

AROUND THE WORLD



A Mother's Heartache

A young mother holds her child nearly dead of starvation. Hundreds of children and adults are reportedly dying of malnutrition each day in the secessionist state of Biafra as a result of the war with Nigeria. Church leaders of all faiths have joined with international relief agencies to fly food and medicine through the Nigerian blockade to the refugees. (RNS Photo)

Brazilian Priest Sees Red Infiltration

Paris — (NC) — A Brazilian archbishop interviewed by the Paris daily *Le Monde* asserted that there is "visible" communist infiltration of the church in his country.

Archbishop Geraldo de Proenca Sigaud, S.V.D., of Diamantina said that many priests and Catholic leaders use "communist slogans against North American imperialism and neglect censuring the world's worst imperialism, which is communism."

French Priest Held in Sao Paulo

Paris — (NC) — A French worker-priest, Father Pierre-Joseph Wauthier, has been released from prison and placed under house arrest in Sao Paulo, Brazil, to await expulsion from the country, according to *Le Monde*, Paris daily newspaper.

First arrested July 19 for having participated in a strike by a metal workers' union, Father Wauthier was charged with having "incited the strikers to forcibly resist the occupation of the union building by the forces of order."

The French priest was assigned by the Brazilian minister of justice to house arrest in the residence of Agnelo Cardinal Rossi of Sao Paulo.

Invasion 'Grave Anxiety' to Pope

Rome — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI, visibly upset by the invasion of Czechoslovakia, expressed "sharp bitterness and grave anxiety."

"We would willingly give up our journey," he said as he left for Latin America, "if we knew that our presence and activity could in some way serve to hinder the worsening of the ills that are now oppressing the Czechoslovak nation."

He spoke briefly to a crowd of about 1,000 persons in the dark chill of early morning at Rome's Fiumicino Airport.

Greek Jurist Hits

Ban on Translation

Athens — (RNS) — Dr. Alexander Vamvetos, a veteran Greek jurist, took issue here with articles dealing with the state Orthodox Church—in the proposed new national constitution.

In a series in the daily paper "Eleftheos Kosmos," Dr. Vamvetos scored the prohibition on translating the Bible into the modern Greek language.

The text of the Bible as it now stands is in ecclesiastical Greek, a form of the language no longer spoken and, according to Dr. Vamvetos, no longer commonly understood when read.

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San Antonians

Protest CFM

Food Donation

Duluth, Minn.—(NC)—Protest letters have been received at St. Jean's Church here as a result of the parish's recent contribution to poor families in San Antonio, Tex.

Some 39,000 packages of pudding, loaded in a railroad freight car, were sent to San Antonio as a donation from the Christian Family Movement (CFM) at St. Jean's.

Father Elmar Mauer, O.M.I., of St. Jean's Church, said the protest letters came from individual San Antonians who objected to the gift's alleged connotation that there are starving people in San Antonio.

"We have had letters telling us that this food was not needed, and objecting to the implications of the donation," the priest said.



Nun Biologist Explores the Sea

Sister Bonaventure is suited up for a swim in the deep off Vinalhaven Island, Maine. Sister is collecting specimens in marine biology for a course she teaches in a summer program of the College of New Rochelle, N.Y. (RNS Photo)

Two Views Expressed on Encyclical

Kansas City, Mo.—(RNS)—Conflicting views of the papal ban on birth control dominated the regional three-day meeting here of the Christian Family Movement.

Dissent from the position of Pope Paul was expressed by Father Bernard Haering, a leading moral theologian, after a plea for obedience by Bishop Charles H. Helmsing of Kansas City was read to the participants.

Bishop Helmsing, in his letter to the CFM delegates, said, "In the face of a crusade against the constant teaching of the Church on the duties of married life during the past four years, the traditional teaching of the Church has unhesitatingly been upheld in this diocese."

"As we know from events in the past few weeks," he continued, "this teaching is that of the bishops of our country unanimously in accord with the voice of the Vicar of Christ."

In his address to the delegates Father Haering cited examples from history in which papal teaching had been changed over the years.

While stressing the positive aspects of the Pope's encyclical, he insisted that Catholic couples must form their consciences about conjugal love in the light of all contemporary theological developments.

"Those who in sincerity can accept this encyclical must accept it and live with it," he said. "Those, who after serious consideration, cannot agree must follow their own consciences, because the Church would no longer be the People of God if we had people who sell their consciences."

In response to questions the theologian said he suspected the Pope's encyclical banning artificial contraception was a test case to assert papal authority.

Another speaker who was critical of the encyclical was

Kenneth Woodward, a Catholic who is religion editor of *Newsweek*. In his address to the CFM delegates, he insisted Catholicism must open itself to the experience of life.

"It is ironic," he noted, "that birth control is probably the only issue which could call into question the notion of authority in the Church."

The meeting was for CFM couples and moderators in the four state area of Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska.

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