

# What Is the Answer in Latin America?

## It's Not Violence, Archbishop Says

New York — (RNS) — Violence was assailed as an answer to the economic problems besetting Latin America by Archbishop Heider Camara of Recife and Olinda, Brazil.

In an interview here, Archbishop Camara said:

"I do not believe that violence and armed revolution is the answer in Latin America. The United States will never tolerate a second Cuba in Latin America. Any armed movement would be crushed immediately.

"My personal vision is that there exists in Latin America a situation of violence. There are rich men who have accumulated wealth which is derived from the misery of the destitute masses in Latin America. We need to construct new social structures in Latin America which allow these destitute millions to become the agents of social change.

"It is not enough merely to fight illiteracy. We must also combat their fatalistic attitudes and teach them to work together to build a more human society.

"Hopefully some day the only war that mankind will

wage will be the war against misery. Then, only then, will mankind be able to breathe."

Archbishop Camara made these statements in an interview conducted during the Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program (CICOP) conference Jan. 24-26. He was attending the CICOP conference to deliver a speech entitled "Human Rights and the Liberation of Man."

"The problem is one of international justice. I am sure that without a change of structures in developed countries such as the United States, it will be impossible for us to make the necessary social reforms.

"What is needed is some form of inter-American anti-trust laws to protect the price of raw materials produced in Latin America and to guarantee fair prices on imported manufactured goods.

"The big problem is the ever increasing gap between the developed and underdeveloped countries. It is not just a problem of sending aid. Present unjust structures must be changed because the poor are not willing to continue waiting patiently under their intolerable living conditions."

## It's Love, Father Haering Says

New York — (NC) — A German priest-theologian made a new word contribution to the search for a solution to the problems of poverty—love.

"The greatest liberating power is that of love," Father Bernard Haering, C.S.S.R., now serving at the Union Theological Seminary here, told a conference of Latin American scholars here.

The lever to right the wrongs in paternalistic societies, he said, is a combination of "subsidiarity and solidarity," subsidiarity being "the very opposite of paternalism and centralism, whereas solidarity represents the victory over individualism and group egotism."

"Love and freedom are possible in mutual respect, in mutual giving and receiving on all human levels," Father Haering said.

Then his reasoning went like this:

"Wherever the relationships between husband and wife are disturbed by a system of inequality and domination, there the relationships between parents and children will also be disturbed."

"The great proprietors in many Latin American societies are characterized by the same brand of paternalism as correspond to the male-centered, strong patriarchal family structure. . . . The whole system is based on the conviction that the paternalistic mode of domination is good, but it soon degenerates into a brutal exploitation."

Father Haering then took up specific situations through

the continent, "signs of alienation, of being enslaved in an establishment thinking by status quo structures."

When "only a few had access to higher learning, paternalism was appreciated insofar as it expressed concern and service for the weaker ones," but now "our scientific, technological age characterized by the mass communications media and the desire to share in learning and culture, cannot be reconciled with the older forms of paternalism and centralism (which) become ever more strikingly unjust and are judged as obstacles to liberation."

Only to the extent that "the Church gratefully and humbly accepts the prophetic contest and protest against outmoded and immobile structures and attitudes can she be the leaven for a humanity longing for greater freedom."

"The danger is all the greater if she gets entangled in 'sacred alliances' with the dominating powers of paternalism and dictatorship."

The redeeming drive of a free society of free persons, Father Haering explained, rests with subsidiarity and solidarity.

"Freedom exists in the concert of responsible persons and communities who encourage the maximum of initiative with the maximum of responsibility for the whole of society. Subsidiarity means shared responsibility and to some extent shared authority. The higher authority and the larger group should respect, foster and protect the functions which properly belong to the individual person or the smaller group, with the common good in view," he said.

# Brazil Reign of Terror Charged

Rome — (NC) — In a letter smuggled out of Brazil, the superior of two U.S. missionaries expelled from that country for subversive activities has written the president, senators, congressmen and press in the United States that Brazil "is in the midst of a reign of terror and fear."

He also charged that the U.S. is aiding a military dictatorship that is oppressing the Brazilian people. He asked that all military aid to that country be stopped.

The superior, Father James Kohmetscher, O.M.I. vice provincial of the Oblate Fathers in Recife, wrote: "No one or nothing is secure. There is absolute and rigid control of everything, including all means of communication."

In December, following charges that subversives had been trying to overthrow the government, the Brazilian military had Congress dissolved and suspended constitutional freedoms. Hundreds of civilians were arrested.

In his letter, released by the Oblate Fathers here, U.S. born Father Kohmetscher blamed the situation on the armed forces of Brazil.

Father Kohmetscher, who has lived in Brazil for almost

seven years, said that the U.S. had begun its military aid to Brazil because of fear of communism, but asked: "Can we be so naive as not to realize that this military regime is as bad or worse than communism and will eventually lead to a violent and bloody revolution. I ask you to stop all military aid to Brazil."

In his letter Father Kohmetscher gave his backing to the two U.S. Oblate priests who were expelled—Fathers Darrell Ripper and Peter Grams—as well as to another of his priests who, he said, "fled the country because he was being sought by the army." (U.S. Oblate Father Giles Wagner left Brazil to avoid reprisals against members of a youth group he formed to study social problems.)

Father Kohmetscher's letter explained: "What we are doing is to instruct these people in their dignity and rights as human beings."

He also charged that the Brazilian "political, economic and social structure is unjust; that the system secures the wealth and power for a few while it enslaves and marginalizes the masses."

Since November, eight foreign priests have been arrested

## Colombia Expels 2 Spanish Priests

Cartagena, Colombia — (NC) — Two Spanish priests have been ordered out of the country and a third reprimanded by Colombian authorities on charges of subversion.

The two expelled by security officials of the immigration department — Fathers Manuel Perez, 30, and Jose Antonio Jimenez, 32 — had let their tourist visas expire last December.

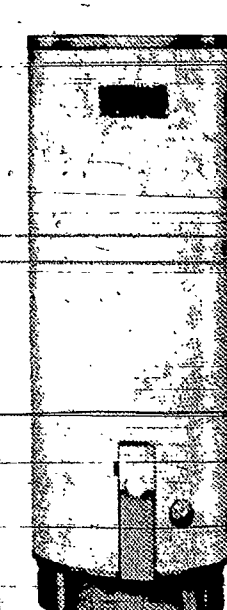
The two priests had come from the Dominican Republic four months ago. The government charged that the priests joined a former priest, Jaime Garcia, also a Spaniard, in several antigovernment demonstrations here.

Charges of subversive activities and several have been expelled.

Three U.S. missionary priests have been expelled for subversion. In addition to Father Ripper and Grams, Father James Murray of the Providence, R.I., diocese, who was serving at Santarem, was deported in January for alleged subversion.

Brazil's military government has been stepping up its charges that "so-called progressive clergy" are participating in revolutionary activity.

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Changes Coming India Church Told Hyderabad, India — (NC) — The president of the Conference of the Religious of India has said that the Church in India should be ready in the next three years to replace 700 foreign priests, 200 Brothers and 1,000 Sisters.

Mrs. King in India Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr., wife of the slain civil rights leader shows the Scroll of Honor of the Gandhi Memorial Society in New Delhi. Mrs. King was in India to receive the Nehru Award for International Understanding, granted posthumously to her husband. (RNS)

U Thant Backs Archbishop on Cuba Question United Nations — (NC) — United Nations Secretary General U Thant told a news conference here that he agreed with Archbishop Heider Camara of Olinda and Recife, Brazil, that the economic boycott of Communist Cuba must be ended.

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