

## Cardinal Leger Discusses Missions

Montreal — (NC) — Paul Emile Cardinal Leger, archbishop of Montreal, said in a report to a charity organization here that patience and constancy are the two virtues he has learned as a result of his missionary work in Cameroon, West Central Africa.

Cardinal Leger, who resigned as archbishop of Montreal in November 1967 to work among lepers in Africa, sent a special report to Fame Pereo, a charity organization here which he helped found in 1962, in which he said:

"My first experience with missionary activity has taught me that the two virtues (patience and constancy) are always necessary in transmitting to the natives the Gospel of salvation. They still retain their power to educate, and it takes time, much time, to learn to understand a people, to



CARDINAL LEGER

come to discover the human values hidden behind the veil of an unknown language, behind customs that go back several millenniums."

Fame Pereo — from a Latin phrase meaning "I am dying of hunger" — last year distributed 18 tons of medical supplies and clothing contributed by Canadians to people of 18 African countries.

Cardinal Leger said he spent the first three months of his stay in Africa learning from his observations how African city dwellers lived, and how that mode of living differed from life in the African bush. He said he had listened attentively, so as to understand better what priorities demanded his immediate attention "in a human milieu so different from the one in which he had been accustomed to live while in Canada."

### As Result of Unlikely Events

## Thieu ... Now a National Leader

By FATHER PATRICK J. BURKE, S.S.C.  
NC News Service

Saigon — President Nguyen van Thieu has come a long way in the one year since he was elected chief executive of South Vietnam.

His response to the events of recent weeks has elevated him into the position of a national leader.

A year ago, at his inauguration on Nov. 1, 1967, there were few, if any, observers of the Vietnam situation who gave him much chance for survival. According to them, he was a compromise selection by the warring factions of Vietnamese generals. His cabinet and administration was a coalition of powerhungry elements. His vice president was his outspoken opponent.

Despite this, he is now leading a country that is more united politically than at any time since the early years of the late President Ngo Dinh Diem, killed in 1963.

Two unlikely elements have combined to boost President Thieu's prestige and popularity. They are the Viet Cong with their Tet (lunar new year) offensive and President Lyndon B. Johnson's decision to halt the bombing of North Vietnam.

During the past year President Thieu has been slowly—but slowly for many foreigners—and painfully consolidating his administration. He has had two prime ministers in that time.

His present one, Tran van Huong, brought an air of respectability to the administration. He is respected for his honesty and integrity, some of which has rubbed off on the government.

Before the Tet offensive city dwellers hardly felt the impact of the fighting, but when the Viet Cong at-

tacked the large centers of population they badly miscalculated. Instead of the people rising up to support the Viet Cong, they rallied behind the government.

When preliminary peace talks began in Paris, most Vietnamese remained skeptical. The position of the South Vietnamese government has remained unchanged. It has refused to recognize the National Liberation Front (NLF) or to have anything to do with a coalition government. Although some American politicians favored acceding to the Communists on both counts, the South Vietnamese felt reassured that President Johnson would not force them to do either.

Two weeks of meetings between President Thieu and U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker failed to get the Vietnamese to agree to a complete bombing halt over North Vietnam. President Johnson's unilateral decision angered and bewildered them. Shortly before the news broke, Viet Cong rockets fired into Saigon left 24 Vietnamese civilians dead, 19 of them killed while attending Mass.

In his speech to the joint session of the National Assembly on Nov. 2, President Thieu clearly stated South Vietnam's position: No opposition to the complete bombing halt but also no recognition of the National Liberation Front and no coalition government. It was what the National Assembly and the nation wanted to hear and they closed ranks behind the government.

South Vietnam refused to attend the next session of the Paris talks—forcing the postponement—because it would not sit at the conference with the National Liberation Front if the

NLF were seated as a separate delegation.

President Johnson's reassurances on not recognizing the NLF have failed to convince the South Vietnamese. They feel betrayed and the mood of the nation is one of defiance with national pride at stake.

## Cardinal Hits Violence on Social Issues

Santiago, Chile — (NC) — The use of violence to bring about social and political reform was deplored by Raul Cardinal Silva Henríquez, of Santiago in a press conference here reacting to statements by Father Diego Palma, one of the leaders in the protest "occupation" of the cathedral here last August.

In an interview published by El Mercurio, Santiago daily, Father Palma had said that violence is not un-Christian if efforts to bring about improvement by conversion to social responsibility are ineffective.

Cardinal Silva said that Chile has a democratic tradition of 150 years and that it has resulted in positive development. He added that he has great faith in the path of constructive action to bring about a recognition of human values. Such an approach, he said, can avoid a "bestial struggle." He expressed the hope that violent conflict in undertaking the solution of social problems will not occur in Chile.

In the El Mercurio interview, Father Palma said that St. Thomas Aquinas justified "violent action against tyranny" and that there is "violence in the Gospels." He claimed that Pope Paul justified violence under certain conditions also.

Father Palma stressed that Christians must seek the conversion of society to a sense of social responsibility in contrast to the Marxist view that exploiting classes are "beyond redemption." But, he said, if there is no response by the upper classes to the Christian efforts, then Christians "must go the violent way."

## Pew Space Aplenty In Iceland Cathedral

Reykjavik, Iceland — (NC) — The new diocese of Reykjavik has a circumstance probably unmatched anywhere in the world: its entire Catholic population can be seated in its cathedral.

When Dutch-born Father Henry Hubert Frehen comes here as the bishop of Reykjavik in December he will find about 900 Catholics. He will have less than a dozen priests, most of them Dutch and belonging to the Montfort Fathers, as he does. There are 65 Sisters, including Carmelites, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, and Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery, most of them Dutch and French, a few Americans, German and Polish, and one a native of Iceland.

Iceland had a Catholic diocese before, from the year 1056 until the Reformation.

Bishop-elect Frehen has been on the staff of Louvain University, as an associate professor of theology.

## Bishop Seeks Role For Married Priests

Haarlem, The Netherlands — (NC) — Bishop Theodore Zwartkruis of Haarlem has declared that he will sponsor some kind of participation in pastoral work for his priests who decide to marry, but he cannot permit them to celebrate Mass or preach.

In an official public statement the Bishop said that he would try to find positions for such priests "in different pastoral areas, depending on their talents and in consultation with the parishes, schools and hospitals or other parties involved."

He asserted at the same time: "Of course I am unable to give permission to celebrate the Holy Eucharist and to preach at Mass to a priest who marries or who intends to marry."

## Catonsville 9' Plan To Appeal Sentences

Baltimore — (NC) — The "Catonsville Nine," anti-Vietnam war protesters who burned draft files last May, were given prison sentences ranging from 2½ to 3 years in U.S. District Court.

William Kunstler, defense counsel, said the convictions will be appealed.

The defendants include Daniel Berrigan, S.J., Cornell University chaplain; Father Philip Berrigan, S.S.J., of Baltimore, brother of the Jesuit; Thomas Melville, his wife, Marjorie, and John Hogan, former Maryknoll missionaries who were expelled from Guatemala on grounds

of working with revolutionary groups; George Miche, who served in Latin America with the Alliance for Progress; Thomas Lewis, an artist; Mary Moylan, a nurse, and Brother David Darst, F.S.C., a Christian Brother of St. Louis.

Father Philip Berrigan and Lewis already are serving six-year prison terms, for damaging draft files earlier this year by pouring blood on them.

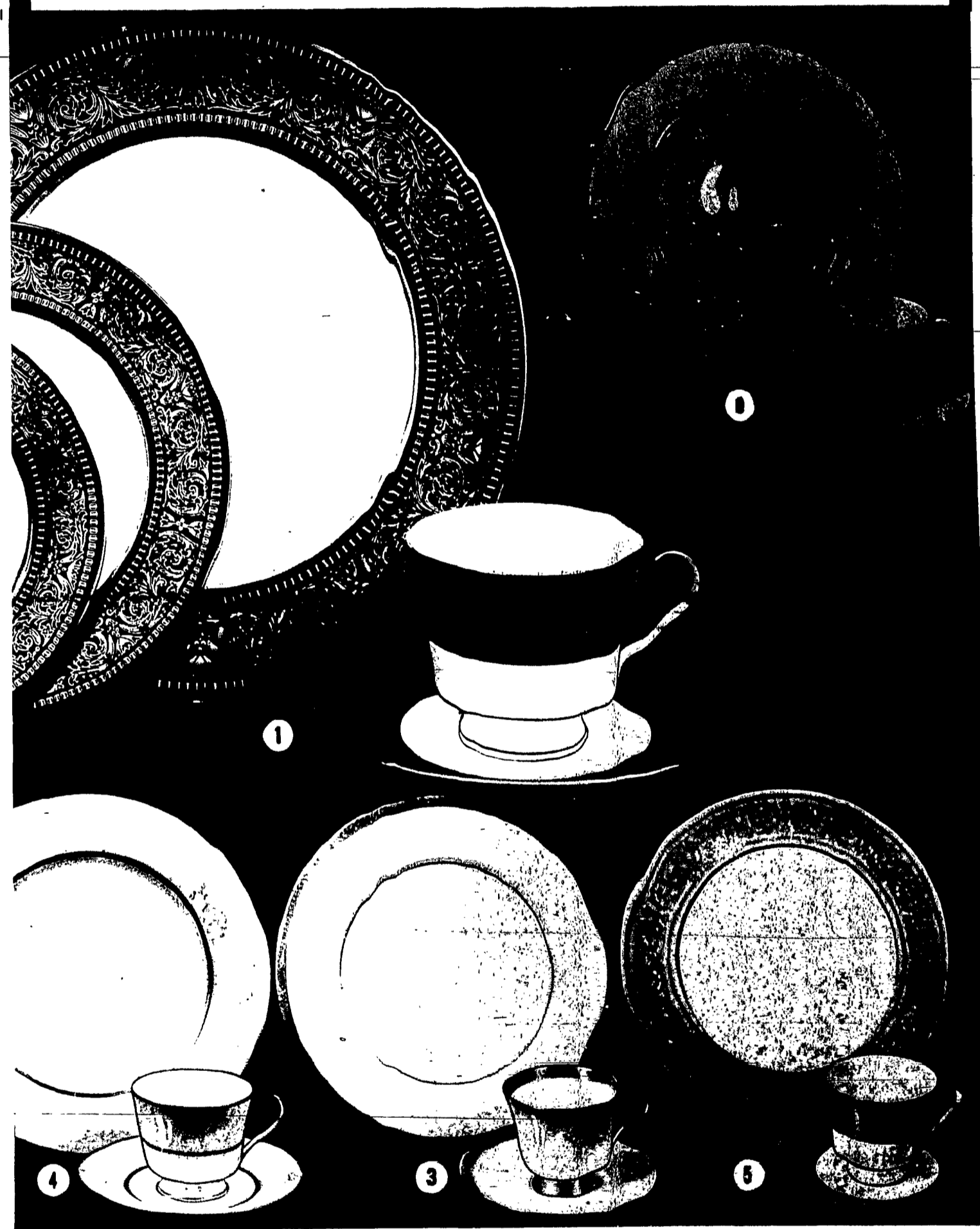
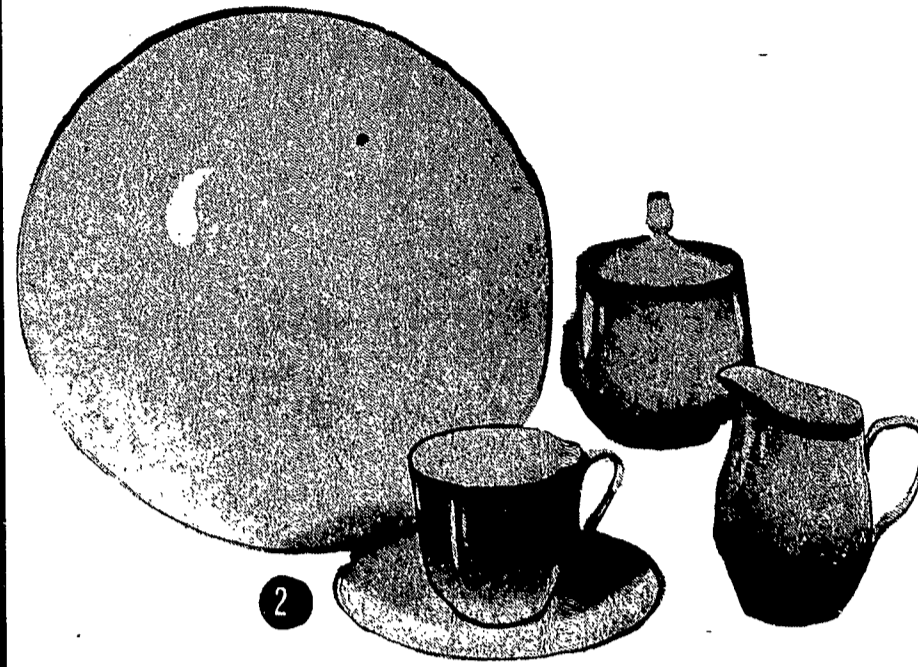
The nine were accused of breaking into a Selective Service office in Catonsville on May 17, removing 378 draft files and burning them in an adjacent parking lot.



## First Negro Congresswoman

Mrs. Shirley Chisholm, elected to the House of Representatives from a Brooklyn district, will be the first black woman to serve in Congress. She gives a "V" for victory sign to a group of supporters. Mrs. Chisholm, a Democrat, defeated James Farmer, the former head of the Congress of Racial Equality. Her district includes Bedford-Stuyvesant, one of the largest black and Puerto Rican communities in the nation. It also includes Crown Heights, an area with a heavy Jewish population.

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