 1943

I further certify that this is a copy in part of the above marriage recorded in Vol. 31,
page 215. Witness my hand and official seal at Appleton this 29th day of
January, 1954

COUNTY
SEAL

S. M. Peeters
(Register of Deeds for Outagamie County, Wisconsin.)

CERTIFICATE OF BAPTISM.

According to the Register of Baptisms kept at SACRED HEART CHURCH, Georgetown, Demerara, British Guiana,

Robert Michayl Van H. son of *Robert Joseph Van Handel*
Joyce Cameron Van daughter of *Handel*
 and
 formerly *James* lawfully married, born on the *2nd* day of *April* 19*47*
 was Baptized at the said Church by *James Goodwin S.P.* on the *11th* day of *May* 19*47*
Donald L. Van Handel and *Gloria M. Van Handel* being God-Parents.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct extract from the Register of Baptisms kept at the above Church. As witness my hand this *11th* day of *May*, 19*47*.

Signature *James Goodwin S.P.*

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SCHOOL OF LAW (BOALT HALL)
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720
TELEPHONE [415] 642-0910

March 21, 1973

Rev. Kennan Osborne
Franciscan House of Theology
Euclid Avenue
Berkeley, California 94708

Dear Fr. Osborne:

In accord with our conversation of yesterday let me outline the project for which I hope to obtain the collaboration of Robert Van Handel.

First, a little background may be helpful. For ten years I have been engaged in an enterprise -- part scholarly, part activist -- respecting the funding and governance of education. My former students and I have published two books and half a dozen articles analyzing existing legislative structures and arguing their invalidity under state and federal constitutions. We have participated as counsel in litigation attacking these systems -- so far with some success. We have also suggested a number of legislative solutions to what we consider the unfairness of present legislation.

Two themes run through our work. One is a principle of distributive justice that spending for a child's publicly financed education should not be a function of wealth (his family's or his school district). We call this principle "fiscal neutrality;" this norm (rejected today by the U.S. Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision) could be vindicated in California and a number of other states through the current litigation in state courts which is based conceptually upon our work.

The second theme is one the scholastics would have called "subsidiarity." It is the general preference for locating control of any activity in the smallest competent unit affected. This concept, of course, informs the "voucher" movement in education. That movement, however, has sometimes failed to understand the relation between this and the distributive principle -- a relation we consider fundamental. At least as far as poor families are concerned, fiscal neutrality guarantees only fairness not

Rev. Kennan Osbor.

page 2

March 21, 1973

3RD PARTY PRIVACY

choice; subsidiarity guarantees only choice and not fairness.

Hence, our current work emphasizes both economic inequity and absence of family choice in our present systems and will seek to identify alternatives satisfying both norms. It will be strongly assisted by a joint grant from the Ford and Carnegie foundations in excess of one million dollars in support of a "Childhood and Government Project." While on sabbatical in 1974 I will be supported by this Project to do relevant comparative work in Europe. Specifically, I hope to consider the extent to which several contrasting European systems conform to the norms of fiscal neutrality and subsidiarity. This will involve, hopefully, an examination of finance and governance of a set of selected public and private schools in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, and the United Kingdom. This undertaking is probably excessively ambitious considering the time available, but at least a good start could be made if I had the help of an energetic and intelligent collaborator.

Bob Van Handel seems an excellent choice for this purpose. He has all the necessary personal qualities. It would, of course, be helpful if he read some German, and I expect he could make considerable progress in that direction this year. It would not seem necessary that he speak the indigeneous tongue, as most of his potential sources would speak English; principally I would rely on Bob under my direction to map out the relevant social-economic profiles of a set of private schools in the countries we visit. I do not pretend that I have the details of this research worked out, but I am confident Bob would be enormously helpful to me and I also feel that the experience could be an enriching one for him.

The enterprise would be conducted from sometime in mid-January 1974, until about September 1. It would involve no cost to the Franciscans except the original outlay for Bob's air fare which could be repayable out of his modest earnings as my "student assistant" under the Childhood and Government Project.

Finally, I should confess that my motivation in asking Bob is not exclusively professional. My family and I enjoy him immensely and are very excited about the possibility of his joining us.

I know you and your colleagues will give serious consideration to this request, and I hope you will think the undertaking a potentially rewarding experience for Bob.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Coons
Professor of Law

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franciscan school of



theology

March 24, 1973

Dear [redacted] and Definitors:

This is a letter to support Robert Van Handel's request to assist Dr. John E. Coons of the University of California in the planned European research.

I had a meeting with Jack Coons the other day in which he outlined his plans and the program. After the meeting, I suggested he write a letter explaining the matter. Copies of this letter are enclosed.

First of all, it is an honor for the Franciscans and the school to have Professor Coons ask Bob to be a research assistant on this project.

Secondly, it will surely be a great educational experience for Bob to have this kind of experience, guided and evaluated by such a distinguished professor.

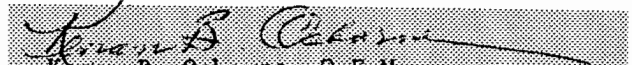
Thirdly, Bob's willingness to return and then begin his deacon internship is in line with all the directives we have received on priestly formation, in which priesthood is supposed to be postponed. That Bob should make his solemn vows and receive diaconate prior to the research project presents no problem at all; he has received very good reports from the faculty on both scores. He is mature; he has made up his mind; he is a solid seminarian and Franciscan.

Fourthly, since the Province will really have no extra cost -- the initial plane fare will be reimbursed by Bob's salary in his research work -- and since the entire project is a unique opportunity, it would seem that we would hardly want to deprive a young man of this experience. The kind of project fits very well into the social concerns of our provincial objectives and will equip Bob with a very good background in the area of education, particularly as it affects schools in lower income areas.

Might I suggest, then, that this proposal be taken quite seriously and that the concern we have for individual tailoring of formation be the backdrop for the final decision.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Sincerely yours,


Kenan B. Osborne, O.F.M.
President

OFM VANH 1

0137

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franciscan school of



theology

March 22, 1973

[REDACTED]
St. Elizabeth's Friary
Oakland, California

Dear [REDACTED] and Definitors:

Professor John E. Coons of the University of California has asked me to accompany him and his family while they are on sabbatical, January to September of 1974.

Professor Coons is currently involved in the struggle to equalize the quality of education among the poor in our country. He is doing this with a good measure of success through the state supreme courts by arguing that the present system of financing education is to the disadvantage of the poor. It was through his research and personal appearance that the California Supreme Court ruled against the theory that property taxes could determine the quality of education in a particular district.

In order to broaden the basis for his theories of equality in education Professor Coons is going to do a study of certain schools in Germany, Holland, Denmark, and England. He has asked me to accompany him as a research assistant. I would receive a small salary from the University to cover my living expenses.

The fact that I am a Franciscan will be of particular help on this project. My membership in such a group puts me in a unique position to research private or church-supported schools. Professor Coons would deal exclusively with public systems. Perhaps by January of 1974 I would also be a deacon and so be of particular assistance. I would do the balance of my parish diaconate program when I returned in September. It is most necessary for the success of the venture that one be able to gain access to the needed documents, etc. My institutional affiliations as a Franciscan and a cleric would be most helpful.

I think the province would benefit by my association with this project. Professor Coons is working on one section of a very large study dealing with children and government. This is a very relevant and unexplored area which will have immediate bearing on all of us who are working for the betterment of mankind. I do not think we should miss this opportunity for direct in-

OFM VANH 1
0138

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volvement in such an important field.

I have discussed this matter with Frs. Kenan and Pierre. Both of them agree that doing research with such a fine scholar and eminent Catholic layman would be a most valuable experience. The only expense for the province would be the cost of my initial flight to Germany. This would be refunded by my earnings from the University. Can we afford to miss such a fine opportunity?

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Van Handel, ofm
Robert M. Van Handel, ofm

franciscan school of



theology

April 23, 1973

[REDACTED]
St. Elizabeth's Friary
1500n- 34 th Avenue
Oakland, California

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your favorable response to my request to do research with Prof. John E. Coons. Kindly convey my thankfulness to the Definitorium. Presently I am surveying the available literature on the topic to be researched. I hope I can live up to everyone's expectations.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Van Handel, ofm
Robert M. Van Handel, ofm

OFM VANH 1

0140

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

CHILDHOOD AND GOVERNMENT PROJECT

SCHOOL OF LAW (BOALT HALL)
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720
TELEPHONE (415) 642-

The Childhood and Government Project of the University of Calif. is sending a small team to investigate the finance and governance of certain schools in England, Germany, and Denmark. We are interested in discovering the financial basis for primary and secondary education insofar as it affects the quality of education. Secondly, we wish to examine the degree of control that families have over their children's schooling.

OFM VANH 1

0141

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franciscan school of



theology

Robert Van Handel

Oct. 31

LA → FRANKFURT

Nov. 2-8

FREEBURG (Germ.)

Nov. 9- Jan. 10

Oxford, London, Liverpool

Jan. 11-16

Germ., Rome

Jan. 17 - Apr. 30

FREEBURG

May 1 - July 31

CAMBRIDGE, Engl.

Aug. 1 - Sept. 5(?)

COPENHAGEN

OFM VANH 1

0142

January 8, 1975

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.
St. Mary's Church
231 N. 3rd St.
Phoenix, Az. 85004

Dear Bob,

Just a line to let you know that I cencked with the friars at FST, and they felt that it would not be good for you to interrupt your work there in Phoenix at this time. However, we certainly will keep open the possibility of your going there next summer. I know [REDACTED] will be disappointed not getting someone now, but hope that we can take care of this in the meantime.

With every best wish and looking forward to seeing you when I get down that way on visitation, I am

Fraternally in St. Francis,

[REDACTED]

January 8, 1975

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.
St. Mary's Church
231 N. 3rd St.
Phoenix, Az. 85004

Dear Bob,

Just a line to let you know that I cencked with the friars at FST, and they felt that it would not be good for you to interrupt your work there in Phoenix at this time. However, we certainly will keep open the possibility of your going there next summer. I know [REDACTED] will be disappointed not getting someone now, but hope that we can take care of this in the meantime.

With every best wish and looking forward to seeing you when I get down that way on visitation, I am

Fraternally in St. Francis,

[REDACTED]



11 May 1975

To: The Definitorium

Re.: Multiple Subjects Credential
Robert Van Handel

From: Bro. Robert Van Handel

Shortly before this last Christmas, I had a discussion with [REDACTED] concerning the possibility of attending the University of California next year to study elementary teaching. [REDACTED] encouraged me to apply, and I was accepted.

In recent weeks I had a lengthy discussion with Fr. Xavier Harris. He was excited about my chances of entering the field of early childhood education. Fr. Xavier stated that he feels it is very important that we have someone from the province who is interested and knowledgeable in this area. He foresees great work evaluating and designing programs for children with whom we already are attempting to work. Fr. Xavier supports and encourages my proposal.

As I am sure you are aware, the theological current today, as expressed at Graduate Theological Union, places priesthood in a very wide and diverse perspective; that is, priesthood is not seen as being specifically sacrament oriented. As The Program of Priestly Formation (National Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1971), states:

Besides the programs of professional study necessary to prepare the candidate for ordination and the pastoral ministry, it is also important to provide programs of graduate academic study to provide the Church with scholars and teachers.

It would be of great advantage for me to go to the University of California this year. I have received very positive responses from the education department. Lynn Cutright, one of the best professors in elementary education, will be retiring after this next year. The alternatives to this proposal are not particularly inviting: a masters degree program in education would take three to five years of part-time work.

OFM VANH 1

0145

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

February 24, 1975

Mr. Robert VanHandel
1712 Euclid Avenue
Berkeley, California 94709

Dear Mr. VanHandel:

It gives us great pleasure to notify you that your application for admission to the Multiple Subjects Credential Program has been favorably reviewed. We would like to recommend to the Graduate Division that you be accepted for the 1975-76 program. Before the Graduate Division is contacted, however, we need verification on the enclosed post card of your intent to accept placement in the program.

About the end of March we will be sending all accepted candidates information concerning the four different approaches to the Multiple Subjects Program along with an invitation to attend orientation meetings. It is essential that you inform Ms. Shirley DeBuhr (5647 Tolman Hall, Telephone No. 642-0288) of any address change you may have.

Sincerely yours,

John P. Marlin
John P. Marlin
Assistant Dean

JPM:sd
Enclosure

OFM VANH 1

0146

ROBERT VAN HANDEL

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Multiple Subject Teacher Education Program

Please state below the goals which you view as being of major importance for a teacher in today's public elementary schools. Please also state the reason(s) why you feel each of these goals is significant. What qualities do you see in yourself which will assist you in meeting these goals?

Goals or ideals are always conceived out of one's previous experiences; the following is a summary of my past work with children: two summers as a counselor and assistant director of a day camp, one summer as a child-care worker in an Oregon children's home, one year as a children's counselor for a family-counseling service, one year as a child-care worker in a California children's home, three years as founder and director of a boys' chorus in Berkeley (including a residential summer music institute), several years as a religious studies teacher, and, most recently, director of a Phoenix boys' chorus, private tutor in elementary mathematics, and part-time and substitute teacher at a Phoenix elementary school (Title I).

The following are some goals that I think are important for a teacher in today's public elementary schools: Perhaps the most important goal for a teacher is to develop the ability to present material to children in an enjoyable and interesting way. This is important so that learning in school is a pleasant experience and has continuity with the children's learning experiences outside of school. Only in this way will school have meaning to children and be something more than simply "compulsory education". In my experiences I have enjoyed thinking and discovering with children; and I consider their native curiosity a great gift to be developed by enthusiastic and pleasant learning.

A second important goal for teachers is to help children attain competence in the "basic skills". Every effort should be made to ensure that children can read comfortably and well. This is the most important subject in elementary school. A degree of competence in basic arithmetic is also necessary. I realize the mystery surrounding the fact that "a word works at all," and the amount of frustration which can accompany learning to read, write, and use numbers. In my own experiences I have found that I can be patient and encouraging without becoming petty or dogmatic.

A third major goal for elementary school teachers would be a willingness on the part of the teacher to see that each child learns about himself: his importance, his own interests, his mind and his body, his own speed and direction of growth. In an increasingly complicated and impersonal world each child must gain confidence in his own abilities and merit. I have found in my own experience that I always become interested in the children with whom I work: I wonder about what they do when not in school, and I want to meet their friends and families. This interest has always been appreciated and shared by the children and their families.

A fourth goal for myself is to study and experiment with the various methods of teaching children. My interest is great, but there is much that I still must learn. It is my hope that the multiple subjects credential will prepare me for this work of educating children.

E.E.I.S.

Exploration of Emerging Instructional Systems

I. PROGRAM RATIONALE

Teaching is a personal experience for each teacher. His/her needs must be recognized and avenues must be open for fulfillment of these needs. By studying alternative forms of teaching, needs of individual teachers as well as children can be served. Student teachers are assisted in discovering patterns of teaching in which they are comfortable and in which they are able to function most effectively in the E.E.I.S.

A student teaching program such as E.E.I.S. is based on the premise that student teachers must be able to develop "educated" awareness of alternative teaching systems. Additionally, the student must gain sufficient experience in various systems to enable him/her to select the system that is, initially at least, most appropriate. Finally, after such a selection, the student must gain sufficient in-depth, guided experience to enable him/her to continue to grow personally and professionally through successful teaching experience following the training period. Some of the more common patterns of instruction are: Open Classroom; Interest Centers, "Traditional" whole class with flexible grouping; Individualized Teaching.

This program invites participation of the qualified applicant who indicates: an openness to new ideas and to change; a need and potential for growth; an interest in exploring new approaches to education; and a willingness, even eagerness to spend time and energy in learning to be an excellent teacher.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The distinctive element of E.E.I.S. is found in the design of teacher training experiences taking place in a variety of environments, and using a variety of organizational teaching systems.

East Bay and nearby communities will participate in the teacher education program. Criteria for selection of student teaching sites within the Ryan Act requirements, will include teacher, principals and communities that are willing and able to implement creative thinking regarding teaching strategies and materials, and that demonstrate interest in flexibility of organizational design.

An overall pattern, which will allow for flexibility to meet individual student needs is described as follows:

Prior to and during the first year of the E.E.I.S. (Exploration of Emerging Instructional Systems), through field work in the reading course and Cores I & II, a variety of differently organized teaching programs will be observed and discussed. The purpose of this is to give students an opportunity to observe (and confer), realizing eventually that there is no one organizational system for teaching that best meets all needs of

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (continued)

all children and all teachers. This experience is considered a supplementary course element for the reading course and Cores I & II. Increased awareness of the nature of different styles of teaching will also be achieved through this type of planned observation and follow-up discussion.

In anticipation of the first quarter of the program, students will be encouraged to join their master teacher for orientation prior to the opening of school in September, and assist in the classroom during the first two weeks of the public school year. This will enable the student teacher, children and master teacher to gain early acquaintanceship. It will allow the student teacher to plan ahead for his/her involvement in the classroom. The additional benefit is the gaining of first-hand knowledge of how an experienced teacher starts the new school year. At the end of those first two weeks in the public school, the student is free to pursue his/her own affairs, and where advisable, maintain contact with the U.C. supervisor until the beginning of the Fall Quarter in October, when U.C. classes officially start.

Except for special cases, the student teaching assignment in the Fall and Winter quarters will reflect different grade level assignments, different community composition, a cross cultural component and a different classroom organizational structure and teaching design. At the option of Core I and Core II instructors, speakers will address students regarding alternative styles of teaching and organization of instruction. Observation in specific curriculum areas, in alternative styled classrooms other than the student teaching assignment will be available to the student, also at the option of the instructors in those cores.

The Spring quarter of full-time student teaching will allow the student to gain in-depth experience in a grade level and an instructional setting of his/her choice whenever possible. The seminars accompanying this student teaching experience (Education 334) will individualize instruction so that each student teacher will gain personalized assistance for his/her specific assignment. This will include materials, teaching strategies, and organizational alternatives.

May 15, 1975

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.
Franciscan School of Theology
1712 Euclid Avenue
Berkeley,
California. 94709

Dear Bob,

Just a line to let you know that the members of the Definitorium were very favorable to your plans to continue in the field of elementary education. They certainly see a need for expertise in the lines that you pointed out. They thought, however, that it would be more feasible for you to go to St. Anthony's Seminary this year and take whatever calsses you can at the University of California, at Santa Barbara. I would ask that you get in touch with Father Claude as to what classes you would be able to handle. And I think that what you said about being able to deal in your field of strength is very important, and we would not want to have you go in over your head right at the start.

Be assured we are really grateful of your willingness to start at St. Anthony's, and I know that you will find a very fine community there.

With every best wish, and greetings to the Friars, I am,

Fraternally in St. Francis,

[REDACTED]

OFM VANH 1

0150

J. M. J. F.

Fr. [REDACTED]

Ordinis Fratrum Minorum
Provinciae S. Barbarae Minister Provincialis
Humilisque in Domino Servus

DILECTO IN CHRISTO

R. P. (V. F.) Robert Van Handel

Salutem et Pacem in Domino Sempiternam

Virtute Praesentium tibi mando, atque in meritum salutaris Obedientiae injungo ut, post harum litterarum receptionem, impedimento cessante legitimo, te quantocius transferas ex.....

Residentiaa ad Franciscan School of
Theology, Berkeley, Calif.

ad Residentiamam ad S. Antonium,
Santa Barbara, Calif.sub obedientia

R. P. Praesidisloci illius de cetero moraturus, ac muneribus
Prof. Sem.fideliter functurus

Cui te, sicut et reliquis illius Communitatis Patribus et Fratribus, quam possum carius in Domino commendo. Vale in Christo Jesu, Eumque pro me ora.

Datum in Conventunostr. ad S. Elisabeth,
Oakland, Calif.

sub meo Chirographo Officiiue Sigillo Majoridie 16
mensis Maiianno 1975

Fr. Alan McCay
Qui Supra

Praedictus Pater (Frater) in locum destinationis suae pervenit: die 20
mensis Juniianno 1975

Fr. Claude F. Ryffel O.F.M.
Superior

N. B.—Litterae Obedientiales coram Communitate legantur et statim, una cum ejusdem Patris (Fratri) "Friar-Relatives' Address Card". ad Ministrum Provinciale mittantur.

O.F.M. VANH 1

0151

Thank God and
thanks to you that in
the Bay Area we have
such a wonderful ^{CONTRAST} contact
at San Damiano
inspiring love for God
and love for His people
so much more in the
ways of St Francis.



Marriott's
Camelback Inn®
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85252

Oct 24, 1975

Reverend Father,
[REDACTED]

Other than my family,
there is nothing so dear
to me as our Church
and the Franciscan Order
on this earth. You
know this from my
previous talk with you.

these two at the loss of
peace, to be kindly
numerous, ^(well, several times) women on
the lips. - Is this not
inviting catastrophe both
to the priests as well as
the women? and certainly
seems to be a ~~some~~ scandal.
^{why they were blood sisters}

Is it only in my eyes
and thinking?
Is it not known to you?
Does it not concern leaders
ship?

Only in love do I write. to my understanding
Sincerely, the Church in our nation.
Robert Van Hander, (son). What was most dis-
tressing was to see

Do it hurts me when
I see something that appears
to be away.

While here in Scottsdale
for a short visit I have
been attending daily Mass
at the Casa Betta -

To see these two priests
still giving Communion

in the hand is supposed
not in order according

to my understanding
What was most dis-
tressing was to see

November 6, 1975

Robert Van Handel
3266 Cape Cod Court
Alameda, Calif. 94501

Dear Mr. Van Handel,

I want to thank you sincerely for your letter of November 1 in regard to the Liturgy at the Casa Retreat House in Scottsdale. I was not aware of the situation as you mention it, and I will be going down that way soon and I will have a chance to talk with the friars there as well as with the people. I appreciate your writing and your sincere concern.

With every best wish, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Minister Provincial

Tr: Robert Van Handel



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES
1531 WEST NINTH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015
388-8101

December 17, 1976

Very Reverend John Vaughn, O.F.M.
Franciscan Friars of California
1500 Thirty-fourth Avenue
Oakland, California 94601

Dear Father Vaughn:

His Eminence, Cardinal Manning, asked that I acknowledge with his gratitude your kind letter of December 9.

We have noted the following appointments and have granted Archdiocesan faculties to the good fathers for the duration of their respective appointments:

Rev. Lucius Grosso, O.F.M., Chaplain
St. Francis Hospital, Santa Barbara

Rev. Donald Gander, O.F.M., Chaplain
St. Anne's Maternity Hospital, Los Angeles

Rev. Robert Van Handel, O.F.M., Teacher
St. Anthony's Seminary, Santa Barbara

With kindest personal regards and best wishes for a happy Christmas, I remain

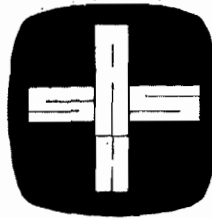
Sincerely yours in Christ,

John A. Rawden
Reverend Monsignor John A. Rawden
Chancellor

fd
cc the above priests
Sister M. Sylvianne, St. Francis Hospital
Sister M. Marina, St. Anne's Maternity Hospital

OFM VANH 1
0155

st. anthony's seminary



high school

19 January 1978

Dear Fr. John,

This is just a short note because I wanted to share some thoughts with you.

I was really sad and somewhat surprised at the announcement that Eloy was to be laicized. I for one felt that we were good friends, although lately we were not as close as in Berkeley. I do hope he is able to find whatever it is he is looking for. If you can, please keep me posted on what you hear from him.

Secondly, as you know, I conduct the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir. This is a small choir of about twenty-five pre-adolescent boys from all over Santa Barbara, Goleta, etc. A very talented and interested board of parents helps me administer the choir. Although this idea is only in its birth, I wanted to let you know what this board is beginning to think about. At one of our meetings a parent asked me if I would consider taking the choir to England. I laughed at what I thought was a joke. At a later meeting another board member asked me if I had thought any more about taking the choir to sing in England during the summer of 1979. We have agreed to discuss the feasibility of the idea at our next meeting which is at the end of January.

I am not at this point asking you to make any kind of decision, as I said, we have not even formally discussed the idea as the boys' choir board. But I do want to keep you informed as the idea progresses. Whether we drop the idea or agree to investigate it further, I will keep you posted.

The students begin their semester exams today. Dave Johnson was quizzing a freshman on his English vocabulary. The student answered that "euphemism" was defined as a "jake". Dave patiently explained that while "jake" was a "euphemism" for "toilet", a "euphemism" was not necessarily a "jake". The student protested that his teacher had said that "jake" was a "euphemism". On to the next word.....

OFM VANH 1

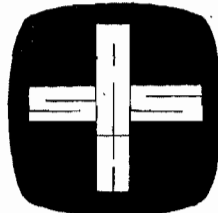
0156

Fraternally,

Robert

8.2

st. anthony's seminary



high school

26 October 1978

Dear Father John,

Last January 19th I wrote to you that the choir I had founded, the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir, was exploring the possibility of traveling to England some time in the future. When we were together at visitation I brought you up to date on the choir's progress and spoke more definitely of our plans. At that time you said you foresaw no problem, but that I should submit a proposal to the definitorium as soon as possible. This has been the first chance to do so since I narrowly missed your August meeting. Please excuse the long delay.

On November 20th, 1977, the boys' choir together with a small group of singers from St. Anthony's presented a "classical" music concert to the public. Response to this performance was so positive that the choir's parents' board proposed that we consider furthering the boys' musical education through a tour of English choirs and cathedrals. The Santa Barbara Boys' Choir is modeled on the English boy choir tradition.

When all of the parents heard of the idea they responded enthusiastically and promised to pay half of the cost. The choir organization began studying ways to raise the deficit.

The rationale for the trip is presented in the enclosed statement of purpose.

Needless to say, without my direction the choir would not exist and no tour would be possible.

The musical-educational tour is tentatively scheduled for July of 1979, and would last two to three weeks. There would be no extraordinary cost to the province as my fare and expenses will be borne by the choir. My vacation allowance would cover personal expenses.

May I have your permission to go ahead with plans to lead the choir on this trip?

OFM VANH 1

Faternally,

0157

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ California ■ 93105



SANTA BARBARA ARTS COUNCIL

123 East Canon Perdido, Santa Barbara, California (805) 966-7022

Post Office Box 1267, Santa Barbara, California 93102

October 26, 1978

SANTA BARBARA ARTS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Richard Hellmann
President

Mr. Wallace T. Drew
Vice-President

Mrs. Jon Lovelace
2nd Vice-President

Mrs. Raymond H. Myerson
Treasurer

Mr. Robert Brandt

Mrs. Ronald Latimer

Mrs. Margaret Armstrong

Miss Joan King

Mr. Kenneth A. Brown

Mr. Eric Parfit

Mrs. Frank Serena

Mrs. Dorothy Eberly

Mr. Tom Bazemore

Dr. Marya Weinstock

Mrs. Joseph E. Knowles Jr.

Mr. Jose Saucedo

Father Robert Van Handel
Director, Santa Barbara Boys' Choir
St. Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara

Dear Father Van Handel:

The Santa Barbara Arts Council was delighted with the performance of the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir during our recent Arts Festival at the Museum of Natural History. Members of the board who did not hear the Festival concert had an opportunity to listen to portions of a concert on tape at a meeting of the board this past Monday.

The Council wishes you to know that we are one hundred percent behind your endeavor which provides tremendous opportunities for growth in many directions for these young boys. As individuals they are receiving training, discipline and education which will enrich their lives, and as a group they are an artistic credit to the city of Santa Barbara.

FOUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

Community Arts Music Association
of Santa Barbara, Inc.

Continuing Education Division,
Santa Barbara City College

Junior League
of Santa Barbara, Inc.

Labero Theater Foundation

Music Academy of the West

Santa Barbara
Chamber of Commerce

Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Santa Barbara Symphony
Orchestra Association

University of California,
Santa Barbara

Westmont College

The proposed tour to England next summer should provide an experience of inestimable value to the boys while also adding enormously to the experience of the choir as a whole. To mingle with boys of similar interests, and to exchange ideas, compare backgrounds, learn about different cultures and traditions, should add greatly to their understanding and development.

We believe that as emissaries of the city of Santa Barbara the boys will do much toward furthering our good public relations abroad. We also believe that this project is precisely the sort of undertaking that the Santa Barbara Arts Council has been formed to help promote and assist in any way possible. Because the council is new and is still feeling its way financially, we are not able to lend funding assistance. But we wish you to know that in every other way we heartily endorse next summer's trip to England by the Choir, and wish you all success in your fine work.

Janette M. Hellmann
Janette M. Hellmann, President
Santa Barbara Arts Council

OFM VANH 1

0158

Dedicated to Artistic Growth in the Community

January 27, 1978

Fr. Robert M. Van Handel, O.F.M.
Saint Anthony's Seminary High School
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, California 93105

Dear Robert,

Thanks for the nice letter of January 19th which I received when I got home the day before yesterday.


Thank you for sharing your feelings about Eloy's departure. I know it must have saddened you, but at the same time I think you should know that what you did for him through your friendship has probably helped him more than you realize, and I know he will continue to be grateful to you for that. I will keep you posted on him, although I do not know when I will hear from him next. When I was in Fresno a week ago Monday he was still there, but he indicated to me that he was thinking of returning to Mexico quite soon.

Thanks for filling me in on the idea of taking the boy's choir to England. It sounds interesting and I will follow the process with you, eagerly.

It was really nice to hear from you, Bob. Thanks for all that you do for the Friars and students at the Seminary.

With every good wish, I am

Fraternally yours,



OFM VANH 1

0159

Oct. 4, 1980

Dear Robert

Happy Feast!

I saw your father at the celebration at St. Anthony's today. He was getting every one organized (well). He asked me to please take good care of you. I said you were in charge of taking care of everyone else.

WE will acquiesce. I discussed the car situation with Fr. Martial. It seems he will cover everything on the list.

I would ask that you do keep in mind that it is another addition. We would like to cut back as much as we can in light of the energy thing, and all that. We do keep adding a car here and there (including here). So we would like to keep that in mind. So as they break down, perhaps we can work back to the original number.

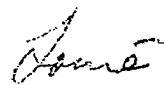
Thanks for your patience with this (Jimmy Carter thanks you for saving energy!)

It has been a good time for celebrating. I went down to Mission San Antonio for the reception of Jon Erickson. That makes 14 novices.

Mark went to another specialist. It now seems there is a chip broken off in his foot. (Perhaps he will sue you). So it could even mean surgery at some time, if it continues to get in the way. Keep him in your prayers.

Well, must get ready to travel. My best to all there at the sem.

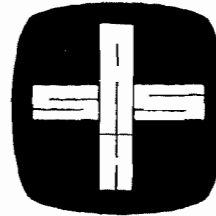
Happy Feast....



OFM VANH 1

0160

st. anthony's seminary



high school

19 September 1980

Dear [REDACTED]

Our community discussed your July 30th letter in which you suggested that we dump the green chevrolet because of the Green's gift of a station wagon. As you pointed out the chevy is old and a big car for running around town, and the "new" wagon adds to our insurance bill.

We would like to keep the '71 chevy under one of two plans. The reasons are that while we have a firm offer of \$200.00 for it, we certainly are not getting our money's worth. The tires alone are worth near that amount. The car does run relatively well and is the second most economical vehicle we have. For that reason it is better for city use than anything else we have except the new Citation. The station wagon will help to take pressure off our critical van shortage. Whether or not it will prove adequate is to be seen. Part of the hesitation in selling a car that runs is the fear that at any time a vehicle in our aging fleet may develop irreparable problems. Then we would be down two cars with little or no money to show. Therefore we would like to present two plans: (a) Simply add the station wagon to our insurance and not get rid of any vehicle in exchange. (b) Take the old chevy off the insurance but store it here. If the station wagon does not prove feasible or if a car stops running we have only to re-list the green chevy. This plan keeps our insurance constant but carries no big risk.

For your consideration here listed are our vehicles and mileage:

1980 Chevrolet Citation - 18,000 miles
1975 Chevrolet Impala - 112,000 miles
1973 Pontiac station wagon (Green's gift) - 123,000 miles
1973 GMC van - 128,000 miles
1971 Ford van - 130,000 miles
1971 Chevrolet Biscayne ("green" chevy) - 189,000 miles
1969 Ford van - 123,000 miles
1963 Ford pick-up truck - 151,000 or 251,000 miles

None of these has had any major motor work done. As you can see, any vehicle could go at any time. Before very long we are going to have to replace one, two, or three vans.

OFM VANH 1

0161

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel, OFM

July 30, 1980

Dear Robert

Good to hear from you. It was nice of the Greens to give you the station wagon.

Since this adds a strain to your budget (one more insurance).

I discussed it with Marjial, and it seemed to us it would make sense to get rid of the Green Chevy. I know that it is not too practical to take on trips because of the liklihood of breakdown, and it is a big car for just running around town.

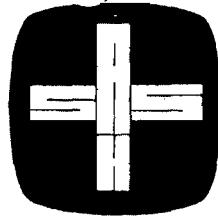
Let me know what you think of that idea.

Hope all is well there. Looking forward to a good year, with [REDACTED] back in the saddle.

By the way did Bill Green go to Montana?

Best regards to all the friars.

st. anthony's seminary



high school

27 July 1980

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope the summer is treating you well and the trauma of your office does not always drain and depress. I am leaving in the morning to take the boys choir to a music camp for a week, then I am going off on a camping trip of my own.

Bill Green's brother wants to give us a station wagon - for free - which is in very good condition. We already have three vans but with a student body of around 70 we are often unable to provide transport. If we were allowed to keep the wagon, it would be adding another vehicle to our insurance. (We sold an old white van during the summer, but that had already been taken off insurance some months before.) As you know, we have a green chevvy with 180,000+ miles which we do not plan on replacing if we can keep this wagon. So, I am asking if we can keep this station wagon from the Greens and add it to our insurance. If you think not, we will sell it at first opportunity. Thank you.

OEM VANH 1

0163

Fraternally,

Fr. Robert

November 4, 1978

Fr. Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.
St. Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93105

Dear Bob,

Thank you for your recent letter which I received during the Definitorium meeting, in addition to a letter from the Santa Barbara Arts Council which supported your request to take a tour with the Boys Choir in England this coming summer.


First, I would like to congratulate you once again on the fine work that you have done with the boys, the immense amount of good you have done with them and in the community through them. I know that this represents a great deal of dedication on your part.

While the Definitorium is certainly open to your request, the one concern that we have is that the rest of the community and faculty at St. Anthony's would feel comfortable with this decision, since it involves your absence not only during the summer months but also seems to involve quite a bit of time spent in preparations over the next seven to eight months. Since this might mean a heavier work load for the others, I would appreciate it if you would let me know how they feel about this proposal, offering them the opportunity to write to me directly if they wish.

After that is taken care of I will be able to give you a more definite answer and hopefully within a short time.

With best wishes to you and with thanks for all the good that you are doing for the community at St. Anthony's, I am

Faternally yours,


Minister Provincial

OFM VANH 1

0164

October 11, 1982

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.
St. Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Bob:

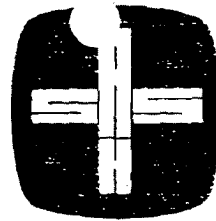
The definitorium did receive your request for travel permission to England and Ireland with the Boys Choir. Sounds like quite an ambitious project. I don't know ~~where~~ you get the patience to go through all that. Nevertheless, you have our permission.

I hope that everything will work out as far as raising the funds, etc. I know that the boys have great hopes for this venture.

With best wishes and fraternal regards,

OFM VANH 1
0165

st. anthony's seminary



high school

4 October 1982

Dear Fr. Provincial and Members of the Definitorium,

I would like to request permission to travel to England and Ireland during July and August, 1983.

The Santa Barbara Boys Choir, a chorus which I founded and direct, for some months has been trying to establish the feasibility of such a trip in terms of arrangements, costs, fund-raising, and readiness of the singers. It now seems almost certain that the tour would work.

The trip is a musical - educational tour centered on performing English cathedral music. We have been greatly honored by being invited to substitute for the cathedral choir of Christ Church, Oxford, for one week. This will involve living in the choir school and performing one to three different services a day. As each service requires a new set of music (evening canticles, psalms, anthems, hymns, mass settings) this is a very difficult, exhausting week, but perhaps the highpoint for a choir which is modeled on English cathedral choirs. Also we will provide service music or concerts in Westminster Cathedral (London), Worcester Cathedral, Chester Cathedral, and in some churches in Ireland. (The choir was in England in 1979, but since then there has been nearly a complete turnover in membership.)

My trip costs would be absorbed by the choir so that no extra expense will be borne by the province.

Although the exact flight times, etc., have not been determined, we would leave about July 14, 1983, and return around August 4, 1983.

This venture is very important to me and to the choir.

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel, OFM
Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.

OFM VANH 1

0166

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105



STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Santa Barbara Boys Choir is a non-demoninational group of thirty-five boys aged eight to fourteen. The members are from the Santa Barbara, Montecito, and Goleta Communities. The choir is modeled on an English cathedral choir and this gives identity and direction to the boys. Their uniforms, style of singing, repertoire, goals, and self-understanding reflect the English boy choir tradition. The choir was founded in the autumn of 1975. It has grown from a motley group of twelve third graders to a respectable chorus of seasoned singers (mixed with novices) which often performs in the cathedral style with a specially trained men's group.

The choir operates on four main principles: boys can and should be trained to sing with the tonal qualities and discipline of the English cathedral choirs; boys can sing with a quality that is unique and on a plane with adult choirs; children with gifts should share their talents with others. Singing is perhaps one of the few activities in which boys can excel and be favorably judged by absolute standards regardless of age group. This performing experience will remain with the boys as they grow and cannot fail to have a profound effect on their musical taste and interests all of their lives. No boy is refused participation in the choir and the scheduled activities due to lack of personal finances.

Twice a week after school the boys meet to rehearse for an hour and a half. This includes singing fundamentals, vocal tutoring, repertoire, and history. The choir's curriculum provides an environment which encourages personal growth in music and develops discipline and a sense of excellence in the participants during a critical time in their character formation.

Thousands of people whether they be from the Santa Barbara Community or from the many cities that the choir has visited have enjoyed hearing the choir. (Please see attached list.) The choir has performed in the noisy confusion of a fourth of July parade and in the solemn beauty of the Santa Barbara Mission and the Salisbury and Ely Cathedrals of England. Whenever they have sung, the boys have been enthusiastically received. Many are moved by the clear, simple beauty of their voices.

Part of the educational experience that underpins the choir curriculum is a major singing tour every two years. Past tours have included performances in the inspiring, truly magnificent cathedrals of England: Salisbury and Ely, as well as Grace and St. Mary's Cathedrals in San Francisco and St. James' in Seattle. The choir is now preparing for a singing tour of England and Ireland during the summer of 1983. (Although we were there in 1979, there has been very nearly a complete turnover in the choir's membership since then.) This tour will be the climax in the choir's realization of the English Cathedral ideal. The choir has been chosen to be the resident choir at Christ

OFM VANH 1

0167

Santa Barbara Boys Choir 2300 Garden St. Santa Barbara, CA. 93105 682-5641

Church Cathedral, Oxford, while their choir is away. The Santa Barbara Boys Choir will actually live in the choir school and provide daily services for the cathedral. At times this means three separate services in one day. Besides Oxford, the choir will provide music for services or give concerts at Westminster Cathedral, Worcester Cathedral, Chester Cathedral, and two cathedrals in Ireland.

Already the boys have begun to study cathedral architecture, English geography, history, and custom. The choirboys must know England well upon arrival as they are not mere tourists, but a visiting choir of cathedral stature.

We believe that the opportunity provided by the Santa Barbara Boys Choir truly develops discipline and a sense of excellence in its participants and will have long lasting effect on its members. This experience is provided with no direct financial support from any single organization, and is entirely a volunteer, non-profit effort.



A PARTIAL LIST OF PERFORMANCES
BY THE SANTA BARBARA BOYS' CHOIR

Old Mission Santa Barbara
Unitarian Church
First Presbyterian Church
Trinity Episcopal Church
Santa Barbara Arts Council Concerts
Villa Santa Barbara Retirement Residence
St. Anthony's Seminary Spring Concerts
UCSB Men's Chorus (joint concert)
The Nutcracker (with S.B. Symphony and Goleta Ballet)
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
St. Rafael's Church
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
First Congregational Church
Valle Verde Convalescent Home
Woodglen Hall
Knights of Columbus
Santa Barbara Art Museum
Handicapables
Junior League of Santa Barbara
Chancellor's Christmas Party (UCSB)
Birnam Woods Country Club
Interfaith Choir Concert
Vista Del Monte
Retired Seniors Volunteer Program
Officers' Luncheon (Military)
Friendship Manor
Kiwanis Club
Goleta Presbyterian Church
Lessons and Carols Services
Valley Country Club
Old Mission Santa Ynez

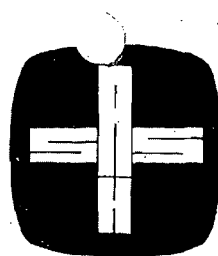
On Tour:
Salisbury Cathedral
Ely Cathedral
St. Peter's in Hove (E. Sussex)
St. Etheldreda's in London
Ashland Shakespearean Festival
Grace Cathedral, San Francisco
St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco
St. James' Cathedral, Seattle
University of British Columbia

OFM VANH 1

0169

1

st. anthony's seminary



high school

FST
Bob Van
Hensel
(2)

11 March 1984

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the time you spent with me during your recent visit to Santa Barbara. I appreciate your time and concern. I don't envy the frustration you must often feel which is a necessary part of this style of leadership.

I promised you I would seriously consider going to Berkeley in the fall. That I have done. After discussing the proposal with you and giving it some time to settle in my own mind, I made an appointment with Dr. White. (As you know I have been seeing him regularly most of this year.) We looked at the idea from a number of perspectives, and particularly in the light of some of my serious struggles over the last several months. It is his opinion and a judgment we reached together that for me to do anything this fall, other than take a real sabbatical, would be at best unwise. It seems that Berkeley would be another start in a new direction rather than the retreat-sabbatical we have spoken of for a year. The content of my talks with Dr. White which lead to this decision I will not put in this letter, but I would be most willing to discuss this with you personally, or you may contact Dr. White* yourself. I think you know him as a man of sound and careful judgment. He believes I should not go to Berkeley.

I also discussed the idea with my community at St. Anthony's. It would be difficult to capture the strength of their reaction against this proposal. This centered on two points: they feel I badly need a rest - sabbatical to recoup, not a new set of problems and challenges; after the sabbatical (i.e. January of 1985), they would like me to seriously consider becoming Rector of St. Anthony's in the fall of 1985. A move to Berkeley, even for a year, would preclude the preparation necessary for this possibility.

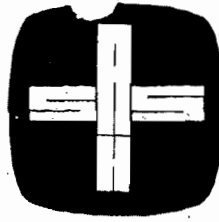
In conclusion I am sorry for not being able to offer my services in Berkeley and thus solve your difficulty. I apologize if by offering to "seriously consider" Berkeley I mislead you in any way.

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

OFM VANH 1

0170

st. anthony's seminary



high school

page 2

Thank you for being understanding of my declination.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Robert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R".

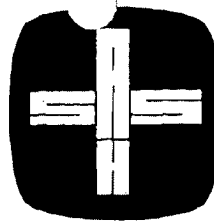
Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.

* Dr. Gerald White 805 966-7840 (evenings)

O.F.M. VANH 1
0171

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

st. anthony's seminary



high school

7 May 1986

Dear [REDACTED]

I am sorry I am unable to see you at the meeting in Malibu. Some work has come up at school and a number of our staff is (are) at Serra already so I had better stay here. I am going somewhere on Thursday so I will get a break anyway.

As the year starts to tumble to a close I have many mixed feelings about St. Anthony's and my first year as Rector. Perhaps during the summer I will sort them out well enough to attempt some type of evaluation in terms of programs, students, viability of the school, and my own performance. We have certainly generated many new ideas and I think we should continue to steam ahead. On the other hand, I believe I am quite realistic in my thoughts about SAS's future in terms of growth, finances, etc. Wallowing in our present condition will not do.

We have certainly missed Mike Doherty this semester, and Jeff Macnab will be a major loss next year. Mike has been a first-class minister and I'm afraid we have been a bit scattered without him, which is not to say that I think he should not have gone on sabbatical -- thank you for giving him the chance.

Actually the reason I am writing you this morning (5:15) is to invite you to graduation on Saturday, 31st of May. It will be in the afternoon with Mass at 4pm, dinner at 6pm, and Commencement at 8pm. I realize this is late notice -- a Jurisich I am not -- but I hope either you or your able Second can join us. There are only five graduates, but you know how much of us goes into each one. I hope you can be here.


Do you remember when I came by the provincial office a few weeks ago? Among other things I asked you about the possibility of "renting" our art lab (under the dining room) to Waldorf School. You said that I could go ahead with this and I said I would let you know more about it later. Waldorf school has about 50 small children (K - 3) and has been resident at Don George's Casa de Maria for the past two years. They come highly recommended. [REDACTED] ran a "security check" on their founder, Rudolf Steiner, and received a paper from Westmont College (conservative Protestant) describing Steiner as an "occultist". I asked Waldorf's headmaster about this and he said they were not. I think the school is a pseudo-christian Emersonian offshoot. They plant gardens, study St. Francis, and try to teach the children about respect for life in all of nature. I don't think they will be an embarrassment. The friars met with Waldorf's head and discussed our concerns. For the most part we were pleased. The difficulties can be worked out. Waldorf will remodel our art lab into four classrooms and pay us a tidy sum each month. I proposed that they write up a contract for one year and we could evaluate at the end of that period. When I have the franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

OEM VANH 1
0172

contract I will have a lawyer look at it and send you a copy at the same time. I suppose this is our decision with your approval -- or am I wrong? At any rate I will enclose one of their brochures. I think this is a good thing and worth the risk. (We have paid attention to Waldorf's daily schedule so that our students and their small children will have very little contact.)

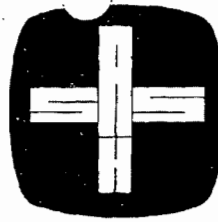
Thank you for your support. If there is anyway I can be more helpful, do let me know.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert Van Handel, OFM

st. anthony's seminary



high school

15 May 1984

Dear [REDACTED]

Concert is now over and I hope we can get a little breathing room before Fr. Finbar's Jubilee and then graduation. On the whole concert was very successful although the crowd on Friday night was not very large. Saturday played to a full house. We used Richard McManus' idea of a history of the school. I never thought it would work because so many elements had to be coordinated effectively. I'm happy to say I was wrong. The feeling was not so much of fun and elation as a deeper understanding and appreciation of what St. Anthony's was and is. The re-enactment of the 1925 earthquake was particularly poignant. Slides of the old glass plates showing devastated "new" buildings conveyed the sense of loss the seminary staff must have felt. Now we have to cope with "post-partum blues" and carry on into June.

As we discussed on the telephone several weeks ago I have been planning my sabbatical. I apologize for the scatter-brained conversation that day. My feelings right now are not particularly clear to me so that when I try to explain why I want some time away, or even exactly what I plan to accomplish it lacks clear definition. I am hoping to spend the month of July in the Bay Area attending some workshops and classes. In August I will be at the "gathering", and then leave for England. In Abingdon, at the girls' school, I expect to have a good deal of time to myself -- to go to some lectures in Oxford, to renew my interest and excitement in medieval history, perhaps to find more areas I want to study. The music I love is there. Hopefully I will return full of enthusiasm, new ideas, and some of the sparkle I have lost, particularly during this past year. I have not forgotten that I still need final approval to go to England from the Definitorium. As I stated before, this can be done at very low cost because of the school in England and the help of S.B. Boys Choir.

During July I will take a program in Prayer of Centering from Basil Pennington. Then two weeks will be spent at USF taking two courses in private school administration. I also have a wrkshop planned in Menlo Park: an intensive journal retreat under Ira Progoff. I am going to ask FST if I can live there during this time. If the planned stay in England is acceptable, I will return to Santa Barbara in January, 1985, for the spring semester.

Thank you very much for your understanding and encouragement.

OFM VANH 1

0174

Faternally,

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

Robert Van Handel

820894
TEL. PORTSMOUTH 20894
XXXX

BISHOP'S HOUSE
EDINBURGH ROAD
PORTSMOUTH, HANTS
PO1 3HG

13th August 1984

Dear Father Provincial,

The Bishop has asked me to write and to thank you for the kind letter you sent to him concerning Father Robert Van Handel who will be teaching and doing some Pastoral work at Our Lady's Convent, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The Bishop is grateful for your kindness in writing and looks forward to meeting Father Handel next time he is in Abingdon.

With all good and kind wishes,
Yours sincerely in the Lord,

David Hopwood
Bishop's Secretary

[REDACTED]
Provincial Minister,
Franciscan Friars,
Province of Saint Barbara,
1500 Thirty-Fourth Avenue,
Oakland,
CALIFORNIA
94601,
U.S.A.

OFM VANH 1
0175

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

August 14, 1985

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.
Rector
Saint Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Bob:

I know that we have already assured you that you would be Mel's replacement but it is a formal appointment of our recent Post Capitular Definitorium Meeting and so I am writing to formally name you as Rector of Saint Anthony's Seminary (You will note that the title is Rector).

Bob, I know that the faculty there has great confidence in you; your vision and your enthusiasm. I can assure you we have confidence as well.

Please be assured of our support in the days and years ahead in any way that we can. It is always best when we can work together in these Province ventures and surely this is a venture that is very dear to the heart of the Province.

I look forward, myself, to working with you, Robert, and to any support that I can personally give you. I feel my first obligation really is to those who have taken the other leadership positions in the Province. They will take care of those who are in their care but I must look out for people like yourself so please do not hesitate to call on me whenever I can be of help.

I also will keep you in my prayers for these coming days. I'm sure you approach them with some hesitation but you can be confident knowing that we and God are supporting you.

With warm regards,

COPY

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

July 21, 1986 .

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93501

Dear Robert:

I received your recent letter, particularly regarding Jan's housing back there. It is good that he has the back-pay from the Navy to carry the major bulk of it. I will pass this on to Martial, to see if he can't come up with the rest of the money that is needed. We certainly would not want to see poor ole brother Jan washed away.

I hope you are having a good Summer and some break, as I know that you are going to have a very busy year ahead.

I do want to say Bob, how much I admire you for your courage, and your energy in taking on the difficult role there at St Anthony Seminary. It is a very tough job, and you put a great deal of yourself into it, and I know it is appreciated by all.

I certainly offer you my encouragement as we move into the year ahead, and I very much keep this in my prayers.

Do have a good Summer though. Kind of forget about things for awhile. You will need the energy when you get back.

With fraternal affection,

[REDACTED]

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

May 17, 1986

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your recent letter, regarding the various situations at St. Anthony's, and I hope you got some word back about that situation. I do intend to bring up the question of the Waldorf Schools, at the Definitorium Meeting, that is coming up so close, I thought it would be better to bring it up to them, in case there is some major problem.

I am very sorry Bob, I won't be able to come to the Graduation. I did not know the date, and scheduled a Retreat at Spokane for that week-end. It took quite a bit of jockeying to get that date, and it is now impossible to change it. I did talk to [REDACTED] and either he will arrange to come or see that it is covered.

[REDACTED] reminded me, as I'm not sure if we ever got back to you, regarding your report on the Financial situation. Simply that, we would like to keep on top of it, and get some kind of report as things move along. It was suggested in October, after School starts, you could send us a preliminary report of what ideas have developed, and how people see the Financial situation moving in the future. Then in the Spring, get something more concrete as the time moves on.

I was just talking to Jeff about the Monies that are being moved into the Christian Brothers Trust, and it is only paying about 6.5% Interest at the present time, which means where ever you put your money, you are not going to get a very big return. It really is clearer and clearer, how far we have come from the 20% days, and what a burden Bob was under, trying to bring in that much money every month. So we just have to move on and see what we can do.

I know the year has gone rather rough, especially here at the end, but it is a job that requires a lot of dedication, and I know that you have that.

We have been talking more and more about the E.S.L. Program, and it looks like there might be a real possibility there. Let's keep working on that.

Thank you again Bob, for the burden you bear. You surely have my support.

With fraternal affection,

[REDACTED]
1500 thirty-fourth Avenue
Oakland CA 94601

OFM VANH 1
0178

Provincial Minister (415) 536-3722
Provincial Office (415) 536-1266

st. anthony's seminary



high school

8 April 1986

Members of the Definitorium:

The friars at St. Anthony's would like to thank you for your support and interest in us and the school. Periods of transition are not easy and we are faced with several rather large problems at this time. Thank you for allowing us to approach these and devise plans for their solutions. We hope that within the next couple of years we will be able to chart some real progress, particularly in the areas of enrollment and financial stability.

At this time we would like to request approval for raising the basic tuition up to \$2300. for the year 1986 - 87. This is an increase of 13% over last year. The previous year we raised the fee from \$1700 to \$2000. Scholarship money continues to be available for needy students and it is our hope that none of our present students will be eliminated by this increase. Our actual cost per pupil is about \$5000 (this number fluctuates as it is based on the actual number of students in the school at any one time). We will also be approaching our few more affluent parents regarding a direct donation to the school. The manner and details of this appeal are not yet arranged, but will be dealt with by the financial advisory board. We certainly believe this is a reasonable, even conservative, increase and I have done some preparation with parents that the fees may be raised.

OFM VANH 1

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Sincerely,

Robert Van Handel, Jr.
rector

st. anthony's seminary



high school

24 October 1986

Dear [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and Members of the Definitorium,

As you know I am the director of the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir (which is really for boys and men). The choir is modeled on an English Cathedral Choir and has performed in this capacity in England, most notably for a week in 1983 at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Four years ago the choir went to England and Ireland to sing in some of the major churches, as well as to tour and enjoy the people. The trip was very successful.

Now I am again requesting permission to go with the choir to England and Switzerland. This would be from July 7 to 28, 1987.

The choir is almost entirely new since four years ago. Only two boys out of thirty-five were with us in 1983. The choir has made some arrangements to sing at Lincoln Cathedral for a week as a replacement for their choir which goes on holiday. Other appearances have not yet been fully explored. In many ways this is not a "vacation trip" but an intense emerging in another culture. While resident in Oxford Cathedral the choir practiced three times a day and performed a service daily. Sunday was a day spent in church with three separate and different services.

The choir has been raising funds for the past several years to pay for the trip. My expenses are paid out of the choir's treasury and do not need to be funded by the province.

If you are in need of more detailed information or if you have any questions please let me know.

Thank you for considering this request.

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel, OFM

Robert Van Handel, OFM

OFM VANH 1

0180

franciscan priors ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

October 31, 1986

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Robert:

Thanks again for all your time that you took for the preparations, and the presentation that you made to the Seminary. We are very grateful to you and Paul & Michael.

We would like to have a meeting with you and the friars at the Seminary to discuss the response to your report and the general concerns regarding St Anthony's Seminary. Coinciding with the travels with some of us in the area, would it be possible to have a meeting with the friars on November 8th, a Saturday at the Seminary, at one o'clock in the afternoon if that is convenient with you. Please let me know if that is not convenient, otherwise we will go ahead and make the arrangements.

Secondly we considered your request for travel to Europe next Summer with the Boys choir, and the definitorium did respond positively to that. We do affirm your work with the choir and the contribution that it makes.

Less than you be concerned, none of us consider that a vacation. I must say I don't envy the effort that it takes to chaperon a group like that. Also all the work that you put into the music. So you go with our blessing.

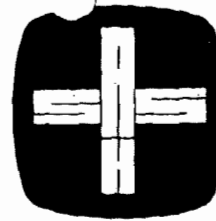
We are still working on the Assisi Experience and some of you will hear some word on that soon.

Thanks again Bob to you and all there.

with warm fraternal regards,



st. anthony's seminary



high school

24 October 1986

Dear [REDACTED], and Members of the Definitorium,

As you know I am the director of the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir (which is really for boys and men). The choir is modeled on an English Cathedral Choir and has performed in this capacity in England, most notably for a week in 1983 at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Four years ago the choir went to England and Ireland to sing in some of the major churches, as well as to tour and enjoy the people. The trip was very successful.

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The choir is almost entirely new since four years ago. Only two boys out of thirty-five were with us in 1983. The choir has made some arrangements to sing at Lincoln Cathedral for a week as a replacement for their choir which goes on holiday. Other appearances have not yet been fully explored. In many ways this is not a "vacation trip" but an intense emerging in another culture. While resident in Oxford Cathedral the choir practiced three times a day and performed a service daily. Sunday was a day spent in church with three separate and different services.

The choir has been raising funds for the past several years to pay for the trip. My expenses are paid out of the choir's treasury and do not need to be funded by the province.

If you are in need of more detailed information or if you have any questions please let me know.

Thank you for considering this request.

Fraternally,


Robert Van Handel, OFM

OFM VANH 1
0182

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

March 31, 1987

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Bob:

I am sorry I did not have a chance to talk with you when I was there for the ministers' meeting, I really was not there very long and had to give a couple of presentations. I did come over a couple of times but it was not the right time.

I believe you spoke to two of the orthodox priests about their perhaps talking to me regards the property. They are very anxious of course to buy it, or at least to lease the whole thing. When they talked to me basically about it was to buy it. It was ironic as we had been discussing our financial difficulties and when I mentioned it to a few at dinner, it sounded like the ideal solution, however I did tell them that it was probably not too likely, although there was not a clear decision that we would not consider selling it. I did talk to [redacted] on the phone and he did give me the scenario that you had given in terms of taking things more slowly than that. Nevertheless they are very anxious to move and it could be a very lucrative solution or partial solution. I do see great difficulties but it does not hurt to listen or at least to dialogue, especially when something can be very economically advantageous. They did ask about the possibility of coming to the board meeting, I don't know that that is a good idea as talking to [redacted] he said that the hopes of the committee is that everyone would work through the committee, so I did discuss with [redacted] the idea of letting them come and make a short presentation at the committee meeting and he thought that was a good idea. Would you mind contacting them as he said you knew the dates and could arrange it, that they might have 20 or 30 minutes to present their idea to the committee. I would appreciate it if you would contact either Father Peter Gilcrest and there was another Jack someone, I forgot to bring the letter along but you should have received that from them; the ones that are in Isla Vista.

Otherwise I know there are a lot of different ideas and hope we can keep moving on them. The one thing that is favorable on that kind of a global solution of somebody like that taking over the whole place, all of the work and effort, ^{there} that would go into trying to deal with a piece meal basis, and trying to find the money to keep it going would be eliminated and there would be a solid source of income, but there would probably be some kind of draw backs in that too.

Thanks for all that you are doing in taking care of this Bob, I really appreciate it.

1500 thirty-fourth Avenue
Oakland CA 94601

OFM VANH 1
0183

Provincial Minister (415) 536-3722
Provincial Office (415) 536-1266

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

March 31, 1987
Robert Van Handel, OFM

I was talking with [REDACTED] about the futures of the various faculty people there, as you are aware it is sensitive and I am reluctant to impose myself on people, although I would be more than happy to talk to anyone there that wants to talk to me. My understanding is that you would be staying there next year, taking care of the place and looking into some long term solutions, as well as helping with the larger community. I am also aware from [REDACTED] that others are trying to negotiate something for next year, and that they seem to be taking care of that on their own. If anyone there seems to indicate they would like to talk to me I would be more than happy to do so.

Once again Bob, thanks for carrying the burden, I really appreciate all that you are doing and the wonderful attitude with which you are accepting a very difficult situation. It surely gives you great esteem in our eyes.

I also received a ^{copy of the} letter from Nevin Ford to you about the stations and other art objects there. I presume you are stalling him off which would seem to me the most logical thing to do at this time. I can't understand his wanting to do something with them, and I am sure if we sold it for a factory, that is what we would want to do. Nevertheless I suppose we would not want to be too hasty to make such a move, anyway I will let you answer that as you see fit, but that is my reflection after seeing the copy of the letter.

Thanks again Bob for all that you do and please do not hesitate to ask if I can be of any help.

with fraternal affection,



FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

May 12, 1987

Robert VanHandle, OFM
St Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Robert:

I know that things must be in somewhat of a turmoil, as you come rapidly to the end of the year, especially given the circumstances of closing the school.

At our recent definitorium meeting we discussed your placement for the next year, and do desire that you stay there at St Anthony's to continue the transition period. We are aware that you are not looking for this to be a long term assignment, but at least for this coming year. At the same time we appreciate the need for ministry to the broader community, and are grateful that you are able to fill this need at the present time.

Bob the definitorium ^{de} want me to go on record, as thanking you for your leadership at St Anthony's this final year, and the positive attitude with which you have handled our decision, even though it was not one that you choose yourself. You have taken the brunt of the decision and have taken it so well. We really are in admiration of the strength and maturity that it shows, as well as good nature which you have responded to the difficult situation that we have given you. We are very genuinely grateful.

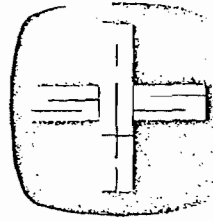
■ did fill us in on the recommendations of your committee, and we were happy to support those recommendations. We do look forward to the continued development of these plans.

Thank you again Robert and we hope to support you in the coming year.

gratefully,



st. anthony's seminary



high school

COMMITTEE FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
PROVINCE OF SANTA BARBARA
14 January 1988

Dear Friars,

I would like to apply for graduate studies in the field of history at the University of California at Santa Barbara, beginning the fall quarter of this year.

University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) offers a general degree program at the master's level which is normally a requirement for entry into doctoral studies. The master's degree program may be seen as terminal, or as preparation for the Ph.D. At this time I would like to apply for the master's program, with consideration of a doctoral degree at a later date. The M.A. course would last approximately two years. It requires proficiency in one language (Spanish), thirty-six units of graduate history courses, and a thesis.

The field I would choose for study would be California Mission History. While I have an enduring interest in English history, I realize that California studies would be of far more help to the province. Several times the idea has been placed before me of doing some "public relations" for the province. I would think the best base for this would be out of mission history. Certainly with the "Indian problem" on the rise one would be foolhardy to step ignorant into our history and image. Further, I would like to be part of the work of the archive library at Mission Santa Barbara. I would be willing to be part of a team to help educate our novices (and others entering the province) in the history and traditions of our province -- a sharing of our roots.

UCSB has a first-rate history faculty and program. It is relatively inexpensive (fees are under \$500. per quarter), and close to our residences. The availability of our own archives as well as the personal resources of Fr. Finbar, Fr. Francis Guest, Fr. Virgilio, Dr. Doyce Nunis, and others who use the archive library make Santa Barbara an ideal place to do these studies. Furthermore, but no less important, I am already personally acquainted with the head of the history department and a number of personnel in the department, the UCSB library, and the university administration. Certainly these informal friendships will help to smooth over difficulties as they arise. I am already serving the province as administrator of St. Anthony's Seminary and chaplain to the "Greater Community". This could continue as well as my outreach work through and with the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir.

I am now forty years old. If I can master Spanish quickly enough to complete the master's program in two or two and a half years, and with the possibility of entering the doctor's program after that, there is

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

OFM VANH 1
0186

nothing to be gained by hesitation. The department head actually wanted me to begin work on a Ph.D. so that he could have me assist in teaching Western Civilization. He has "assured" me of acceptance to the master's program (without seeing my G.R.E. scores). As there is now a bit of a lull in my "career", and as the university at this time seems receptive, I would like to apply immediately.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Respectfully yours,

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.

Robert Van Handel, O.F.M.

OFM VANH 1
0187

October 7, 1987

Robert Van Handel, OFM
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Robert:

It was good to see you on your quick trip up this way. I do hope things are moving along in resolving that lease. [REDACTED] mentioned there is still some concern over the insurance. I hope that can get worked out.

I do appreciate all that you are doing there to keep things going, and we are very grateful for the progress that is being made.

As you are aware the Chapter will be coming up in June, 1988, and even though we have asked you to help on the Convocation Committee, we would also like to ask you to be part of the committee to prepare for the Chapter.

This is not a committee requiring a great deal of work, as it is overseeing the balloting, etc. Much of that is handled here in the office. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your serving on this committee. It will probably meet in the L.A. area, as we are trying to pick a committee centered in southern California, so the travelling should not be too great.

I do hope that you could serve on this committee, if you are please notify Jeff here in the office of your willingness.

Thanks again for giving this your consideration. I do hope you had a joyful feast of St. Francis.

with fraternal affection,

[REDACTED]

December 24, 1987

Robert Van Handle, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Bob:

It was good to see you at our recent meeting, thank you for coming up. You are always so responsive and helpful, I for one really appreciate it. You have a wonderful attitude.

I am glad we did have a few minutes to talk, and I did bring your concerns to the definitorium. They did not seem to pick up on trying to somewhat going to Berkeley. In fact the final result was, to go ahead and apply at least for Graduate Studies there at Santa Barbara. When I say applying to Graduate Studies Committee. You can do that through the Geoffrey, in fact there is even a form to fill out for what you intend. However, realizing there is a date to apply at UCSB, it was suggested that you go ahead and make that application, realizing that it could always be dropped if necessary. We would hope it would not be necessary.

Again Bob we owe you a great debt there at St. Anthony's, especially during this transition. I almost think the definitorium is so grateful, they would almost let you do anything; note, I said almost.

Thanks again Bob. Lets hope the New Year will bring many good things for all of us.

affectionately,



OFM VANH 1
0189

February 1, 1988

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your continued care and solicitude. I so much appreciate all that you did for the Convocation. Bob it was really a great event, and you and the community at St. Anthony Seminary deserve our greatest praise and admiration, and the deepest gratitude. Thank you very very much.

Thank you for writing and sending forth the new salary scale for the Archdiocese, I appreciated receiving that. We have to go about seeing how to get that for all of our friars that work in the Archdiocese. And really an equivalent level for the other Dioceses in California, because that really is a scale for all of California.

At our recent definitorium we did discuss your desire to go into graduate studies there at UCSB and have approved it. I really hopes that it works out well. We are presuming of course that you will continue to help there at St. Anthony's. I know how much the people appreciate you and all the good work you are doing caring for the place.

I do hope you can receive the admission and that all goes well there Bob. We so much appreciate all that you have done, we certainly look forward to all the more you can do.

Thanks again Bob.

affectionately,



FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

August 10, 1988

Father Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Robert: Peace and all good.

Should I address you now as "COPSAS", since you are chairman or you are a member of that committee for the preservation of St. Anthony Seminary. I can think of other acronyms that might be better for the committee, but we'll stick with COPSAS.


Robert thanks very much for your most thorough report there on the current situation at St. Anthony Seminary. I trust that Mike will communicate with you, our discussion and then our decisions. I just wanted with this short note, thank you for all the work that you do, and the thoroughness with which you do it. It seems to me that we definitely have to go ahead with the asbestos work, and also that we should include in that certainly, the chapel and Casa, at least in terms of estimates. You can talk with Mike about this.

I thought your financial report was very good. I know that Ray had some questions, and I think they are very good ones, but you can talk to him about that. With the questions of new leases, I will leave that in Mike Doherty's hands and he can talk to you.

Robert, I hope you have enjoyed your vacation. I have just finished writing to Ann and Monica, telling them that I will stop over and visit them on the way over to the beatification of Serra. I am looking forward to it, and getting quite excited about the trip. In addition, I know I will enjoy visiting all my friends there. Seeing the convent in Abingdon, and also visiting my old haunts at Oxford. Should I say, wish you were with me? I won't though, for fear of the consequences. Although in my heart, I probably do wish you were with me.

Robert, I hope summer school went well, and that you are not too nervous about school in the Fall. I know you will do well.

Faternally,



FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

December 5, 1988

FII F COPY

Dear Bob:

Peace and all good!

I hope you're doing well. I wish you luck as the first semester winds down there at UCSB. I hope that you don't find the studies too taxing, and that you are able to mix buisness with some pleasure. Once again, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for what you're doing for the Province, both by studying in the mission history period, and also by your work there at St. Anthony's. It is really invaluable.

Mike Doherty will be communicating to you the decisions of the definitorium with respect to the property at St. Anthony's. In brief, we certainly would want to help out our Anglican brothers in their difficulty. Mike will tell you the details of our conversation. It seems that you're moving in a good direction. I would like to insist, as Michael will, that \$500.00 per month is simply not feasible for us, and ridiculously low for what is obtained. Also, with respect to moving with Beaver Free Realty of Santa Barbara to find a renter for the west dormitory wing and the downstairs of the "Casa:" that looks very good to me, just pursue that with Jim Hurley.

With respect to Jim Hurley: do you want us to send him a Christmas gift on behalf of the Province, or do you intend to get him one yourself? Also, perhaps when I am down in Santa Barbara at Christmas or some other time, you and I could take Jim and Paul (and anyone else you would like) out to lunch or something, just to give them a more informal thank-you.

Thanks again, Robert. Please remember me in your prayers.

Fraternally



FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

FILE COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony's Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

December 6, 1988

Dear Bob:

Peace and all good!

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter which I sent to Wenceslaus Farlow, and I trust that Sal will be inviting Wenceslaus up to have a talk with you people. I hope that this alleviates some of the anxieties which you experienced in talking to Wency. Thanks very much for being open to his move there.

I have also written a letter to Tim Arthur and have enclosed an obedience, so he should be moving up to St. Anthony's Seminary sometime in January. I really appreciate the rooms that you are giving to him and the welcome hospitality which you have provided. Thanks very much, Bob.

Fraternally,



enclosure

FILE COPY

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL
FRANCISCAN PROVINCE OF ST. BARBARA
1500 THIRTY FOURTH AVENUE
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, 94601
(415) 536-3722

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

February 9, 1989


Dear Bob:

Peace and all good!

I look forward to seeing you at Eastertime, particularly with the presence of our two friends from far away. It should be great fun!

Please find enclosed a letter which I have sent to Tim Arthur, tipping him off as to the Province's 75th. Jubilee in the year 1990. I would hope we would have some portion of the convocation devoted to the history of the Province's fraternities and ministries. I trust that you and Tim can brainstorm on that a little bit and get back to me in the future. Thanks very much for your attention to this matter, Robert. I hope school is going well.

Fraternally,



FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SANTA BARBARA

FILE COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

February 28, 1989

Dear Bob:

Peace and all good!

It was good to see and visit with you. I hope your cold has been conquered.

On a personal note, could you tell me if you'd planned to take Monica and Ann back to Santa Barbara from Yosemite? It seems to me that this would be the best bet, but Monica indicated to me that they might be coming back up to San Francisco. I would need to know this as soon as possible. Actually, I had planned some other things, and it might be better if you could take them back to Santa Barbara. I'll probably see them once more before they go home.

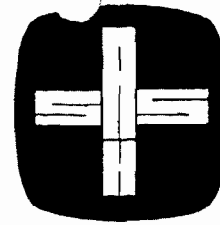
Robert, I'm writing to see if you could please send me the estimates for the total property value of the Casa on your property. The reason that I mention this is that when I took Noel Moholy on a tour, he asked me if it was for sale, and if possibly the Serra Cause could buy it. I indicated that the Serra Cause certainly could buy it if they had the money, or at least the definitorium would be open to them buying it, or, we would be open to renting it to them if we had the price, but I insisted that we get money for it. We simply cannot afford not to rent it, or to sell it, or to lease it. I told him I would be talking to you about the exact financial estimate on the buildings.

Thanks very much for your attention to this, Robert. Thanks particularly for all the work you do there at St. Anthony's. It's really very fine, and I don't quite know what I'd do with it without you.

Faternally,



st. anthony's seminary



high school

FryI

late Butcher

19 April 1989

Dear Fr. Barnabas,

Some months ago you sent me a request regarding my understanding of the future use of the graduate degree program in which I am currently engaged. I apologize for the long delay in responding.

Currently I am in the first year of a history program at the University of California at Santa Barbara. My studies will focus on the Mission Period of California history. The program requires some general study in two broad fields of history, for example, colonial America and Medieval Europe. As an option, for the M.A. degree a thesis can be substituted for one of these areas. For my field, a knowledge of Spanish is required. As a further option, I can move beyond the M.A. and work for a Ph.D.

I do not have one specific job in mind after this program is over. Perhaps my talents would be of most value in connection with the archive library, either as administrator, archivist, or researcher. I would also be interested in helping promote and care for the missions in California and Arizona, and in doing that, promote the causes of the friars. I would be willing to do some teaching about mission history and our heritage to new friars.

Thank you for your support, and again I apologize for any problems caused by my delay.

OFM VANH 1

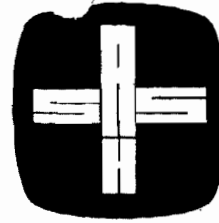
0196

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel, OFM

franciscan friars ■ 2300 garden street ■ santa barbara ■ california ■ 93105

st. anthony's seminary



high school

19 April 1989

Dear Fr. Barnabas,

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Thank you for your support, and again I apologize for any problems caused by my delay.

OFM VANH 1
0197

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel, L

FILE COPY

Office of the Provincial
Franciscan Friars, Province of St. Barbara
St. Elizabeth Friary
1500 34th. Ave.
Oakland, Ca. 94601 (415) 536-3772

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

June 1, 1989

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

I was sorry to miss you when you came up to Berkeley. That's twice now. As you can see, my own schedule takes me away a good deal of the time. I hope we can connect sometime when we're up here. Certainly I'll see you when I'm down in Santa Barbara for the Provincial Retreat.

Thanks for all the work you're doing there at St. Anthony's, especially to ensure its financial stability. I would like to indicate to you that at the last provincial definitorium meeting the council did approve the renting out of the space above the refectory to Waldorf school as you mentioned in your letter. So I would ask you to pursue this arrangement with Waldorf. With respect to the second item: again I want to indicate that the definitorium is not open to the idea of the establishment of a pre-school on the seminary grounds. So as you indicated already in your talks with Waldorf, please inform them that we are not interested in pursuing these aspects of their program.

It's too bad that the Casa is becoming such a complicated affair. I would ask you please to pursue with Mark and Barbara Gardner what their possibilities are for the properties. I am somewhat ambivalent about pursuing some of these things with respect to the Casa, but I really do feel the province is moving into a very crucial fiscal phase, and I'm afraid I must have as much information as possible as to what can be done to address our financial problems. Certainly the Casa could be a key player in this whole situation. Many of the financial problems touch the theology school in Berkeley, but there are others with respect to social security, health care, formation costs, etc... that simply have to be attended to.

Thanks very much for your attention to these matters, Robert. I appreciate all the work that you've put in down there.

Fraternally,



8/20/89

Dear [REDACTED]

The post-novitiate gathering is over, everyone has gone, so "just us chickens" are here to hold down the fort. Fr. Finbar is in Huntington Beach. He and I spent several days around Mission San Luis Rey: at Pala, Capistrano, and San Diego; on the way home he decided to spend a few days visiting with Ronnie, Gus, and some of the former students from SAS. Fabe or I will have to pick him up on Monday. We had a great time together and I am quite convinced of his good health. He climbed stairs and hills, examined grave markings, picked over items in gift shops, and all this over a constant stream of narrative about the missions, padres, past provincials, etc.

Two items of business:

Waldorf School: Waldorf wants to add two classrooms, and I had Definitorium approval for those above the dining room. As it turned out, the fire department made so many major changes in the plan that I decided it was out of the question. My guess is it would have cost us \$15,000 to conform to their requirements. So, after meeting with the SAS Committee, we switched their rooms to our old science labs -- under the lounge. I brought in an architect for an initial survey and then we had the fire inspector make his pronouncements. The committee as you know has two definitors on it, and as time was running out, we decided to let Waldorf use these rooms. Remodeling is now in progress. In many ways this is a better solution because the use does not conflict with the use of the dormitory.

I have met with Jim Hurley and then with an appraiser for the Casa. We poured over plot maps, discussed the special circumstances, etc. Tomorrow he will submit a letter to Jim stating what such an appraisal would involve, price, etc. We are trying to get a price for selling and another for leasing. One very relevant point is that both Jim and the appraiser agreed that we could not just "re-draw" the boundary lines as we saw fit. In other words, if the casa were sold, it would have to be along the original property lines. It is possible to change the lines, but Jim said that would probably be a two year project involving environmental impact, and what not. Evidently the plots are sacred. We could probably set up an easement (sp ?) so that we could use the driveway, but the lower garages, house of David, and all casa land would go. If the property is leased, of course, this is a non-issue. I realize I am just giving you bits and pieces, but I know you will be pleased that something is happening.

That's it for right now. I hope you are keeping well as you race about doing good work. All the best.

OFM VANH 1
0199

*Yours fraternally,
D. L. H.*

the next day....

Dear [REDACTED]

I woke up last night and realized I had not given you an essential bit of information about Wenceslaus and his carefully blessed bookbindery? Well, the first thing I did when Waldorf needed to move was to talk with Wenceslaus. I showed him another room, a south exposure, almost directly under my office. He was delighted. He said even if Waldorf did not move into the labs he wanted to go to the new room. So Wenceslaus is moved (with the help of the post-novitiate people), and seems to be most pleased.

I was thinking of writing to Fr. Noel and asking him if he was interested in leasing the Casa. Should I do that, or just let things be?

Regards.

Kohut

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

FILE COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

September 1, 1989

Dear Bob:

Peace and all good!

Thanks for your letter of August 20. I'm glad everything is going so well with you. Hopefully with this latest happening in Santa Barbara the tensions will begin to decrease. Thanks for all your perserverance in this whole matter.

You mention two items of business in you letter; first the recommendation as to Waldorf School - that seems very fine to me and I'm glad that you're moving ahead with that. I have confidence in your ability. Secondly, with respect to the Casa: I'm glad you're moving on the appraisal and I look forward to seeing the final quotation. This is very important as you know, since the Serra Cause has already approached us about renting or leasing the place.

I would appreciate it if you do not contact Noel. Leave that in my hands, mostly because you have no idea as to what kind of whirl you would be entering, and I'm afraid you would find it impossible to extricate yourself from it without a great deal of difficulty. I myself am having enough problems dealing with the situation. Thanks very much, Bob. Again, may the Lord bless you and keep you.

Fraternally,

ps: The blessing I gave to Wenceslaus was a personal blessing only on himself as a bookbinder and on the tools which he uses - it was not a blessing attached to the place. Pretty clever, hunh?

file - Robert Van Handel

10 September 1989

Dear Members of the Definitorium,

Once again I am requesting permission to go to England with the Santa Barbara Boys' Choir. Tentative plans are made for the choir to go to Lichfield Cathedral (north of Birmingham) and to sing the choral services there for a week. Then we would travel west into northern Wales before going to Cork, Ireland. We hope to be able to sing at St. Finbar's Cathedral, Cork, and possibly at the Franciscan church in that city.

As you know these trips are the highpoint of a long process of education and preparation. The singers have the experience of providing service music in churches which have held this tradition for centuries. It is a great honor to be invited to replace the cathedral choir.

The choir is constantly involved in fundraising so that no member is denied the trip because of being too poor. The choir pays for my trip; there is no monetary cost to the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Fraternally,

Robert Van Handel

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

TRAVEL FORM

To help the Provincial and the Definitorium with regard to travel requests, please fill out this form and return it to the Provincial Office, Attn: The Secretary of the Province.

NB The Guardian can give permission to travel within the United States (PS, 21). This form is for travel overseas.

1. Name ROBERT VAN HANDEL

2. Destination ENGLAND AND IRELAND

3. Dates: Departure JULY 18, 1990 Return AUGUST 7, 1990

4. Purpose of Travel:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jubilee Trip | <input type="checkbox"/> | Visit to Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Continuing Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lead a pilgrimage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Central American Pilgrimage | <input type="checkbox"/> | Member of a pilgrimage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Vacation outside the US | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other: BOYS CHOIR TOUR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Assisi Experience | | |

5. Estimated Cost: \$1450.00

6. Source(s) of funding: S.B. BOYS CHOIR

7. Travel History:

a. When was the last time you travelled outside the US? 1987

Where did you go? SWITZERLAND AND ENGLAND

For what purpose? BOYS CHOIR TOUR

b. Have you previously been to the place where you are asking to go?
YES

c. What has been your international travel in the last five years?
List dates and places:

1987 - ENGLAND AND SWITZERLAND

(Rev. 2/89)

1500 thirty-fourth Avenue
Oakland, CA 94601

III A 1

OEM VANH 1
0203

Provincial Minister (415) 536-3722
Provincial Office (415) 536-1266

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

September 27, 1989

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

I enjoyed talking with you, and again want to congratulate you on the fine work you've done there for the Casa.

With this letter, please receive the formal permission of the definitorium to travel to England next summer. We believe that your work with the boy's choir is a good witness in Santa Barbara, and a fine ministry for you to be involved in. Congratulations on this permission, Robert. I know that the boys will profit a good deal from it, and I am personally pleased to be able to give it to you.

Fraternally,



1500 thirty-fourth Avenue
Oakland CA 94601

OFM VANH 1
0204

Provincial Minister (415) 536-3722
Provincial Office (415) 536-1266

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

September 27, 1989

Dear Bob:

Peace and all good!

This is just a short note to thank you very much for your work on the SAS Futures Committee. We received a thorough report from Michael, and I know it has taken a good deal of effort on your part. I thank you very much. As you know, it is important that we manage our resources well. One of these resources is the Casa estate. [REDACTED] has given me some indication of a preliminary appraisal, and it sounds very good. I would encourage you to move ahead to feel out possibilities for leasing the property. It seems the most viable way to go at this time. I do not think we are interested in having it leased to the Serra Cause.

Just a word of thanks, Robert. Of course, you'll be hearing from me when I'm in England. I'll talk to you before I go.

Fraternally,

[REDACTED]

FRANCISCAN FRIARS PROVINCE OF SAINT BARBARA

FILE COPY

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

January 19, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

Thanks for the talk the other day. I'm glad the meeting with [REDACTED] went so well, and I'm really grateful that it's moving in a good direction, especially for the sakes of yourself, [REDACTED] and Mike Doherty. It's taken a lot of work, Robert, and I deeply appreciate the support and perserverance which you've shown. It's a great encouragement to me.

Robert, please find enclosed a letter which I received from Msgr. Francis Weber, with its suggestion he is making about the missions. I wonder if you might put this in your head for sometime in the future. It might very well be a topic that could be taken in a doctoral dissertation or something like that. Interestingly enough, I found in the catalogue of the Bancroft Library something very similar for the Franciscan Missions as to what has been published for the Jesuit Missions. I think we should talk about it sometime - I think I can locate the reference. It seems to be a Franciscan interpretation of missiology to the Native Americans, and kind of a compilation of sources used in that area.

Keep up the fine work, Robert. Remember me in your prayers, please.

Fraternally,



FILE COPY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

March 5, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

Just a short note to thank you very much for your letter of February 23rd., and for the great enclosure from Engelhardt's Missions and Missionaries. That's a wonderful quotation, and believe me, I will use it one probably more than one occasion. I'm glad you can watch out for such things for me.

I talked to Monica just the other day because it was Anne Lenihan's birthday. Unfortunately, Anne wasn't home at the time. She later got hold of me, and we had a good visit. Anyway, Monica sounds fine, as usual, overworked, but she's always bouncy and fun to talk to. They're looking forward to your coming, and I know that you will enjoy it. Aren't we lucky to have such good friends?

Thanks for the support, Robert.

Fraternally,

OFM VANH 1

0207



FILE COPY

Province of St. Barbara

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

1500 34th Avenue Oakland California 94601 (415)536-3722 Fax (415)536-3970

Robert Van Handel, OFM
St. Anthony Seminary
2300 Garden St.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

March 5, 1990

Dear Robert:

Peace and all good!

Just a short note to thank you very much for your letter of February 23rd., and for the great enclosure from Engelhardt's Missions and Missionaries. That's a wonderful quotation, and believe me, I will use it one probably more than one occasion. I'm glad you can watch out for such things for me.

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Thanks for the support, Robert.

Fraternally,

OFM VANH 1
0208

Robert Van Handel
(Dispensed Friar)
PERSONNEL FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

OFM VANH 1
0209