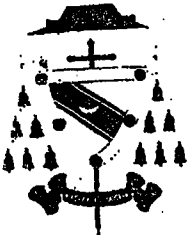


DIOCESE OF MAITLAND

CHANCERY OFFICE:
224 Parry Street
HAMILTON NSW 2303
PO Box 2192
DANGAR 2309
Phone (049) 65 3777
Fax (049) 65 3548



18 October 1995

Mr A R Lauer
Commissioner of Police
NSW Police
14 College St
DARLINGHURST NSW

Dear Mr Lauer,

Last week one of my priests stationed at Taree was charged with offences against minors dating back to 1975.

I do not wish to comment on this particular matter but I am writing to make comments about the police who were involved in the events of last week.

I wish to commend very highly the three police from the Taree station who called on the priest, the two Detective Sergeants who called on me later that afternoon and the Superintendent Commander who saw me on the Friday. On Saturday and Sunday I called to Taree and spoke to the people (approximately 800 at 2 Masses). In the course of my words I paid public tribute to all these police for their efficiency, kindness, courtesy and especially their sensitivity.

I wish to bring this to your notice and to commend Detective Superintendent Commander John Ure, Detective Sergeant Geoff Hill and Detective Senior Constable Wayne Cooper and the three from Taree whose names I do not know. They are a credit to the force.

With every best wish,

Yours sincerely

Signed

Most Reverend L M Clarke, DD
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

+LMC/ed

L