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bc: Mr. Dolbeare

February 5, 1957

Log

Dear Allen:

I had a talk with Harry L. about the Morlion Pro Deo matter after seeing you, and we both agreed ~~that~~ there seemed to be some pieces missing in the puzzle.

On the one hand, there was the flat statement by Morlion that the Dominican Order had formally approved of the institution, and formally appointed him to head it. On the other hand, there was the equally flat statement, as read to me by Steve, that not only had the Dominicans not approved, but that they had no intention of so doing.

Harry and I both felt that irrespective of your further interest in this matter, there was a fact to be ascertained.

As Fred D. told you the other day, this Dominican paper exists, and I am attaching a copy with a rough translation (scusate mi).

I have also seen a photostat of another letter from Fr. Michele Browne, the Dominican General, to Cardinal Siri, expressing his pleasure over the fact that Siri had been appointed by the Vatican Cardinal Protector of Pro Deo.

Doesn't all of this put a somewhat different light on the whole affair?

I have asked our Rome Bureau to try to get in touch with Siri and/or Browne for any further clarification they may care to give, and needless to say any reassessment by you would be most valuable.

All the best,



C. D. Jackson

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P.S. Although I do not know the lady personally, I have been told that Mrs. B. can be quite venomous when thwarted, and conceivably she may be the devil in this particular piece of Vatican Gorgonzola.

C.D.J.