

The Background on the Writing of Birth Control Encyclical

By PATRICK RILEY
(NC News Service)

Vatican City—Pope Paul VI himself wrote the final draft of his encyclical on birth control, *Humanae Vitae*.

His principal consultant in the drafting of the long-awaited encyclical was Bishop Carlo Colombo, president of the theological faculty of the major seminary of Milan.

This information comes from a well informed source in the Vatican, who also asserted that there were two previous drafts of the encyclical. The first was written by a special commission of the Doctrinal Congregation while Alfredo Cardinal Ottaviani was the pro-prefect. The second

was written—it is believed—mainly by Pope Paul himself with the help of experts of the Papal Secretariat of State.

The draft that Pope Paul himself produced was ready before Christmas. It was about that time that reports went abroad that the document was ready for publication.

But Pope Paul wanted more time to weigh the encyclical. He had at hand an enormous dossier of about 2,000 pages from commissions and individuals as well as from his own questioning of experts. Also included were appeals that had come to him from various parts of the world. The massive documentation was arranged in a good order: theological matter, moral argumentation, medical information

and opinion, social investigations and so on.

A group of 12 predominantly conservative theologians assisted Pope Paul in the theological and editorial preparation.

According to an authoritative Vatican source, Bishop Colombo, the Pontiff's friend and closest, if unofficial, theological adviser, coordinated the consultative work of the group between October 1966, and October 1967.

According to this source, four members of the group, including the American Jesuit Father John Ford, were signatories of the minority report of the original lay and clerical papal commission set up to study the birth-control question. The minority

report opposed liberalization of birth-control teaching by the church.

The source added that only one of the Pope's final advisers, the Rev. Joseph Fuchs, a German Jesuit, had supported the majority commission report favoring change.

Unlike the original commission, which embraced members of many different scientific and sociological disciplines, the final group of advisers was composed almost entirely of moral theologians.

Only two members of this "super commission" are generally classed as progressives—Father Fuchs and the Rev. Bernard Haring, a German Redemptorist priest now teaching at Union Theological Seminary, New York.

In addition to Father Ford and Father Fuchs, four other Jesuits, all known as conservatives, were among the Pope's final advisers. They are the Rev. Gustavo Martelet, 51-year-old professor of fundamental and dogmatic theology at the Jesuit house of study at Fourviere near Lyon, France; the Rev. Marcelino Zalba, 60, Spanish professor of moral theology at the Gregorian University in Rome; the Rev. Giacomo Perico, 57, Italian theologian from Milan, and the Rev. Stanislas de Lestapis, 65, from Vanves, France.

In February and March, Pope Paul set himself to reworking the encyclical with the help of Bishop Colombo. No substantial changes were made. By early April the draft was given to translators.

But when the translators were already withdrawn from the translators. It can be stated categorically that the withdrawal had nothing to do with any pressure from Cardinal Suenens or Cardinal Doepfner, neither of whom knew the text of the encyclical and both of whose opinions on the subject were well known to the Pope.

Once again Pope Paul revised the text, but this time revisions were far less extensive. On the basis of the group's advice and his own reflections on the mass of material accumulated on the subject of contraception, the Pope is reported to have written the final draft of the encyclical himself in longhand.

Colombian Bishops Urge Eucharistic Congress to Stress Problems of Poor

Bogota, Colombia — (NC) — The bishops of Colombia say the 39th International Eucharistic Congress here (Aug. 18-25) should not be a "mere worship rally" but a call for Christians to heed the cry of the poor.

"The bond of love, the theme of the Congress," said the Colombian bishops in endorsing this goal "is a forceful challenge calling for social fruits."

"This is not a big procession or a mere worship rally, but an incentive for the Christian conscience to understand the social implications of fraternal love," said the leaflets issued by the organizers as guidelines for parish meetings.

"Particularly in Latin America, underdevelopment is a challenge, because the deep-rooted structures that produce excessive poverty and exaggerated wealth cast serious doubt on the efficacy of Christian principles and their validity for modern times," another guideline warned.

Responsible Latin Americans expect at Bogota to find Christians aware of their duty to serve the poor with dignity. That such expectations may be fulfilled to a great degree is indicated in these efforts:

The "message" is made clear and concise. Theologians and communication experts write the guidelines in down-to-earth words, then take over to train priests and laymen, including youths, in how to deliver the message. Still others provide the media — radio, films, gatherings, television, the printed word, transportation.

Mission-type crusades in parishes, schools and factories serve to spread this message to the people. Organizers count close to 150,000 meetings of this sort, state by state, diocese by diocese.

Cold statistics and emotional appeals have been combined to tell the average family of the urgent needs of the poor and of the new approach to misery — not the paternalistic, charitable gestures of a few parables or goods, but sharing in justice opportunities, education, fair wages, security, and responsible government.

For weeks most of the acts of worship has taken on a "social dimension," keeping the Eucharist as the center of Christian life, but insisting on human dignity and social progress. The same tone rules the ritual of the Eucharistic Congress.

Msgr. Illich Story Denied By Bishop

Vatican City—(NC)—Bishop Sergio Mendez Arceo of Cuernavaca, in Rome to confer with Pope Paul VI, has denied a published report that a controversial priest-sociologist, Msgr. Ivan Illich, has been eliminated as an expert for the coming general assembly of the Latin American bishops in Colombia.

"He was never among the experts of the conference," Bishop Mendez said. "There was never any question of excluding him."

Rome's left-wing daily *Paese Sera* reported that Msgr. Illich and Belgian sociologist Father Francis Houtart had been excluded at a meeting in Rome of officials of the Latin American bishops' assembly.

Msgr. Illich heads the Inter-Cultural Center of Documentation (CIDOC) at Cuernavaca, which publishes studies on Latin America and trains volunteers preparing to serve in Latin America.

Msgr. Illich has been a controversial figure for some time, especially since his criticism of the U.S. bishops' aid program to Latin America in a January 1967 issue of *America* magazine.

Some conservatives in Mexico have claimed that CIDOC is the nerve-center for almost all the Latin American leftist guerrilla bands and have accused Bishop Mendez of condoning the pro-guerrilla activities.



Parents Honored

Mrs. Gerald F. Donovan of Utica, N.Y., accepts the vocations Citation Award of Fordham University from Father John F. Gilson, S.J. She and her husband were honored for their "precious contribution to God" of their five children, all in religious vocations. The five, left to right, are Father J. Michael Donovan of Whitesboro, N.Y., Sister Bernadette Mary, O.S.F., of Allegany, N.Y., Sister Mary Vianney, O.S.F., of Boston, Sister Mary of Lourdes, O.S.F., of St. Petersburg, Fla., and Father William J. Donovan of Utica. Mr. Donovan was hospitalized and unable to attend the ceremony. (RNS Photo)

440 IHM Sisters Plan To Continue Experiment

Los Angeles—(RNS)—The Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters announced here that 440 of their members will continue an experimental program of community life during the coming year.

They will particularly emphasize decentralization and increased participation of members in decision-making.

The 440 sisters, who had come under fire from James Cardinal McIntyre, archbishop of Los Angeles, were allowed by a special pontifical commission to develop their experiments in religious life.

About 90 other IHM sisters chose a more traditional form of life.

While more than 90 per cent of the IHM Sisters have been barred

from teaching Catholic elementary and secondary schools of the Los Angeles archdiocese, the community will still conduct its own colleges, high school and hospitals in the area. They also will offer special tutoring in the Los Angeles area.

The IHM announcement noted that other sisters "are engaged in various professions" without giving further details. The question of whether the sisters should go into professions other than their traditional teaching and hospital work was a key point in a dispute between the community and Cardinal McIntyre which led to the exclusion of most of the sisters from Los Angeles parochial schools.

The cardinal also objected to the sisters' plans for radical changes in the rules on dress and community prayer.

Is NCOMP Planning End To Ratings?

(Continued from Page 1)

"We recommend to the National Film Office to adopt a new method of presenting information on films respecting to a larger extent the conscience of the faithful, leaving to individual appreciation the effect of a film after study of the information given by the Office."

In place of the usual film moral classifications — A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, B and C — there would be:

"Mainly a service giving information about the human and Christian value of films.

"Rather than establish moral classifications, information is given in the form of a detailed and subtly balanced appreciation of the contents of the film.

"The appreciation would not deal with the supposed influence of each film, but underline what positive things there are on the human and Christian levels without neglecting however to identify the reprehensible elements it might contain. We need a detailed appreciation respecting the creative effort."

The National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures has in recent years — through its "Catholic Film Newsletter" — disseminated information about films, but if the no-rating system is to work effectively, says the French-Canadian resolution, the Catholic film office must "be able to rely upon the effective cooperation of the Press," referring to diocesan newspapers.

The film office must also be able to assure Catholics that an end to film ratings does not mean that the Church is no longer concerned about forming the consciences of Catholics in regard to films, the resolution added.

Cardinal Resigns Again

Cologne — (RNS) — Joseph Cardinal Frings, 81, Archbishop of Cologne, has submitted his resignation to Pope Paul VI for the second time. The cardinal, who is almost completely blind, cited reasons of health.

Papal Audience
Vatican City — (RNS) — Professors and students from the 32nd session of the NATO Defense College in Rome were greeted by Pope Paul VI in an audience here shortly before the suspension of audiences for his reduced Summer schedule.

Color TV Coverage Set for Pope's Visit

Washington, D.C.—(RNS) — Color television coverage of Pope Paul's visit to Bogota will be beamed to Europe and North America via satellite, the Communications Satellite Corp. announced here.

A special transmitter will be set up in Bogota, site of the 39th International Eucharistic Congress and of the opening ceremonies of a meeting

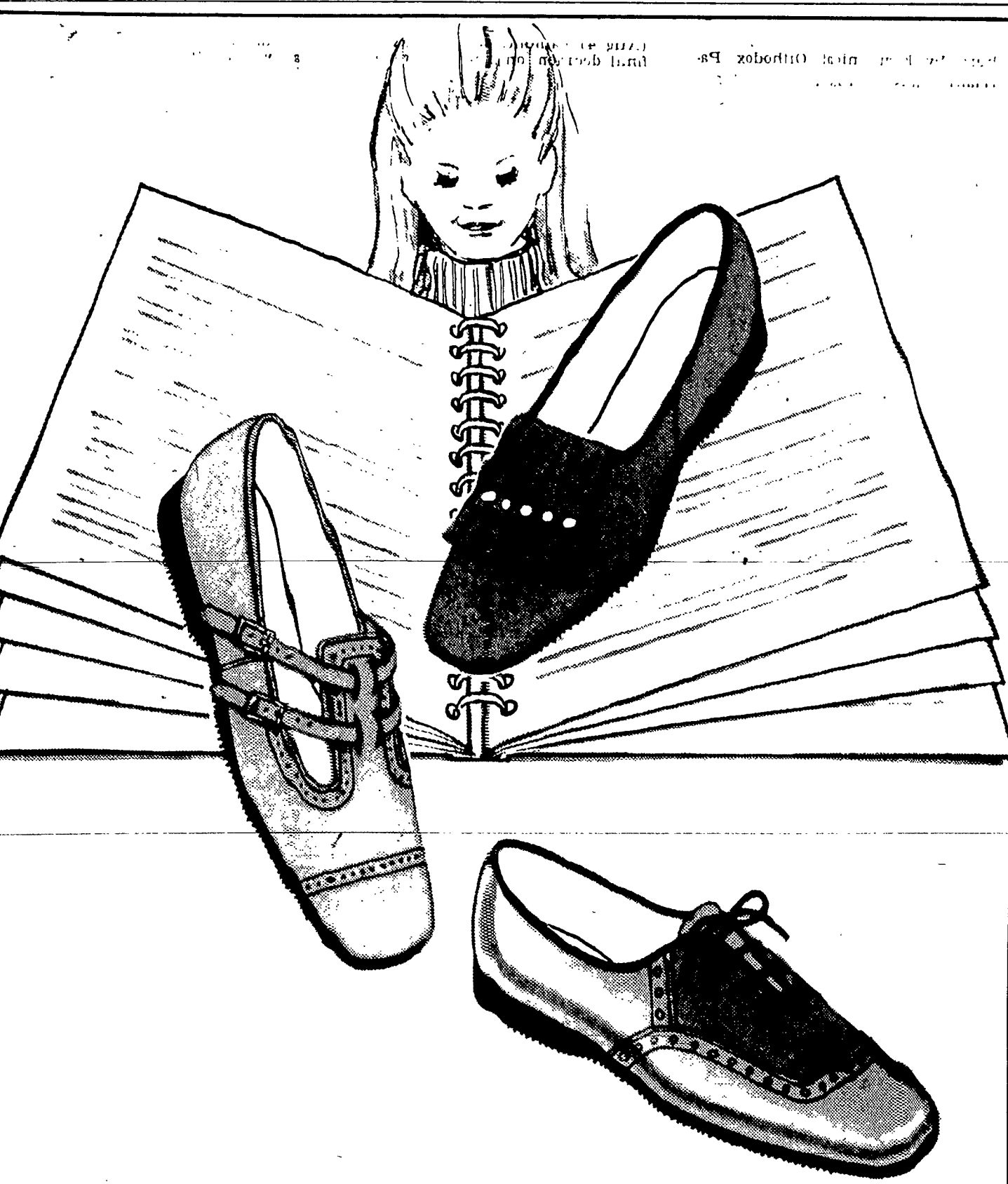
of all Latin American bishops. It will convey the picture via the ATS-3 satellite, which has a stationary position over the Atlantic and is equipped for a re-transmission. The American reception will be channeled through a ground station in Anlover, Maine.

About 10 hours of color coverage will be transmitted.



Graham Closes Convention

Evangelist Billy Graham, center, is flanked by GOP presidential candidate Richard Nixon, right, and Gov. Spiro T. Agnew, the vice-presidential choice, left, as he delivers the benediction at the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach. Mr. Graham prayed for the unity and welfare of the nation. (RNS Photo)



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Pope And Pilgrims More

463 Anglicans

By JOHN A. GREASER

London—(NC)—The 463 bishops attending the Latin American Eucharistic Congress here passed with (Aug. 6) a motion rejecting the ruling that mechanical birth control is contrary to

The conference stated that the Pope's decision for the institution marriage of the integrity of married life, less, the statement was conference finds itself uneasy with the Pope's conclusions on methods of conception.

Athenagoras B Pope Paul's St

Istanbul, Turkey—(NC)—The official birth control has been here by Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras I, a people, leader of Orthodox throughout the world.

In a statement issued here (Aug. 9) Athenagoras called Pope Paul's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* "the Bible."

"All books of religion, the Bible and the Koran, preservation of the family, the encyclical, the Pope has path of the Bible." "He have been expected to stand," the Patriarch said.

Red China Hinges

By GERMAINE S.

(NC News Service)

Hong Kong—Birth control-explosion propaganda together in Communist when their partnership advance the Chinese revolution.

Birth control as "a shedding blood" was the People's Daily in between 1949 and late of China's population was "a source of wealth" by authorities.

A birth control campaign quietly launched, though admitted that this had to do with population. The agenda line was "protection of the mother."

No such tender concern for health in May issued a directive favoring abortion and contraception.

The thoroughness of this campaign, which throughout 1957 into 1958. An eyewitness of propaganda in Shanghai Hong Kong's South China Post of June 15, 1957:

"On bill boards, in crowded places all over the windows of stores outside clinics, there a human anatomy, providing information on preventing the method of prevention of births."

"The change from an open encouragement over night, so to say, to immediate stages and These displays, which ing to the imagination accessible to mature youngsters of all ages."

Still on a political campaign was dropped because it conflicted with policy that a large population help the "Great Leap" only to be revived in future of the Great L.