

NCC Request: U.S. Withdrawal From Viet in '70

Detroit — (RNS) — Hope that all U.S. troops will be withdrawn from Vietnam by the end of 1970 was expressed here by the National Council of Churches in a multi-fold resolution on the war.

Delegates to the General Assembly also asked President Nixon to "replace the policy of Vietnamization of the war" by a policy of "ending the war in Vietnamese initiative with U.S. help."

The General Assembly, a triennial meeting, went on record as recognizing the "legitimate, peaceful and legal nature of the Vietnam Moratorium of Oct. 15 and of the Nov. 13-15 March on Washington sponsored by the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam."

The longer Vietnam resolution recognized the dangers of over-stimulating the conflict. It went on to say that it did "not agree with the historical explanations which the present U.S. Administration and previous Administrations have given as to the origins of the Vietnam conflict and the justifications of U.S. intervention."

The view that the war is "essentially a case of Communist aggression" is misleading and has failed profoundly to do justice to the complexity and diversity of the historical, political and social conditions of Vietnam," it said.

NCC delegates questioned the credibility of "complete" U.S. support of the present Saigon regime. They insisted that the South Vietnamese government be "greatly broadened to include representatives of large segments of the population not now represented."

Epidemic Victims Get Papal Aid

Port Moresby, Territory of Papua New Guinea — (NC) — A gift of \$5,000 from Pope Paul VI to aid orphans and families of victims of this territory's recent influenza epidemic will not be used exclusively for Catholic missions, Archbishop Virgil Copas, M.S.C., of Port Moresby said.

The September and October epidemic in the highlands claimed 2,000 lives. The territorial administration spent \$4,000 to combat the epidemic and utilized the services of government and missionary workers and the Australian armed forces.

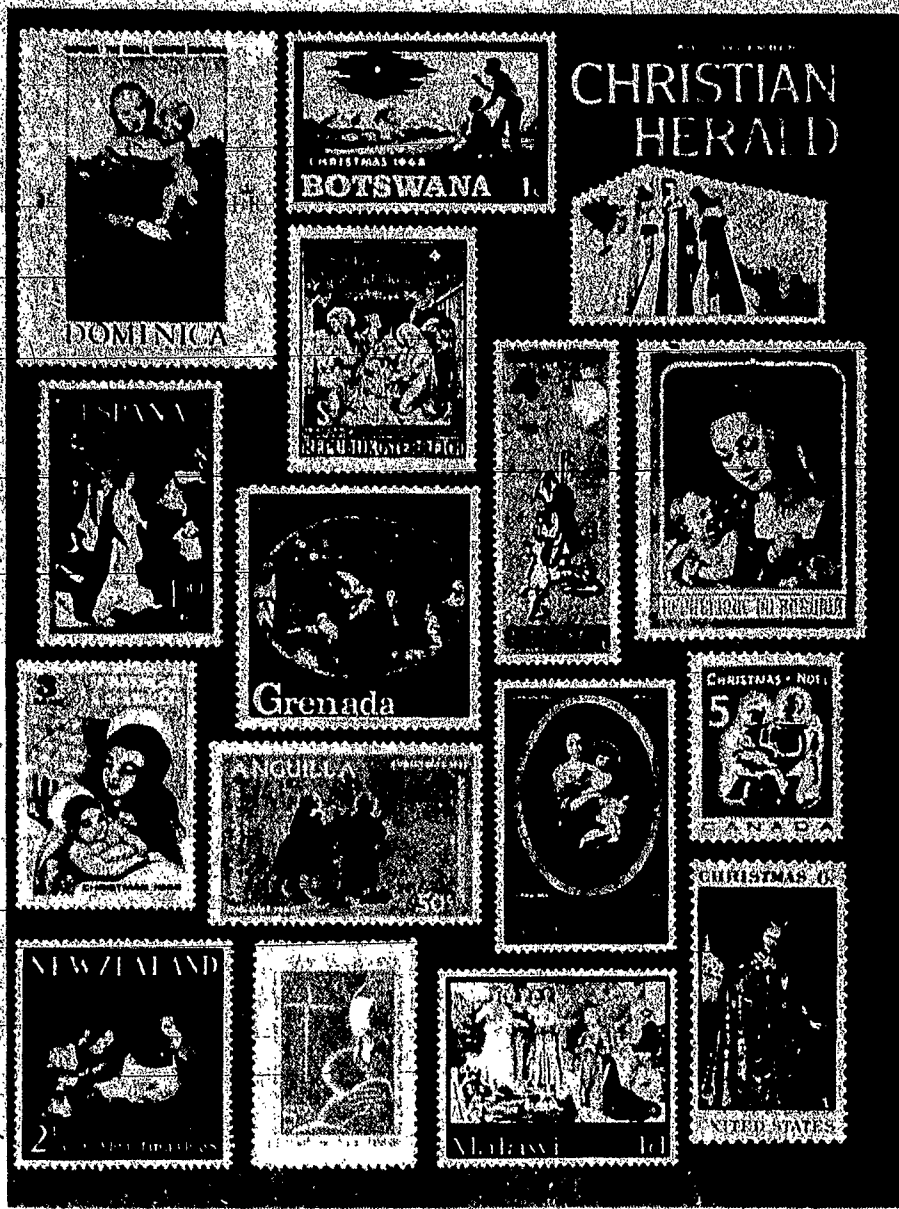
Archbishop Copas said he has offered assistance through the papal donation also to Protestant groups in some areas, declaring that he believed "this is in keeping with the mind of the Holy Father" and "in keeping with our ecumenical spirit in the territory."

Pope Schedules Eucharistic Congress In Australia

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has chosen Melbourne, Australia, as the site for the 40th International Eucharistic Congress, to be celebrated in 1973.

Although Pope Paul has attended both of the international Eucharistic congresses held during his reign, Vatican sources said that it is far too early to speculate on a papal attendance at an event about four years in the future.

Pope Paul attended the Eucharistic congresses held at Bogota, Colombia, in 1968 and at Bombay, India, in 1964.



Christmas in Stamps

The cover of the current issue of Christian Herald magazine features postage stamps from 16 countries which illustrate the Nativity. Those illustrated were released in 1968. Most Christmas stamps have religious themes and have become one of the most fascinating topics for stamp collectors. This year more than 60 countries have issued special stamps for Christmas. (RNS)

Vatican Statement Draws Praise from U.S. Jews

(Continued from Page 1)

he found himself in agreement with it."

The document stresses the desirability of implementing its recommendations and directives on "all levels of Christian education," urging that, wherever possible, "a chair on Judaism should be established" in Catholic colleges.

The movement of "rediscovery of a deepened fraternity among Christians and Jews" goes back to 1963 and Pope John XXIII who called for a statement on the Jews to be made by Vatican II.

According to Father Robert Graham, S.J., Vatican Affairs expert, a number of bishops, "especially patriarchs of the Eastern Churches, did not want the Council to say anything about the Jews, for fear the statement would be considered by Arab governments as a political move favoring recognition of the state of Israel, and the Christian minorities in Arab countries would be made to suffer in reprisal."

These objections were countered, however, by the insistence of the majority of council bishops that any statement on the Jews would be "entirely religious in character."

After fervent and concerned discussions, a final statement on the

Church's bond to the Jewish people, as part of the Council's "Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions," was adopted on Oct. 25, 1965, and promulgated three days later.

The statement on the Jews acknowledged that "according to God's design," the beginnings of the faith and election of the Church of Christ "go back as far as the days of the patriarchs of Moses and the prophets. The Church, therefore, cannot forget that she received the revelation of the Old Testament through the people with whom God...deligned to conclude the Ancient Covenant."

As to the trial and death of Jesus, the Council insisted "what happened in his Passion cannot be attributed without distinction to all Jews then alive, nor can it be attributed to the Jews of today."

Hence, "the Jews are not to be presented as rejected or accursed by God, as it followed from Holy Scripture."

With these declarations, the Catholic Church laid to rest the persistent charge of "deicide" that has plagued the Jewish people.

The Council's statement on the Jews was implemented in June, 1966, by the establishment of the Vatican Office for Catholic-Jewish Relations.

Catholic College Woes Discussed

New York — (RNS) — The crisis of today's Catholic colleges, which so tenuously hinges on improved financial solvency and scholastic prowess, must look to "inter-institutional cooperation" and a new image of character and mission in education for its answers.

This is part of the message put forth in an article appearing in the Dec. 29 issue of America magazine, Jesuit weekly review published here. Its proponents are Jesse E. Hobson and Martin E. Robbins, educational consultants and experts on Catholic higher education.

Entitled "The Catholic College: A Crisis of Substance and Sustenance," the article discusses the "turmoil of the Catholic campus," its monetary and academic ills, and calls for its survival in a "new and vital form."

The article said this situation particularly affects the 182 Catholic liberal arts colleges "caught in a cost race with tax-supported institutions in which defeat means being priced out of the general student market." Last year enrollments at private colleges dropped by 12,000 students.

Dwelling extensively on the specifics of the sustenance problem for Catholic colleges, the article noted that while all of higher education is afflicted with an inflation rate of 7 per cent a year, Catholic colleges have particular problems which may up their costs 18 per cent a year.

Contributing to the problem is the decline of the "live endowment" —

a large pool of religious teachers and an almost unsolicited body of Catholic students. This loss is magnified by the greater cost of attending a Catholic college as compared to its public counterpart.

The article observed that "without new and unusual efforts," enrollment at Catholic colleges can at best remain static and may decline as much as 3 to 5 per cent per year.

And, the article warned, almost forgotten in the scramble for students and funds are the goals of the institution. "For unless the problem is confronted on the plane of substance as well as sustenance, these institutions are likely to face a slow, continual decline."

In the area of sustenance, the article said several steps could be taken to alleviate the difficulties, among them improved management and controls (especially at smaller Catholic colleges), increasing the number of students, in unnecessary small classes, pruning small and expensive curriculums and by sharing courses with other institutions.

"More students could also be recruited through aggressive and professional enrollment drives," the article said. "Not enough Catholic colleges truly articulate their merits and unique educational opportunities to potential students, both Catholic and non-Catholic."

Noting that additional monies could be gleaned from higher tuitions, alumni, friends and industry, though not likely through direct public aid

the article stated that probably a combination of these funding alternatives will be needed for survival.

But it pointed out strongly, "real hope lies also in a strong inter-institutional cooperation movement. While Catholic colleges can and must solve many of their problems individually, they must face others collectively."

"Contrary to the fears of smaller colleges, cooperation does not have to mean loss of identity or merger," the article continued. "The intelligent sharing of resources — of faculty and facilities, for instance — can often improve program quality and reduce operating costs."

Stating that the problem of the Catholic college is not merely one of support but also one of "character and mission," the article stressed that "there is still a need for a church-related college, perhaps more than ever before, the changes that occur in them should be far more significant than a mere imitation of secular institutions." It added:

"Catholic colleges must reorganize, redirect and re-promote themselves on a fresh, almost revolutionary basis."

The article termed it "ironic" that Catholic colleges, once noted for their dedication to the discovery of truth should appear so barren in this regard. It urged these colleges to return to the task of molding "human beings...men...galvanizers," not "specialists...programs...conductors."

Non-Catholics Also Oppose Abortion Change

Detroit — (NC) — The fight against proposals to relax anti-abortion laws in this state is not exclusively a Catholic struggle.

In the vanguard with Catholic Church leaders against such proposals here are an Episcopal bishop and a Presbyterian church official.

Episcopal Bishop Richard S. Emrich of Michigan has asserted "abortion is the killing of innocent human life."

"It is human life, innocent and helpless...those who believe this must be expected to fight fiercely against any law which would permit destruction of life for the sake of convenience," the bishop asserted in a public statement.

Dr. Richard V. Jaynes of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a Detroit obstetrician, has stated he is "unilaterally opposed to liberalized-abortion laws." He testified before a Michigan Senate committee at hearings on a proposed relaxed abortion law measure.

Dr. Jaynes is an elder of Westminster Presbyterian Church here.

Parochial Opponents Resume N.Y. Campaign

New York — (RNS) — A coalition of 25 civic, religious, and educational organizations, formed two years ago to oppose changes in the New York State constitution which bars public aid to parochial schools, has resumed operations.

William Haddad, executive chairman of the Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL), said the unit was "compelled to resume full-scale operations to challenge the slick, high-priced and well-organized campaign to subsidize private and religious education in New York State with public funds."

The committee, according to Haddad, has a total membership of 10 million. He maintained that the efforts of PEARL influenced the vote against eliminating the Blaine Amendment from the state constitution.

He was referring to a hint from Roman Catholic school officials in the state that unless increased governmental aid is forthcoming by next year many parochial schools will be forced to close down, thus placing

their students in already over-crowded public schools.

Noting that Gov. Rockefeller, the State University of New York and the aging state commissioner of education have all urged state aid to non-public schools, Haddad said: "The members of our constituent organizations are deeply concerned at the intensifying campaign to thwart the will of the people of the State of New York on the issue of tax-raised monies for parochial schools."

COURIER-JOURNAL

Vol. 81 No. 14 December 26, 1969

Published Weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Single copy 15c; 1 year Subscription in U.S.: \$4.00; Canada and South America, \$5.00; other foreign countries, \$9.50. Main Office, 85 Rejo Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Second Class Postage Paid at Rochester, N.Y. Postmaster: Please send address changes to: 85 Rejo Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

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New Medical Tack Up For Poor

New York — (NC) — a "new medical of the op Edward E. Swanson, director of Catholic Relief challenged both government medical profession during a symposium here on "Medicine in the Tropics."

At the one-day meeting by the Tropical Disease Center's Hospital the bisho ed the importance of medicine.

"In the developing world," the medical profession in terms of the educative tive programs over and direct curative practice. U cine can move dramatic heavy emphasis on the tive it will cut itself o realities of living."

Much of this education "must be in the fields, and public health."

Bishop Swanson s have concluded that "e dence that the child unde bears the brunt of the nomic and nutritional deficit areas. On the othe same age group lags fa benefits accruing from development of a country

"The only chance he h ing benefits is for the co a direct and specific pro behalf. Current progr strate national health c focused on the product of the population," the b

Bishop Swanson said us who see our U.S. overs get shrink each year (w budget has grown until well over half of our fed will become more vocal need for a radical change ties."

Pope Stresses Marian Devotion To Mexicans

Vatican City — (RNS) occasion of the 75th anniversary of the "Coronation of Our Guadalupe," Pope Paul VI the great emotion he feels someone tells him of the tudes of "good and pater who make pilgrimages to of Guadalupe "to invoke interestion."

Mexican religious auth mate that the shrine, on t of Mexico City, drew 16 tions during the last year growing numbers from States.

Focus of Pilgrim inte mysterious picture on Virgin Mary which is en the altar of the late 17 Basilica.

How this image came matter of interest. In 1 the episcopate of Juan de first Bishop of Mexico, dian named Juan Diego beheld a vision of a radii Tepayac Hill, a place for cated to pagan deities.

She told him, he said, t the mother of Christ an wished a church built on a sign, she blessed some Diego was carrying in a c of local cactus-fiber three

When Juan went before he opened his cape and th the Virgin, a white-skin in a blue shawl with gold indelibly illuminated on garment.

Art experts who have image, which is almost a l trait, consider it a skillful early Renaissance painting niques of drawing and col not known in other work the Colonial period.

It was reported recent massive stone and brick bap led in 1709, is sinking like the Tower of Pisa. Ms. Schulerberg, who is in ch basilica, announced that and soil engineers had con the church cannot be save \$500,000 has been spent i to halt the sinking. It is n to build a new church, years, behind the present