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Why Is America Lucky Enough to Have Such Men?



For a moment we ask you to think in a different light of our three astronauts as they fly down that long, dark and dustless corridor of space, this time to set foot upon the surface of the moon.

They know the price that's often paid in setting out for lands uncharted. They know the price their fathers' grandfathers paid just to walk across the wilderness of America.

Think also of the thinkers and the designers and the builders as well as of the pilots.

Many of these people have worked for less money than they could have made in other places and it is safe to say they have worked through more nights and weekends and lunch and dinner hours than they would have anywhere else.

We ask you to understand this fantastic feat for what it is and to put it in proper perspective, a triumph of man, of individuals, of truly great human beings. For our touchdown on the moon will not be the product of magic but the gift of men.

In James A. Michener's novel "The Bridges of Toko Ri", an

American admiral stands on the deck of his carrier early one morning and ponders the subject of his brave men. He asks of the wind a question which we think all of us should ask as we think of the men who will finally make it to the moon and of the men who got them there:

"Why is America lucky enough to have such men? Where did we get such men?"

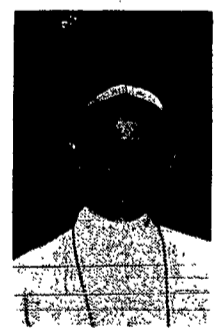
Abridged from North American Bookwell ad, New York Times, July 10, 1969

For the Glory of God

For the glory of the name of God, who gives men such power, We pray and wish well for this wondrous endeavor.

Pope Paul VI — A.D. 1969

(Papal inscription to be left on the moon by Apollo 11 crew)



Meeting of European Bishops May Be Last of Its Type

By PATRICK RILEY
(NC News Service)

Chur, Switzerland — The second symposium of European bishops turned out to be the last of its type.

The more than 100 bishops (including 14 cardinals) who met here to trade ideas on the crisis of confidence among priests decided they would never meet again on the same day. Behind their decision was the presence in Chur of a "shadow assembly" of about the same number of priests who demanded in vain to take part in the work of the symposium.

The assembly of European priests, on the other hand, decided to meet

again in Rome simultaneously with the Synod of Bishops in October. Thus the dissidents expect to bring pressure to bear directly upon the formal and collegial assembly of bishops.

Celibacy was one of the principal issues at the bishops' symposium. Vicente Cardinal Enrique y Tarancon of Toledo, Spain, dealt with celibacy as a fixed datum: "The priest has renounced very profound affections, such as the conjugal and the paternal, and therefore an affective climate must be created for him so that he may find a human balance."

Letters from two priests — one a distinguished though controversial

theologian, the other suspended because of his activities in a working-class parish — were among the unscheduled topics of discussion.

Father Hans Kueng's letter was read to the bishops' assembly by Leo Joseph Cardinal Suenens, Primate of Belgium.

Father Kueng's letter, which was loudly applauded, warned that many priests "are convinced that free and frank dialogue is made difficult in the actual state of the government of the Church." He described the crisis as one of "extreme gravity" and said it was "no longer possible to stop

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Papal Prayer, Inscription Fly with Moon Voyagers

Washington (NC) — A dedicatory inscription written personally by Pope Paul VI, and a small papal flag were among items the astronauts of Apollo 11 took with them to leave on the moon.

Pope Paul sent to the U.S. government a parchment containing the Latin text of Psalm 8 and a dedicatory inscription which he penned with his own hand at the end of the psalm.

It was subsequently photographed in miniature and placed, together with other messages similarly photographed, in a specially prepared capsule to be carried aloft by the astronauts and left on the lunar surface.

A small papal flag was among many other flags also taken to the moon.

The gesture of the Pope, a spokesman at the Apostolic Delegation here explained, is intended to stress the spiritual significance of the history-making space mission.

An English translation of Psalm 8:

PSALM 8

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name over all the earth!

You have exalted your majesty above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings you have fashioned praise, because of your foes, to silence the hostile and the vengeful.

When we behold the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars which you set in place —

What is man that you should be mindful of him, or the son of man that you should care for him?

You have made him little less than the angels, and crowned him with glory and honor.

You have given him rule over the works of your hands, putting all things under his feet: all sheep and the birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name over all the earth!

By RUSSELL SHAW
(NC News Service)

With the 1969 legislative session ended or ending in most states, the box score on the controversial issue of relaxing abortion laws reads success for pro-abortion forces in four states but defeat in 20 more.

This year legislation making it easier to get an abortion was adopted in Arkansas, Kansas, New Mexico and Delaware.

That brings to 10 the number of states which have enacted easier abortion laws in the last two years. States which did so prior to 1969 are California, Colorado, North Carolina, Maryland, Georgia and Mississippi.

The defeats far outnumbered the

Around the States

Abortion Boxscore: No 20, Yes 4

victories, however, in the 1969 campaign for liberalized abortion. At one point this year, nearly 50 bills had been introduced in 24 states. But only four passed, while in 20 states they went down to defeat.

In more than half of these states the easier abortion bills never came to a vote, having been buried earlier in the legislative process. In eight states where such bills were voted on, they were defeated — Florida, Illinois, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New York and Utah.

Possibly the most dramatic defeat of an easier abortion bill was that of the New York bill, rejected on April 17 by a vote of 78-69 in the State Assembly.

The legislation, actively promoted

and publicized in New York for the past several years, had been given an excellent chance of passage. But a speech by a crippled lawmaker apparently swung a dozen or more votes into the opposition column at the last moment and led to its defeat.

The 11th-hour intervention against the bill was made by Assemblyman Martin Ginsberg, a 38-year-old Nassau attorney who was crippled by polio at the age of 13 months and now needs crutches and leg braces to walk.

Ginsberg had been counted among the bill's supporters. During debate, however, he spoke against it, centering his attack on a provision to permit abortion in cases where it was

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