

Spacemen to Get K of C Awards

Doylestown, Pa. — (RNS) — Astronaut John L. Swigert Jr. will represent eight Catholic spacemen who will be honored Oct. 4 by the Knights of Columbus at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

The command pilot of the aborted Apollo 13 moon mission was the choice of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to accept the awards at the annual "Knights Day." The other astronauts are Capt. Richard Gordon Jr., USN; Col. James A. McDivitt, USAF; Capt. Eugene A. Cernan, OSN; Cmdr. Joseph P. Kerwin, USN; Maj. Stuart A. Rossa, USAF; and William B. Lenoir.

Knights Day will include a special procession, 11 a.m. Mass, and the 2 p.m. awards presentation. The shrine was dedicated in 1966 by John Cardinal Krol of Philadelphia as a "monument to Christianity on the free soil of America . . . for the use of all peoples . . ."

AMA Body Scores Abortion Mills

Chicago — (NC) — Letters that begin "Dear Doctor" but turn into commercial advertisements about availability of abortion facilities were condemned here "in the strongest terms possible" by a council of the American Medical Association (AMA).

The AMA's judicial council issued a statement against "commercialism and hucksterism in this sensitive area," and spoke of "a flurry of protests against advertisements to physicians announcing the availability of abortion facilities."

"The ethical principle remains," the council said, "no physician may solicit patients. A physician may not do indirectly that which he may not do directly. He may not permit others to solicit patients for him . . . the establishment of abortion mills must not be permitted."

Chavez Seeks Lettuce Boycott

Salinas, Calif. — (NC) — Cesar Chavez, head of the United Farm Workers' Organizing Committee (UFWOC), called here for a national boycott of non-union lettuce. He said he planned to organize laborers on lettuce farms "from here to Texas."

Inter Harvest, this area's largest lettuce grower, has already signed with Chavez and other major growers are negotiating with the farm workers' committee.

Church-State Scholar Dies

Watertown, Mass.—(RNS)—Dr. James M. O'Neill, educator, author and lecturer, known for his study of church-state relations, died here Sept. 20 at the age of 88.

He wrote Catholicism and American Freedom, in reply to Paul Blanshard's book, American Freedom and Catholic Power.

A native of Victor, N.Y., Dr. O'Neill joined the faculty at Brooklyn College in 1935 and when he retired in 1952 was head of the speech department. He had taught at the universities of Michigan and Wisconsin, Dartmouth College, his alma mater, and the Hotchkiss School.

Bishops Promote Layman

Washington — (NC) — Dr. Edward R. D'Alessio, coordinator of governmental programs since 1967 for the U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC) Elementary and Secondary Education Division, will become the first lay director of the division on Oct. 1.

testimony on Catholic education for congressional education hearings.

D'Alessio, 38, earned a Ph.D. degree at Fordham University, where he later lectured in education. He was also a public school teacher and served as associate professor of education and assistant dean in the school of education at Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J.

As coordinator of governmental programs for USCC's education division, he served as a liaison between the Catholic school system and federal education offices. He was a trouble-shooter for diocesan offices of education, helping them get a share of federal and state aid, and he prepared

EPISCOPAL BISHOP
Springfield, Mass. — (RNS) — Bishop Alexander D. Stewart of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts was consecrated here in ceremonies attended by some 3,100 persons, including leaders of other religious bodies.

OFF-TRACK BETTING
Schenectady — (RNS) — Schenectady's City Council has voted to permit off-track betting to help increase local tax revenues under the state law passed by the 1970 Legislature. The Schenectady Council of Churches, which opposes off-track betting, announced it will consider efforts to force the issue to a referendum.

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