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Flying Cardinal

Terence Cardinal Cooke, right, Archbishop of New York and Military Vicar for Catholics in Armed Services, is helped into the seat belts of a TF-102 by Major Bob Scarbrough of the 317th Fighter Interceptor Squadron during a visit to Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska. On a six-day tour of military installations in Alaska, Cardinal Cooke was offered the orientation flight which he said was "an awesome experience." (RNS)

## U.S. Relief Plan Touches on Issues Noted by Bishops

Washington — (NC) — President Nixon's proposals for sweeping welfare reform frequently touched upon issues singled out by the Catholic bishops of the United States in their pastoral letter, *Human Life in Our Day*, issued last November.

The bishops' recognition of a need for a "family allowance system," their condemnation of welfare's "man in the house" rule, and general concern for family stability were discussed by Nixon when he addressed the nation Aug. 8.

The President, calling the present welfare system "a colossal failure," proposed a new "family assistance program," which "aims at getting everyone able to work off welfare rolls and onto payrolls." Work incentives play a key role in Nixon's proposal.

His proposed welfare reform will provide direct federal payments to all families with children and with incomes below stipulated amounts. The program is expected to initially cost \$4 billion.

A family of four would receive an annual federal benefit of \$1,600. This benefit will be reduced by 50% of a family's earnings as those earnings increase. Benefits will cease once the family is earning a total of \$3,920 a year.

All employable recipients would

lose their benefits if they refused to accept training or employment.

This aspect of the proposed program already is under attack by some members of Congress because they view it as a system of coercion. White House sources insist, however, that the training and employment requirement will not be arbitrary. There will be channels of appeal available, they assert.

"I am also proposing along with this a major expansion of daycare centers to make it possible for mothers to take jobs by which they can support themselves and their children," Nixon said.

These centers, the President explained, would offer more than custodial care. "They would also be devoted to the development of vigorous young minds and bodies. As a further dividend, the daycare centers would offer employment to many welfare mothers themselves," he said.

Benefits of Nixon's proposed program "would go to the working poor, as well as the non-working, to families with dependent children headed by a father, as well as those headed by a mother," the President said.

"Family assistance," he said, "recognizes a need and establishes a responsibility. It provides help to those in need, and in turn requires that those who receive help work to the extent of their capabilities. There is no reason why one person should be taxed so that another can choose to live idly," Nixon added.

Initial response to the President's proposals from the Catholic community has been favorable.

"President Nixon's message on welfare reform is a realistic attempt to move the country toward the adoption of a more comprehensive family-centered policy responding to the needs of low-income families," Father James T. McHugh, director of the Family Life Division, United States Catholic Conference, said.

Particularly noteworthy, he said, is Nixon's "specific proposal of an income maintenance plan for low-income families. It supports family unity and is directed toward helping the family unit function under its own power, thereby insuring stability and cohesion, and it contains strong incentives for job-training and employment for the head of the family."

The executive secretary of the Na-

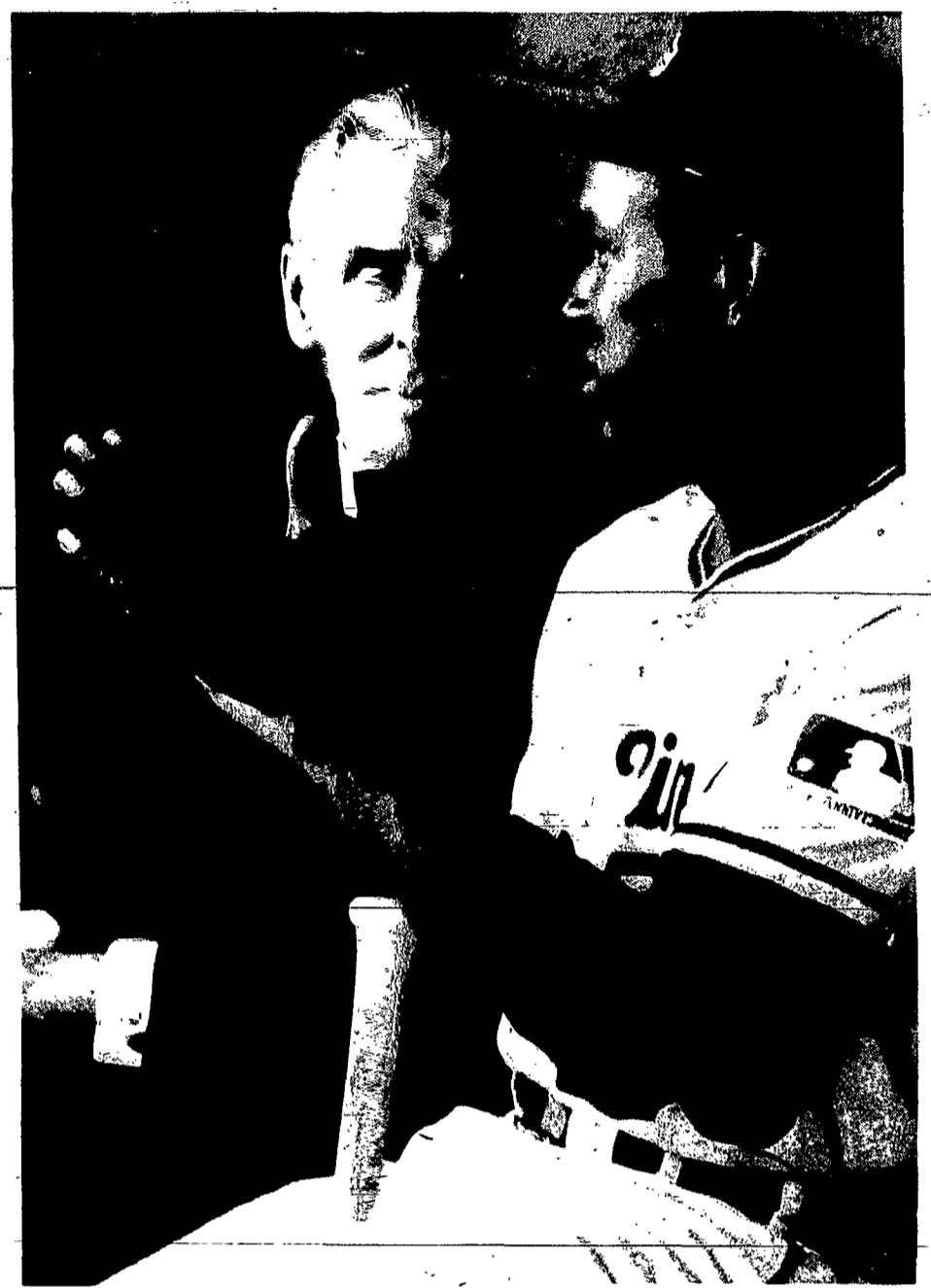


Photo by Dick Haun

DUGOUT STRATEGY SESSION — Bishop Fulton J. Sheen confers with Rochester Red Wings outfielder slugger Fred Valentine Monday night prior to Wings' 10-3 loss to Syracuse Chiefs. Bishop Sheen threw out first ball as part of Catholic Courier-Journal Night. Attendance was increased by more than 1,300 persons, including priests and nuns, who were guests of Courier-Journal and Red Wings or who used discount coupons clipped from copies of the Courier-Journal.

## Deployment of ABM Criticized By U.S. Bishops' Spokesman

Washington — The Senate two-vote margin giving the Nixon Administration victory toward deploying the Safeguard anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system was scored (Aug. 8) by the director of the Division of World Justice and Peace, United States Catholic Conference.

Msgr. Marvin Bordelon said he is disappointed with the vote "because it continues the reliance on armaments as the means of securing world peace."

Deployment of ABM will be con-

trary to a warning issued by the Catholic bishops of the United States in their pastoral letter, *Human Life in Our Day*.

Last November the bishops said that "by upsetting the present strategic balance, the so-called balance of terror, there is grave danger that a United States ABM system will incite other nations to increase their offensive nuclear forces with the seeming excuse of a need to restore the balance."

Msgr. Bordelon said he is "simul-

taneously much encouraged... by the close vote, indicating a substantial attitude in the Senate that peace through reconciliation between nations is now considered a practical possibility."

The House is expected to give its approval of ABM. Although the Nixon Administration has chalked up a major victory, ABM still faces an appropriations vote, which is expected to be hotly debated in the Senate.

"Ethical judgment and moral sensitivity dictate that men should live in love and peace with one another — unless there is justifiable reason to conclude that armaments must be used in self-defense against fellow man," he said.

Msgr. Bordelon said only "the barest majority" of senators decided that man's situation requires the United

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## \$1 Million to Kick Off Vatican Aid to Africa

By ROBERT R. HOLTON

Special Correspondent for the Courier-Journal  
Vatican City — The fund which Pope Paul promised to establish for promotion of human development in Africa will be financed with an initial donation of \$1 million from the Holy See.

It also was learned that the money to finance the first stages of the fund will be obtained through the sale of properties owned by the Vatican.

In announcing the fund during his

recent pilgrimage to Uganda, Africa, the pontiff mentioned no specific figure other than to say it would be richly endowed.

An official in the Vatican finance office said the figure would be \$1 million and that it would be obtained through the "sale of certain properties" in Europe.

Some months ago the Vatican sold for a similar sum a large building it owned in Paris and used the money to establish a fund for human development in Latin America.

That fund is administered by the Pontifical Justice-Peace Commission in collaboration with the International American Bank.

It was understood that the African fund would also be put into the hands of the Justice-Peace commission and administered through some other international banking organization.

The liquidation of Vatican holdings to assist the needy is part of a long-range program of divesting the Holy See of much of its properties and using the proceeds to help fight hunger, disease, illiteracy and war in the developing world.

Meanwhile, heads of various Church agencies headquartered in Rome were anxiously awaiting a blueprint on how the African fund will operate.

The Rev. John Frank, secretary in the Rome headquarters of Caritas, the international relief arm of the Catholic Church, said he expected the Holy See to ask the Justice-Peace Commission to administer the African fund.

"This is a very important step toward peace," he said. "A fund of this type is very valuable. It can help people who need help and still remain outside the realm of politics."

The Vatican could establish dozens of \$1 million funds throughout the world and still not experience a financial crisis. But to merely hand out money willy-nilly and eventually become insolvent would be a tragic error for a universal Church headquarters which is forced to spend millions each year in administering itself for the spiritual good of its members.

## Former Bishop Returns to College Post

From Courier-Journal Sources

Sante Fe, N.M. — Former Auxiliary Bishop James P. Shannon whose marriage to a 50-year-old, thrice-wedded Protestant from Rochester was revealed last weekend, has returned to his post as professor and vice-president of St. John's College, a non-demonstrational liberal arts school here.

Bishop Shannon married Mrs. Ruth Church Wilkinson, of St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, on Aug. 2. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Hugh Kelly in the study of the First Christian Church, Endicott, N.Y. They had obtained a wedding license in Auburn, N.Y. on July 3.

Dr. Richard Weigle, St. John's president, indicated that the couple were distressed at news reports that Mrs. Shannon had been a "two-time divorcee." Her first two marriages had been "annulled," he said.

Dr. Weigle said she was married "only briefly the first time, when she was a high schooler" and that her second marriage, to a Howard Van Wieren, ended when he disappeared during World War II. She has a 24-year-old son, Peter Van Wieren, a newscaster in Binghamton.

According to Dr. Weigle she had been married to Richard D. Wilkinson about 10 years before their divorce in 1964. He is now dead.

## Expo Pavilion Plans Christianity Insights

Tokyo — (NC) — "The purpose of the Christian pavilion at Expo '70 is to offer insights into the Christian life and message rather than a mere display of material goods." This is how Shusaku Endo, co-producer of the pavilion, described preparations to date.

The Christian pavilion has been criticized by groups of young Christians in Japan because they feel that the theme of Expo '70 in Osaka places too much emphasis on materialistic achievements, and that the Christian pavilion would share in this stress on materialism.

"Eye and Hand—The Development

of Man" will be the general theme of the pavilion, in attempting to convey the commands of Christ to all Christians to be the "light of the world," and "serve the neighbor."

The design of the pavilion, according to members of the Christian Pavilion Committee, will explain this theme. The entrance is a long corridor called the "Tour of Purgatory," a photo-montage of the sorrows and ills of Japan. This leads to three tapestries of Raphael lent by the Vatican — "The Miraculous Catch of Fishes," "St. Paul at Athens," and

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### Bishop Shannon Statement

"I do not intend to leave the Catholic Church. It is my spiritual home. I love it dearly and have worked to the best of my ability as one of its priests for 23 years.

"It is a source of sadness and regret for both of us that because of our marriage it will no longer be possible for me to serve the people of God as a priest or as a bishop. We both pray earnestly that a change in the current discipline forbidding the marriage of Catholic clergy might come in our lifetime.

"I have written the Holy Father, Pope VI, expressing these sentiments. I have assured him I have no intention of trying to function as an underground cleric, that I would gladly serve anywhere in the world in any post as a married priest if this could be permitted, and that I have no intention of leading or joining any movement which seeks to hurt the Church.

"I pray only for its renewal and for Christian unity according to the mind of Vatican II.

"My wife, Ruth, shares these convictions deeply and joins me in the prayerful hope that it will be possible for us to live within the Church and in some way be of service to the people of God.

"I admit that I am deeply disturbed by the current concerted effort within the Church to turn back the tide of renewal begun by Vatican II. But I cannot believe that these efforts will succeed.

"Faith in Jesus Christ, in His teachings and His promises is reconfirmed every day by the evident needs of our society and by the lives of those men who reflect His image in their style of life.

"My dear wife is one of these. In recent weeks she has been to me a pillar of strength and an occasion of grace for those persons whom God intends us to serve."

## How Local Newspaper Broke Shannon Story

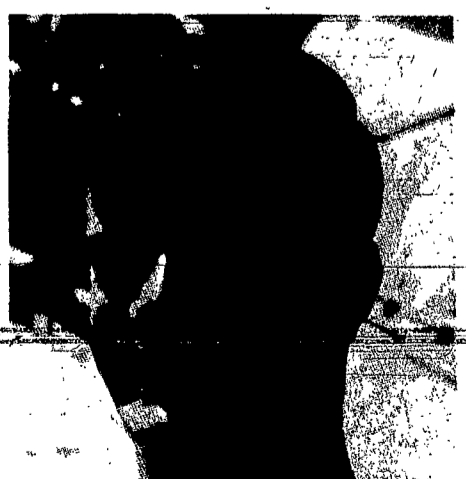
By CARMEN VIGLUCCI

The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle broke what may turn out to be the most surprising Catholic news story in the United States this year — the marriage of ex-Bishop James P. Shannon to Ruth Wilkinson, formerly of Rochester.

Here's how it did it:

As happens with many important stories, it started with a tip that a Mrs. Ruth Wilkinson would marry a Catholic bishop. The tip was received in the Democrat City Room late Friday night and since the bishop's identity was unknown and he seemed to be little local angle to the story, it was decided to wait until the next day to work on it.

The job fell to Mike Power, 26, a slightly-built general assignment reporter, who has been in the business for about six years, the last year and a half at the D&C.



MIKE POWER

Starting at noon Saturday (first edition deadline for copy is 8:30 p.m.), he began trying to find local relatives of Mrs. Wilkinson, an ardu-

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