



FR. PAUL J. CUDDY On The Right Side

Our bishops are being baited and berated because they have not condemned the government, despite its surprisingly rapid withdrawal of our troops from Vietnam. I suspect that the bishops believe that abandonment of allies would not bring peace. Peace without justice is no peace at all.

Recently I asked a group of young men, 17 to 24, "Do you know what happened at My Lai?" All did. "Do you remember what happened at Hue?" Not one remembered either the name, Hue, or the carnage. One thought it was related to WW II. The power of communications! My Lai is vivid and livid. Hue is as if it never were!

Correspondent Kenneth Crawford wrote at the death of Ho Chi Min: "He was so frail, so benign looking, he was Uncle Ho to friends and many enemies. His objective was nationalistic. His method was communistic."

"At the time of his takeover in the North, after the battle of Dienbienphu, Ho executed 50,000 fellow countrymen suspected of lack of sympathy with his regime. There is no evidence the North Vietnamese and their VC guerrillas have mended their ways.

"During the TET offensive in 1968, Hue was occupied by the invaders from the north for about a month. Some 3,500 persons were executed or killed. Almost 1,200 bodies were found in mass graves around the city. Some had been buried alive; others shot in the back of the neck; almost all were bound. School teachers, other professionals and local functionaries, many of them either neutral or fairly sympathetic to Hanoi, were favorite victims of methodically sadistic executioners."

Crawford continued: "Nine representatives of the Citizens for Peace and Freedom in Vietnam which was organized by Sen. Paul Douglas, Eisenhower and Truman, among others, recently investigated the Hue horror along with other recent developments in the war. As a result, the committee is urging President Nixon to reduce American forces in Vietnam gradually, gearing his schedule to the demonstrated ability of the South Vietnamese to prevent future Hues." (Newsweek; Sept. 15, 1969)

Will any one doubt that our bishops are anxious for a genuine peace? The bishops seem to have longer memories than those who want peace at any price: which is no peace at all.

A curious phenomenon. Many who are so vocal about death and destruction in Vietnam are silent about or enthusiastic for abortion. The papers report over 42,000 American soldiers killed in seven years of Vietnam, which is a great sorrow. May 17 Rochester D & C records: "Physicians in New York (State) performed 88,000 abortions in period between July 1 and Dec 31 . . . The abortion rate for the six-month period works out to 478 a day." The day after the Abortion Bill was passed the wife of a doctor in Albany wrote me a flaming letter: "I was picketing against the Abortion Bill in front of the Legislature building. There were no priests or nuns in our picket line. But there were two priests in the other line picketing for the abortion law!"

To all of which may I comment: For our beleaguered bishops, that their honesty, courage and wisdom may not be totally denied, let us pray to the Lord."

CYO To Start Swim Classes

The CYO is accepting registrations for its Tiny Tot and Learn to Swim Program.

The Tiny Tot Program is for boys and girls 5-years and under, and the Learn To Swim for boys and girls 6-14.

Classes begin Monday, June 28 and run nine weeks. All classes are conducted by qualified Red Cross Water Safety Instructors. For further information and registration, call CYO (716) 454-2030.

Cervi Camp Winners Listed

Two Rochester Catholic high school students were among six area athletes winning scholarships to the Al Cervi Basketball Camp this month. Winning a week in August at the camp are Gary Urbonas, a freshman at Cardinal Mooney, and Tom Murrer, an Aquinas junior.

Winners among the 288 applicants were picked on the basis of their essay on why they would like to attend the camp. The scholarships, sponsored by the Rochester Coca-Cola Bottling Corp. in memory of the late Robert Anderson, were open to all high school students in Monroe county.

Other winners of the expense paid week of basketball instruction are David Williams, Mitchell Jones, Brad Ewart, and Paul Nunnari. Each boy also received a trophy and jacket at the awards luncheon at the Rochester Club.

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Country Auction

Mrs. Michael McCollum (left) and Mrs. Edward Mooney display some of the antique dishes to go on sale at the 18th annual Country Auction sponsored by St. Pius X Church, Monday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the old church site, 295 Chestnut Ridge Rd. The auctioneers will be George Roller, William Kent, Burton Davis and Thomas Fritsch.



REVEREND MONSIGNOR EDWARD T. O'MEARA
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Taking a Chance with a Lifetime

"A missionary is someone who's taken a chance with a lifetime." That's the way a veteran African missionary recently described the people whom you so lovingly support.

It's telling like it is, too. Why? Because often where the Church is poorest, the personnel of the Church really don't know if their efforts will be appreciated, whether their basic needs for food and shelter and supplies will be provided, exactly what kind of work they will do, what will happen to them in sickness and old age.

Missioners traditionally come from Europe and America to the needy areas of the world, but now they are happily joined by an increasing number of local priests, sisters, brothers, and members of the laity. And all of them are taking the same chance with their lives, the chance of giving everything away and — in the same human sense — getting nothing in return.

Why do such a thing? It's hard to say it in a few words, but let me try. It's partly because some men and women are called by God to give just this kind of an answer to Him, and they answer "yes." It's partly because missioners are so concerned about the condition of the world, and the needs of its people that faith in Christ makes them want to be the servants of the poor, the sick, the oppressed and the unlettered. It's partly because missioners are so convinced of the whole of Christ's Gospel message that they want to give it to nonbelievers out of love for them and for Christ.

Missioners can be teachers or social workers or doctors and nurses, or community developers, but they are always something more. For they serve in the name of Christ and Church; they are motivated by the fire of their own Christ-centered lives, and they see Christ in their fellow-men. All of this simply makes them different people!

There are no people in the world like the apostles of Christ, there are no people of whom the world stands in greater need than these twentieth century peace makers, who have taken this total risk with their lives, for Christ, for His Church, for His people, for you!

Missionaries are worth having, and worth supporting. Please help! Your sacrifice, be it gifts of old gold, jewelry, a gift annuity, life insurance, a remembrance in your Will, or your cash or check enclosed with the coupon below, is so valuable for the life of the mission-Church and so expressive of your love. Please send a contribution today.

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