there exists a valued prime Q ($\neq PR_P$) containing x. But then $x \in Q \cap R \subsetneq P$ a contradiction.

Theorem 3, gives rise to the following

Definition 5. An essential domain R with the defining family $\{ P_\alpha \}_{\alpha \in I}$ of primes will be called *-essential if every non-zero non unit x in R has a finite number of minimal subvalued primes.

Finally in view of Theorem 3, and the earlier work we can state that a non zero non unit x in an HCF domain R is the product of a finite number of mutually co-prime packets iff x has a finite number of minimal primes.

4. Stability Properties of URD's.

We begin this section with results about the behaviour of Unique Representation under the operations of adjoining indeterminates and localization. We then go on to establish a property of URD's which is not shared by UFD's that is if R is a URD x an indeterminate over R and K the field of fractions of R then the almost integral closure

$$S = R + xK[x]$$

is a URD. Finally with the help of examples we show that the integral domains we have considered under distinct names are in fact distinct.

Like Unique Factorization, the concept of Unique Representation remains stable under adjoining indeterminates and this we prove with

Proposition 4. Let R be a URD and x an indeterminate over R then R[x] is a URD.