

# Halt Arms Race

The ghost of Basil Zaharoff, the original "merchant of death", who promoted wars in the Balkans and then sold munitions to both sides, stalked the headlines last week. As battles erupted in new and old wars two sickening facts were revealed: world-wide traffic in arms has burst out of control and the United States is the busiest merchant among the competitors hustling the sale of weapons all over the world.

The U.S. is supplying Israel; Soviet Russia is shipping planes and bombs to Egypt; France is selling fighter-planes to Spain, Libya and Peru; Nigeria, unshocked by the tragedy of its Biafran dead, publicly thanks the Kremlin for the weapons which smothered the revolution there.

Washington has an Arms Control and Disarmament Agency which keeps track of the war-festering world. Its annual report says that 120 nations of the world will spend this year nearly \$200 billion for the ways and means to kill, or defend from, feared enemies. It sadly acknowledges that arms trafficking has become a weapon of international diplomacy. Here's how the diplomacy line is expressed, in the U.S.:

Recently U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard told a House Foreign Affairs Committee: "Our hope of reducing overseas expenditures and involvements lies in getting other nations to do more in their own defense. That is why the growing use of credit-assisted sales of military equipment, as well as increased military assistance, is clearly indicated for the immediate future."

The fact that our nation since 1962 has sold between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion per year in arms of all kinds to about 60 different nations annually raises a troubling question: Are we indirectly responsible for the upward curve of violent armed conflicts around the world, especially in the underdeveloped lands? Could they, satisfy their enmities and attack one another unless our dispatch of weapons (obsolete to us, yet still lethal) gave them the muscle-flexing power they desired?

Granted that a good deal of the U.S. military assistance sold or given away since World War II has been a positive assistance in checking Communist expansion in Greece, Germany, the Middle East, the Orient and Latin America. Granted that where we embargoed arms to certain nations, like India and Pakistan when they were warring, the belligerents turned to the Russians and got supplies to keep up their conflict. This fact remains: How can we believe we are serving the cause of peace by following the pragmatic line that if arms in the hands of our allies allow us to keep out of combat or police work, it's no concern how they use the weapons.

On New Year's Day Pope Paul raised the question whether nations have a right to sell deadly arms to countries which need that money for raising living standards of their people. He suggested that developing countries which are pursuing a military buildup while neglecting the building of hospitals, setting up schools, providing housing and feeding the poor should be barred from the arms market.

The arms-sales policy of our government gets close Congressional scrutiny periodically. But the deals are often so diplomatically sensitive or alleged to be such security issues the press cannot report them. It seems that the peace groups might harass the office of Political Military Affairs, a section of the Department of State, and of the office of International Security Affairs in the Defense Department, to put the brakes on the arms race.

—Father Richard Tormey

# Black Bishop Asks Self-Determination

By ROLAND FREEMAN (NC News Service)

Bay St. Louis, Miss. — The National Office for Black Catholicism is not the beginning of a separatist movement in the U.S. Catholic Church, but a vehicle for black people to obtain a self-determining role in the Church, said Auxiliary Bishop Harold R. Perry of New Orleans.

Bishop Perry, the lone Negro Bishop in the U.S., discussed the future of black Catholics — and the new office — with this reporter at St. Augustine's Seminary here.

The National Office for Black Catholicism is the product of discussions between members of the Black Catholic Clergy Caucus — representing the 167 Negro priests in the U.S. — and representatives of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, in November, 1969.

Here is the transcript of an interview.

Freeman: Bishop, what is your relationship to the Office for Black Catholics?

Bishop Perry: I am officially a



BISHOP PERRY

member of the ad hoc committee of three bishops whose purpose is to deal with the Black Clergy Caucus. The president is Father Donald Clark of Detroit. Other members are people like Sister Martin de Porres, president of the Black Sisters Caucus.

Freeman: Now that the office exists, what are the things you would like to see it do or expect it to accomplish?

Bishop Perry: The establishment has proceeded this far: we have been told by the Black Clergy Caucus to select a steering committee which will set up procedures to insure proper geographical representation and adequate participation by the religious orders who are presently working with the black community.

This board will have as its purpose not a separatist movement, but a movement to integrate more thoroughly into the mainstream of Catholic life the black people in the urban centers as well as those in rural areas.

Freeman: What would you like to see this office do that hasn't or isn't being done now?

Bishop Perry: The Church is working in the black community. We have our physical structures there — churches, schools. But while the Church is represented there, as black people we have always thought that there was something missing.

I might describe what is missing is a lack of trust, a lack of love, a lack of respect for black people. There has been a hesitancy to give black people a self-determining role, a decisional role in the education of their children and in the operation of their churches.

In general there has been a paternal attitude. What the black community is asking now is that they be given a chance for self-determination. They are asking the Church to trust them.

Bishop Perry: There has been much criticism of the black priests for asking for this office — criticism that this will be a separatist movement.

I think we have a right, at least for a time, to get ourselves together and discuss things among ourselves. The very questions we are asking ourselves is why have we not been more integrated, and why, when integration comes, our leaders can't take their rightful positions in the Church. Why has what integration there has been, for the most part, been only token?

So what we are really doing is stepping aside for awhile to see how we can push ourselves, our leaders and the mass of people into the mainstream of Catholic life. We are asking if we can't do something about a situation in which everybody has really failed. In this sense we are not really separatists.

Freeman: Has the general decline in vocations been noticeable among black students?

Bishop Perry: There are only 800,000 Catholics among the 23 million blacks in the U.S.

A typical black youth almost never has a chance to meet a black priest in his life — there are only 170 in the whole country. So the image is not there for him to aspire to.

Then, too, he is not so sure that the Church will really welcome him, because he does not see the actual facts before him.

What we have to do is spread out the few priests we do have and put them in very visible positions, so that black youths may see that something is being done. The doors are open today. Our duty is to make it known to the black youth and encourage them. However, to do this the Church must become more meaningful in the black community.

# 'What Is Wrong Is a Lack Of Respect for Black People'

We are happy to say today that black seminarians are welcome in virtually every seminary in the nation.

Freeman: Bishop, how would you sum up your expectation of the Office for Black Catholics?

Bishop Perry: My hope is that through this office, in addition to

what has already been done — that is in addition to keeping the Catholic churches and schools of the inner city established there — that through these schools the black community will be impressed that the Catholic Church has respect for them, that it loves them and trusts them. Henceforth through this office they will have a means of self-determination.



Sullivan 2/20

"PARDON ME, SIR, BUT THE GENTLEMAN AT THE FAR TABLE WONDERS IF YOU COULD GIVE HIM A BLESSING!"

# 6 Arguments For Celibacy

(By Religious News Service)

A four-page "refutation" of arguments against priestly celibacy was featured in the latest issue of *Osservatore Della Domenica*, as the Vatican City publication continued its opposition to married priests.

Six arguments cited by the weekly in favor of priestly celibacy, were:

● Celibacy is not unnatural in the elementary sense of man spontaneously meeting his needs, but what makes man develop himself and reach human perfection is also natural, and man can do this without being married. In addition, eminent doctors claim celibacy does no physical or psychological harm if chosen freely.

● The sexual urge is not irrepressible and can be overcome with will power. Unlike food and drink, sex is not essential for a man's survival but only for the survival of mankind.

● Celibacy does not prevent full human maturity nor does marriage create it.

● Celibacy does not de-humanize a priest, but on the contrary it enriches and deepens his ability to love.

● Celibacy can be lonely, but marriage is no solution since the priest must belong to everyone and not just one person.

● Celibacy does put a priest aside from the ordinary run of men, but this is as it should be since the priest must "render the mystery of God tangible to men."

# Letters

## Layman Advisor Seeks Help

Editor:

I wish to ask your assistance in providing a means of communication between your readers and myself in my capacity as a member of the U.S. Catholic Conference Advisory Council.

The United States Catholic Advisory Council has 10 laywomen and 10 laymen from New York State, the next few years will be busy ones for me as I try my best to represent the thinking of the faithful from our state.

Through the medium of this open letter, I solicit your ideas on the role of the Church in the United States. Time and other personal commitments will prevent me from answering you directly, but I feel assured that your insights will be given serious consideration and weigh heavily in determining my position on issues. People are neither conservative nor liberal if they are of good meaning and intention when concerned with the many problems faced by the Church as it serves mankind today.

Please write now and/or in the future to:

—William A. Toomey Jr.  
11 N. Pearl St.  
Albany, N.Y. 12207



Your Help Needed

An Indian woman and her son in anguish and prayer after a strong earthquake rocked several villages in Latin America. Your contribution to the annual American Catholic Overseas Aid Fund Appeal will help restore hope and equilibrium to the torn lives of the area. Send your contributions to your nearest Catholic Church or mail it to Catholic Overseas Aid Fund, Empire State Building, New York, N.Y., 10001.

# Needed: Pinch-Hitter

Once upon a time there existed a kingdom where black was black and white was white and most of the citizens were glad of it because they were white. In those days the national pastime was baseball and that like all things was divided into white leagues and black leagues.

For some reason the whites had all the better of things such as money, homes, schools, and baseball gloves and so naturally the white league was superior to the black one.

Now among the white lords there was one named Branch Rickey who realized that the blacks were as good players as the whites and, he also thought, their equal as men. (Because such an idea was foreign in that land the latter thought is debated to this day.)

So Lord Rickey called forth a black knight, named Jackie Robinson, who with flying spikes and a polished club slew the dragons of the white league, thereby making it safe for other blacks to play there. Thus in a land of black and white, the twain met, at least in baseball. But, alas, people did not live happily ever after.

For just last week this same black knight took anything but a courageous stance when approached by a baseball executive for his advice on the possibility of all-black ownership of a major league baseball franchise.

Robinson reportedly replied, "Black people don't have that kind of money (\$15 million) — or credit — lying around. Also, there are not enough qualified baseball executives among Negroes to make it work."

We can't buy that. Baseball executives, like heroes, are made not born. Robinson himself, with his first-hand knowledge of the game coupled with the obvious business acumen gathered since he quit playing, could lead the way. And it seems there has to be a corporate nucleus from the likes of the Frank Robinsons, Curt Floods, Willie Mays, Joe Blacks and many others. Even the lofty sum of \$15 million would seem within the reach of such a group.

Of course, the keystone of this premise is missing when Robinson rules himself out because he is "bored" with baseball and the game's "black-white situation is getting worse because of the owners' attitude."

The challenge in the latter appraisal is implicit and why the once no-holds barred, gutsy Robinson is turning away from it must lie in reasons not publicized.

But let some other black take up the hickory (as the baseball cliché goes); there is work to be done among our playthings.

—Carmen Viglucci

# Something's Right

Yes, there are dirty plays, but not one has even approached the performance record of homely "Oklahoma" or "Fiddler on the Roof".

Foreigners are scornful of our ghettos. Yet tens of millions are being spent by business to rebuild slums with modern homes, and the median Negro family income has risen to \$5360 a year and the number earning \$7000 has doubled in ten years.

45 percent of Americans attend church and 70 percent consider religion very important.

More Americans finish high school than is true of any other nation, and we're getting ready to improve that even more by special programs (developed in America) for pre-school children. And the number of American adults who continue their schooling even into old age is the wonder of the world.

Book buying has doubled in 10 years—good books.

50 million Americans donate time and 14 billion dollars every year to charity.

And you can add paragraphs of what else is good from your own experience.

Warner & Swasey Machine Tools

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NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE

# Bishop Hogan

Bishop Hogan said last Sunday maintains a degree of calmness in role as head of the diocese because he is ever mindful in these times of crisis "that the Holy Spirit is in the Church 'til the end of time."

The Bishop addressed nearly 100 persons at the annual St. Margaret Mary Church Altar-Rosary Society annual mother-daughter breakfast at the parish hall following his celebration of Mass in the church.

Bishop Hogan, who had been pastor of the parish for 17 months prior to his installation as seventh Bishop of the diocese, presided at the breakfast.



Bishop Hogan was principal of St. Margaret Mary parish. Society; Mrs. Walter Foer, Robert Walsh, Altar-Rosary Society.

# High School Back Bishop On Transfer

Catholic high schools of Monroe County will not accept transfer students from public high schools where it may be seen as an effort to escape the proposed city school segregation plan.

This was announced today by Father Emmett J. Halloran, rector of St. Joseph's Preparatory High School, president of the Rochester Catholic Diocesan Association of School Administrators. The state text follows:

"The association heartily endorses the support given by Bishop Egan and the superintendent of Catholic Schools, Father Daniel Brent, to the Quality Integrated Education program proposed by the City of Rochester. The plan is to be implemented for all children of the diocese who are in the integrated education program.

"Furthermore, the principals do not approve or condone any effort to circumvent the intent of the plan; specifically, the transfer of students from public high schools to Catholic high schools, motivated by the desire to thwart the effectiveness of the QIE program, would not be accepted.

"To do so, we feel, would be to use as educators' remiss in their responsibility incumbent on all citizens to provide the best in education for young people both in quality and equality."



More than 20 couples at St. Margaret Mary High School, who conducted the breakfast.

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