



Stamp Marks Papal Visit

In honor of Pope Paul's visit to Manila, Nov. 27-30, the Philippine Islands issued this stamp. It shows the pontiff with outstretched arms over the background of an Asian map. (RNS)

Asian Trip Continues

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day told a press conference that if he had the chance he would try again to slay the pontiff.

Mendoza, an old-looking 35, lunged at the Holy Father with a 12-inch knife upon the pontiff's arrival at Manila airport early Friday.

He was charged with attempted murder, illegal possession of a deadly weapon and causing a public scandal. Bail of 25,000 pesos was set.

Jolly R. Bugarin, director of the National Bureau of Investigation, said that even if Mendoza were able to raise the bail he would not free him, even risking a contempt citation.

The Pope had forgiven Mendoza as soon as he realized the attempt had been made.

Mendoza told a news conference that he wanted to kill Pope Paul because he represented religion, which Mendoza said is the same as superstition.

He denied being part of any conspiracy, saying he acted on

Youths, Paper Protest Gromyko Visit to Pope

Vatican City — (RNS) — In two separate actions, a Rome daily newspaper and a group of neo-Fascist youths attacked Pope Paul for having welcomed Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei A. Gromyko, to the Vatican on Nov. 12.

The paper, Il Tempo, a journal that frequently reflects conservative Roman Catholic views, contrasted the apparent cordiality shown Gromyko with the coolness, it claimed, that President Nixon had found during his audience with the Pope on Sept. 28. (Both men had 80-minute audiences with the pontiff; there was no previous report of "coolness" involving the Nixon meeting.)

Meanwhile, during the Pope's customary Sunday address to pilgrims in St. Peter's Square, a group of right-wing students, identified in the press as "neo-Fascists," distributed leaflets protesting Gromyko's visit.

The Il Tempo attack came in the form of a front-page editorial by one of Italy's best-known conservative journalists, Enrico Mattei. He charged that after President Nixon's recent audience, the Vatican had indicated that the atmosphere, "because of the Pope's reserve" had been "rather chilly."

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his own and without anyone's knowledge.

The Pope left Manila Sunday on the next leg of his nine-day, 30,000-mile journey — an air hop to western Samoa where he spent a day before leaving Monday for Sydney, Australia, where he will stay until Thursday.

After leaving Sydney, the Pope still has visits to Jakarta, Indonesia, Colombo, Ceylon, and Hong Kong on his itinerary.

At the beginning of his tour, Pope Paul visited Teheran, Iran, and Dacca, Pakistan, where he commiserated with the nation recently victimized by a cyclone and a giant tidal wave which took hundreds of thousands of lives.

Bishops' Meeting... Facts, Reactions

Bishops' Grant Assailed

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Charging the U.S. Catholic bishops with a "very obvious racist reaction," the National Office for Black Catholics (NOBC) said it will not take "one cent" of the \$150,000 offered it by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) here.

The NOBC asked for \$659,000 to keep its fledgling operation within the Church afloat for its first full year to work with the nation's approximately 600,000 black Catholics, who comprise about 13 per cent of the 47 million members in the U.S.

"The arguments of the bishops in rejecting the NOBC are clearly specious, weak and typical of white racist attitudes," said Brother Joseph M. Davis,

NAL 'Distortion' Charged

Baltimore — (RNS) — A Catholic newspaper here questioned the seriousness and credibility of the National Association of Laymen, an independent Catholic organization, in view of its recent study on church finances. The paper charged the survey was distorted.

Observing that the NAL "might have served a useful purpose" in focusing public attention on diocesan financial reports, The Catholic Review, official archdiocesan weekly, asserted editorially that the NAL's comments on the Archdiocese of Baltimore are "so misleading that we are unable to place much confidence in the NAL venture."

Besides pointing to inaccuracies in the NAL report's description of the Baltimore archdiocesan finance committee, the editorial stated that the study seemed unaware that such things as colleges, hospitals and private high schools do not come under archdiocesan control.

The editorial challenged the NAL's apparent contention that buildings and such items as works of art should be listed as assets.

"Works of art produce no income, whether they are on the altar of a church or on the walls of a museum... A church building used for public worship is not an asset in the sense that a grocery store or a bank might be an asset," it added.

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Cardinals Reaching 80 Will Have Reduced Duties

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI has decreed that cardinals reaching 80 will automatically cease to be members of Vatican congregations and commissions and lose the right to vote in papal elections.

Despite the new restrictions, cardinals will remain members of the Sacred College of Cardinals and keep their other rights and prerogatives connected with their office, including the right to take part in general and special congregations which are held before the beginning of a conclave to elect a new Pope.

The new decree will go into effect Jan. 1.

The papal decision was set forth by Pope Paul in a "motu proprio" dated Nov. 21.

The document, entitled "The Growing Weight of Age," recalls an earlier directive that bishops and pastors should submit their resignations at the age of 75, and points out that cardinals, too, should "spontaneously" submit their resignations at that age.

However, considering the importance of the office of cardinal, the decree says, "because of its very singular connection with the supreme responsibility of the pontiff in the service of the whole Church, and also the high responsibility of cardinals for the universal Church during vacancies of the Holy See," it is up to the Pope to decide whether to accept such resignations immediately.

But when a cardinal reaches 80, he can no longer hold Vatican appointments or vote for

a Pope. He is automatically retired from such offices and may not take part in a papal election.

Exceptions are made for a camerlengo or chamberlain of the Holy Roman Church and a chief penitentiary, in the hypothesis that their 80th birthday should come shortly before or during a conclave to elect a new Pope.

The cardinal chamberlain becomes the Church's interim head during the transitional administration from the death of a Pope to the election of a successor. Sixty-five-year-old Jean Cardinal Villot, secretary of state, was recently sworn in as chamberlain.

The chief of penitentiary is a cardinal who generally exercises complete jurisdiction of a special Roman tribunal called the Sacred Apostolic Penitentiary, dealing with questions of conscience, dispensations, and the like. The incumbent is Giuseppe Cardinal Ferretto, 71.

The decree also makes temporary allowances for the present members of the College of Cardinals who are, or will be, 80 years old when the decree takes effect on Jan. 1. If they wish, they may still continue to take part in and vote at meetings of the Vatican congregations of which they are members.

One American is among the three cardinals out of a total of 127, who will lose the right to elect a Pope. He is James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, 84, whose resignation as Archbishop of Los Angeles was accepted last Jan. 21.



Pope announces new rules on retirement of cardinals. (RNS)

Urban Affairs Cutback

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) The U.S. Catholic bishops approved a substantially reduced budget of some \$10.2 million which included the "phase-out" of the three-year-old U.S. Bishops Task Force on Urban Affairs.

The urban task force, headed by Msgr. Geno Garoni of Washington and devoted to "sensitizing" Catholic dioceses to the problems of the urban ethnic minorities, will ostensibly di-

vide its remaining tasks among other Catholic agencies.

The task force, with a budget of \$120,000 will cease to exist in June, 1971, mainly for budgetary reasons.

The new budget, a 9 per cent reduction from the current budget of \$11.1 million which is accompanied by \$2 million deficit, was voted on the final day of the bishops' meeting.

Press Coverage Out

Washington, D.C. — In what was called a "dramatic reversal" of a trend toward more open sessions at the meetings of the NCCB and the U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC) the bishops voted 151 to 48 to reject a move to open some meetings to the press.

John Cardinal Dearden of Detroit, president of the NCCB and USCC, said he was "puz-

zled and surprised" by the lopsided vote that defeated a recommendation for greater press coverage of the semiannual conference of bishops.

In San Francisco last Spring, the bishops voted to establish an ad hoc committee on press coverage which in turn recommended that accredited newsmen be allowed to attend all USCC sessions not considered executive sessions.

Jewish Population Is 13.8 Million

New York — (RNS) — The world's Jewish population in 1969 was approximately 13,875,000 according to the American Jewish Year Book.

Of the total, 5,870,000 lived in the U.S. Next in population totals were the Soviet Union, 2,620,000; Israel, with 2,497,000; France with 535,000 and Argentina with 500,000.

Among them, the U.S., the Soviet Union and Israel have 79 per cent of the world's Jews. About 40 per cent of those in the U.S. live in the Greater New York City area.

The Department of Communications of the USCC had agreed with the recommendation for press coverage, noting that such openness to the press would curtail "distortions" and enhance the credibility of the bishops.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Vol. 84 No. 10 December 2, 1970

Published Weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Single copy 15c; 1 year Subscription in U.S., \$6.00; Canada and South America, \$8.50; other foreign countries, \$9.50. Main Office, 35 Scio Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Second class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.

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