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PETER MITCHELL - DRAFT COPY FOR YOUR COMMENTS.

17 September 2001

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The General Manager
NBN Television
Mosbri Crescent
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear Mr ??????:

I draw your attention to an item on NBN Newcastle News on Thursday, 13th September. The report concerned a case involving a former Newcastle Anglican Priest, The Rev'd George Parker. The reporter responsible was Helen Kapalous (sp?).

In her final comments, Ms Kapalous said that the DPP defended its actions in bringing the charges against Fr. Parker due to the fact that when they approached the "Dean's Office" they were informed that the Dean's Office was unwilling to assist them.

You will appreciate that this comment which is patently untrue has caused a considerable slur against my own integrity, that of my office and of Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle. I believe the remark to actually be defamatory.

Records regarding the clergy of the Diocese of Newcastle are not held in the Cathedral (Dean's) Office at Christ Church Cathedral. Such records one would expect to find in the Registry of the Diocese of Newcastle.

No request was received by myself or my staff from the DPP for any information regarding Fr. Parker.

The news item has caused me considerable personal distress, especially as I have no way of refuting the totally incorrect allegations.

I am sure that you will appreciate that I am seeking advice in this matter.

I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,

DEAN

GRL:tk