



## Prayers at Issue

Netcong, N.J. — (RNS) — Jacqueline Risk, right, and other classmates leave the Netcong High School. Miss Risk believes the students in her school want prayers brought back and her community is planning to bring the issue before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In a recent decision, the New Jersey Supreme Court upheld a state Board of Education rul-

ing banning the controversial voluntary prayer program in the high school. The court, in declaring that the daily reading of prayers is unconstitutional, said it saw no difference between the Netcong program and the programs which brought about the 1963 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court which declared school prayer to be in violation of the First Amendment.

## COURIER / NATION

### Carmelites Plan Housing Co-op

Chicago — (RNS) — Carmelite priests at Mt. Carmel High School here plan to renovate five apartment buildings near the school to house black families. Federal Housing Authority financing will be sought for the project.

The renovated buildings will eventually be owned by a cooperative organized by the Black Center for Strategy and Rehabilitation, a 60-family tenant group. The Carmelites bought the property in the 1950s to provide additional space for the school. Some buildings were cleared in 1958, but high operating costs ruled out further expansion.

### Lutheran Leader to Visit Vietnam

New York — (RNS) — Dr. Robert Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America, will visit Lutheran chaplains in South Vietnam Jan. 24 to 30.

According to a denominational announcement, Dr. Marshall's visit one of four by clergymen approved recently by the Department of Defense's Armed Forces Chaplains Board.

Dr. Marshall will arrive in Saigon from Africa, and will visit Thailand and Hawaii in February.

### Nuns' Coalition Backs Chavez

Chicago — (RNS) — The National Coalition of American Nuns is supporting labor organizer Cesar Chavez in his call for a boycott of lettuce.

According to Sister Margaret Traxler, chairman of the NCAN, the group called upon "Roman Catholic institutions, school and hospital services to boycott lettuce so that justice may come to Cesar Chavez and his United Farmworkers."

The Chavez union — the United Farmworkers Organizing Committee — led a successful boycott on California table grapes, and won collective bargaining rights for workers in the vineyards.

### Boston Plans Cushing Monument

Boston — (RNS) — Mayor Kevin White of Boston has announced plans for a civic monument honoring the late Richard Cardinal Cushing. Auxiliary Bishop Jeremiah F. Minihan of Boston will serve as chairman of a fund-raising drive.

The mayor said the memorial would be located in a section "normally visited by both residents and tourists, so that all that have occasion to come to Boston can share with the people of our city in memorializing Cardinal Cushing's dedication and affection for all mankind."

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Courier-Journal

## Pope Revised China Message, Paper Says

Rome — (RNS) — Il Messaggero, the Rome daily, said here that the Pope had dropped "into the wastebasket" at a late hour his intended "message" to the people of Red China.

The newspaper carried a dispatch from its correspondent, Ruggero Guarini, who had accompanied the Pope on the 30,000-mile trip to the Far East and return.

According to the article, the Pope "toned down" the original address he had planned, one which "would have at least touched on relations between the Church and the people of China."

It cited pressures from the government of Hong Kong, the British crown colony, which had asked him not to mention the "delicate" subject of Red China during his visit.

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