

Fugitive Priest Arrested Four-Month Flight Ended

Washington—(NC)—A Federal Bureau of Investigation spokesman's brief announcement that FBI agents had captured Father Daniel Berrigan, SJ, made the priest's arrest after a four-month flight from justice sound dramatic.

But outside the home of William Stringfellow, the Episcopal lawyer who sheltered the priest, the drama was less apparent.

As an orange-sweatered, binocular carrying, self-styled "birdwatcher" led FBI men in to make the arrest, Father Berrigan defused the drama at the Block Island, R.I., home by simply identifying himself and surrendering.

The long chase was over.

He said he always knew that sooner or later he would be captured. He said he knew that evading arrest would probably lead to a heavier jail sentence. And he said he had to evade arrest, had to be a fugitive from justice—or from injustice, as he called it.

He had to do it, he said, because "everything from Vietnam to Lewisburg suggests to me that men who hope at this point for other directions than further repression, further wars, more jailing of resisters, are whistling into the prevailing winds.

"To expect the worst, to prepare our souls, prophetic or cowardly, for the worst, is the only realism worth talking about . . ."

Father Richard Tormey, diocesan director of communications, described Father Berrigan, with whom he had contact at Cornell, as "a charismatic figure for a portion of the student body because of his poetic manner of speaking and writing."

Father Tormey remarked

Science Loses To Religion

Jerusalem — (RNS) — A small but volatile Middle East "crisis" — between American archeologists and ultra-Orthodox Jewish zealots — was settled here with assurance that the burial site of an ancient Jewish leader will remain untouched.

The dispute arose after the discovery of a Jewish town, dating from Roman times, by the American Inter-University archeological expedition, financed by the Smithsonian Institute. Several buildings, including what may have been a synagogue, were found.

Rabbi Amram Blau, leader of the Neture Karta sect of Judaism, protested that ancient burial caves nearby, including one traditionally ascribed to Shammai, a first century Jewish leader, would be violated by excavations.

The rabbi, over 70, led a group of his followers to the Galilean site to demonstrate against the alleged sacrilege.

An agreement assuring protection of the burial caves was reached between the rabbi and Prof. Robert Bull of the Albright Institute, co-leader of the "dig" with Dr. Eric Meiers of Duke University.

The "dig" is located at Khirbet Shama near Meron in upper Galilee, and has been identified by some scholars as Tekoa (of Galilee, as distinct from Judean Tekoa, the town of the prophet Amos, near Bethlehem). It was mentioned in the Talmud as an important center of learning and olive production.

Courier-Journal

that while Father Berrigan was neither a chaplain nor a professor at Cornell and "his public conduct often irritated the Cornell Establishment and Catholic community"; his "gentle personality and dedication to pacifism" made him a leader for draft resisters and war protesters.

For Father Berrigan, imprisonment is what he expected. It may be even what he hoped would be the result of his campaign to reawaken consciences to what he believes to be the growing dangers to humanity presented by American society.

"Our lifetime," he wrote in the Aug. 7 issue of *Commonweal*, a Catholic weekly, sees the conflict joined.

"We must expect bloodshed, agony, prison, exile, psychic and physical injury, separation, the rupture of relationships, the underground; these are the symptoms and circumstances that precede a new age, a new mankind."



Interlude

His automatic weapon propped beside him, an Israeli soldier sits on a sandbag bunker and reads a magazine without being disturbed by Egyptian shelling, at Ismailia on the Suez Canal. The rare quiet along the canal came on the first day of the Middle East cease-fire. (RNS)

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