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2 Sections

Pontiff Continues Tour Despite Attempt on Life



From Welcome...



...to Violence

Pope Paul VI is greeted by Rufino Cardinal Santos, Archbishop of Manila, (above), and Mrs. Imelda Marcos, wife of the Philippine president, as the Pope arrived at Manila airport. Moments later, a man dressed as a priest and identified as Benjamin Mendoza y Amor, attacked His Holiness with a knife, (below), but was subdued by Msgr. Pasquale Macchi, the Pope's secretary. The pontiff escaped the incident without injuries. (RNS Photos)

From Courier-Journal Sources

Manila — Despite an attempt on his life on Friday, Pope Paul VI calmly continued his three-day visit here highlighted by a Saturday evening Mass attended by the largest crowd ever assembled in this capital city.

Conservative estimates put the crowd for the Mass in Luneta Park at a million but other guesses put the huge throng at a possible 3 million.

Pope Paul offered the Mass in English together with the presidents of the 15 regional conferences that were participating in the Asian bishops meeting. Some of the readings were in Tagalog, the national language of the Philippines.

The Mass provided the liturgical highlight of the Pope's visit to these islands, and it was featured by the ordination of 200 priests from countries throughout Asia.

The pontiff, in an apparent allusion to the celibacy question, admonished the new priests, "Never forget your priestly identity . . . If ever someday you feel lonely, if ever someday you feel that you are tempted to abandon the sacred commitment of your priesthood, remember your special relationship with Jesus.

Earlier Saturday, the Pope used the powerful transmitter of Radio Veritas (Truth), a Catholic station here, to beam a plea for peace to Communist China and Indochina.

The Holy Father promised an "unflagging search" for peace over the station, second in power in Asia only to Radio Peking.

"We have not ceased — nor

shall we cease—urgent appeals both in public and in our meetings with leaders, that an unflagging search be carried out with wise and persistent goodwill, for the means to suspend hostilities and to reach a just and honorable peace," the Pope said.

At a meeting attended by the pontiff, the 209 bishops attending the pan-Asian conference condemned Friday's attack on the Holy Father.

Among other resolutions debated by the bishops was one that stated the Church should "be more truly the Church of the poor" and advised Church leaders to avoid "entanglements with the rich and powerful."

The Pope listened to the debate and then after a coffee break addressed the bishops remarking that "none better than an Asian can speak to an Asian" apparently intending criticism for the Church's past practice of linking missionary efforts in the world's largest continent with attempts to inculcate Western custom.

Before that the pontiff, undaunted by the assassination attempt, rode in motorcade past hundreds of thousands of wildly cheering Filipinos and told students at Santo Tomas University to strike a balance between "giving" and "criticism." As the Pope spoke at the university, leaflets were distributed calling for Church action to support the oppressed and exploited. The handbills also identified Catholic leaders in the islands with the "rich and powerful."

Meanwhile, the would-be assassin, Bolivian Benjamin Mendoza y Amor Flores Saturday.

(Continued on Page 2A)

Sale of Stadium OK'd By Aquinas Trustees

Aquinas Institute Board of Trustees has agreed to sell Aquinas Stadium to the Housing Development Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, for \$800,000.

Trustees decided four years ago that sale of the stadium would be necessary to make needed renovations in the school.

Through a mortgage on the existing school and a loan from banks with the stadium as collateral, Phase I of the renovations began in June of 1969. More than \$500,000 has been borrowed and the school has had to pay daily interest pending sale of the stadium.

High interest costs on the loan motivated the trustees' decision. They also noted that it has been several months since they announced their need for funds, and that they sincerely regretted that efforts by an SOS (Save Our Stadium) committee had not been able to date to generate sufficient and definite interest in assuring funds, either public or private, to take over the stadium and maintain it as a community project.

The stadium was erected in 1949 following a fund-raising campaign throughout the community.

ON THE INSIDE

Features	Columnists
Editorial 18-19A	Considine 16A
Music Bag 1B	Costa 2B
Local 11A	Cuddy 16A
Keeping Tabs 13A	Greeley 16A
Letters 18A	Kennedy 4B
Entertainment 2B	Shamon 18A
Sports 7A	Doser 7A

Revolution In Teaching

Cecelia Viggo and Arthur P. Farren explore the revolution taking place in teaching. Their report on the latest audio-visual technology and methods used to help children learn is in the centerfold.