

8 Moon Shell Road
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
12 May 1991

The Rt. Rev. Walter H. Grundorf
American Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 447
Goldenrod, Florida 32733

Dear Bishop,

Enclosed is the Certificate of Ordination and statement of my 1963 renunciation of the ministry and deposition from the Diocese of Georgia. To do justice to your request for an account of the circumstances of my renunciation would require an ecclesiastical autobiography which I should be loathe to impose on you. Suffice it to assure you that I had been faithful in every way to my ordination vows, but in the absence of episcopal support against liberal religious and political dissidents, Mrs. Peeples and I chose not to submit to their calumny, God having provided amply for our material needs and His Grace sufficient for our spiritual welfare. We withdrew to our residence here and my independent ministry was recognized by the American Ministerial Association, its Trinity Hall Seminary in 1975 awarding me the D.D. degree. I have been president of the Hilton Head Island Historical Society since 1971, chaplain of the local and state Sons of the American Revolution since 1984 and president of the Society of First Families of South Carolina since 1987.

With my ministry of music and at my age of 73 years, it is not possible that I could undertake even an interim rectorship here or anywhere, but I shall be pleased to receive your anticipated "license to serve as a priest in the American Episcopal Church, Diocese of the East, with special interim responsibilities at the Church of the Redeemer, Hilton Head Island, SC" under your direction, as long as God enables me so to do.

Mrs. Peeples joins me in sending you our Christian love and regards.

Faithfully in Jesus' Name,

Robert E. H. Peeples +

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples



DIocese of GEORGIA

This is to certify that Robert E. H. Peeples was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests by the Right Reverend Middleton S. Barnwell, V Bishop of Georgia, on November 1, 1949 in Christ Church, Cordele. This ordination is duly recorded on page 106 of the Diocesan Records Book 1892-1952, Episcopal Diocese of Georgia, maintained at Diocesan House.

Our records also indicate that Mr. Peeples was deposed from the Sacred Order of Priests on June 27, 1963, by the Right Reverend Albert R. Stuart, VI Bishop of Georgia, Mr. Peeples having, in writing, renounced the Ministry of the Episcopal Church. (Record Book 1954-1971).

Jacqueline R. Belcher

Jacqueline R. Belcher TSSF
Administrative Assistant and
Secretary to the Bishop

Dated this 10th day of May 1991