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CONFIDENTIAL

15 August 2003

The Most Revd Dr Phillip Aspinall
Archbishop of Brisbane

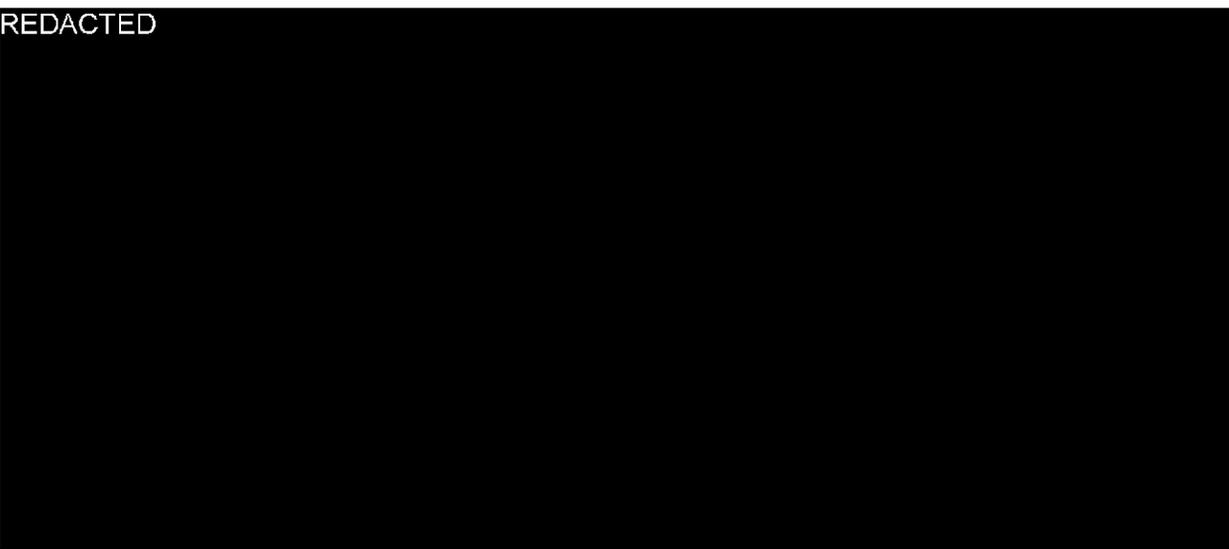
Via fax **REDACTED**

Dear Phillip

Bishop John Harrower telephoned yesterday with some information which I think I need to pass on to you.

He says that on 7 August, 2003, he was contacted by the Tasmanian Commissioner of Police and told that he had just signed an extradition order to have Garth Hawkins returned to Tasmania to be charged with eleven counts of rape; ten counts of sexual assault and two counts of aggravated assault. Apparently Hawkins went before a Church Tribunal and was deposed from Holy Orders in 2002 following two complaints of sexual abuse, including one of rape, by two young men. As I understand it, he has since been living in South Australia. As I also understand it from John Harrower, you appeared by video as a witness at the Tribunal Hearing against Hawkins. You will probably know more about this than I do.

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John also says that one of the complainants is very fragile, angry and reported to be suicidal. He has specifically requested not to have any further contact from the Anglican Church except by letter. I think you may have visited him in Perth during the course of the last year, perhaps when you were here for the Bishops' Meeting. He is now however resident in Tasmania. John Harrower says that you should be alerted not to contact any of the victims whose names might be known to you. Certainly, you need to give John Harrower some warning if you need to do so, so that he can put some support in place for the victim concerned.

I am sorry that this is all somewhat oblique but given your absence, and the need to alert you to the fact that the press might be contacting you to follow up a story, it was important that I get this message to you forthwith.

With good wishes.

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Yours sincerely

Cc: *The Rt Revd John Harrower*

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