

'We Have Faith in United Nations'

Vatican City — (RNS)—Pope Paul VI, reaffirming his "faith" in the United Nations, assured U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim of his readiness to give the organization his "complete moral support."

The new secretary general was received in audience here, Feb. 5, after presiding over a Security Council meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Referring to his visit to U.N. headquarters in New York City in 1965, the Pope said: "We wish to repeat today in your presence what we made clear by our visit to the United Nations, namely, that we have faith in the United Nations. We have confidence in the potential it has to extend the dominion of peace and the kingdom of law in our tormented world."

"We are ready to give this organization our complete moral support."

"The cause of peace and law is sacred," the pontiff went on. "The obstacles which this cause meets must not discourage those who are dedicated to it. These obstacles can and must be overcome."

Noting that "whatever seems out of proportion to merely human forces becomes possible through God's help," the Pope said: "We invoke this help for you, Mr. Secretary General,

with all our heart, and implore God to bless your beautiful and difficult task. We assure you of our blessing, our encouragement and our continued prayers."

Following the papal audience, Waldheim met with Cardinal Jean Villot, Vatican Secretary of State, and other members of the secretariat. Waldheim, an Austrian Roman Catholic, was named last December to succeed U Thant of Burma as Secretary General.

Pope Paul VI later called on pilgrims for universal "trust and support" of the United Nations.

"We avail ourselves of this customary weekly meeting to propose some intentions for your prayers in union with our prayers," the pontiff said. "The intentions are suggested by a current series of events."

"The first intention," he said, "is for the United Nations, that is, for peace in the world."

Referring to his private meet-

ing with U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim on Feb. 5, the Pope said: "We received the new secretary general of the United Nations and once again we were able to take note of the aims of this organization, the first of which is to educate the world to strive for harmony and collaboration."

"We also noted the well-known difficulties that stand in the way of the attainment of these aims. We noted the pressing needs of this great and fragile (organization), such as the need for everyone's trust and support, so that it may effectively prevent conflicts in the world and promote and defend human rights, peace, and justice."

Pope Paul said that the aims of the U.N. parallel on the temporal level those of the Church on the spiritual level. "These aims," he said, "should in fact converge — though naturally, in full reciprocal independence — towards the common civil and moral good of mankind."



U.N. Head and Pontiff

Recently elected United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim shakes hands with Pope Paul during their meeting at the Vatican. The pontiff, reaffirming his "faith" in the U.N., assured Waldheim of his readiness to give the organization his "complete moral support."

Pope Praises NATO's Peaceful Goals

Vatican City — (RNS)—Pope Paul found himself today in the position of praising an organization that he conceded "in great part relies on military force" to attain its peaceful ends.

The pontiff made the remark in addressing the graduating class of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Defense College here in Rome.

He described the NATO alliances as "a solidarity among nations to consolidate peace and protect civilization."

The Pope then pledged his support to NATO in an effort "to help build a world where dignity will truly be the lot of every man and peace and the possession of all."

He said NATO was an organization that relied on military force because it was being forced to do so by "facing reality." But Paul VI stressed that the alliance should be used to respect the rights of man and to prevent new conflicts.

The pontiff repeatedly cautioned the young graduates dur-

ing an audience in his Vatican headquarters that they had a grave responsibility to the area in which they are stationed and the people living in it.

"Your contribution will be great in defense of true civilization and its authentic human Christian values," the Pope said.

Theologian Would Ban TV Boxing

Notre Dame, Ind. — (RNS) — Father John A. O'Brien, one of the nation's best-known Catholic theologians, suggests U.S. legislation barring televising of boxing matches.

According to Father O'Brien, research professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, more than 400 men have died of injuries received in the ring in this century, and many more have sustained brain damage.

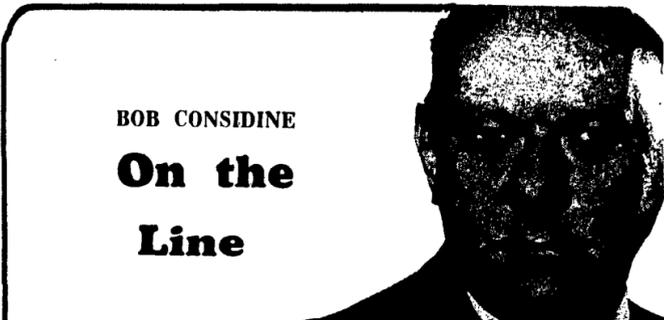
"It is difficult to believe that American people want to have such cruel, barbarous and debasing exhibitions carried into their homes," he said.

Father O'Brien referred to the ABC telecast of the Joe Frazier-Terry Daniels fight in New Orleans Jan. 15, which ended a five-year blackout of championship heavyweight matches on home screens.

Commenting on Mr. Frazier's \$250,000 guarantee from Century Telesports Network, the promoters, Father O'Brien said, "A quarter of a million dollars for less than 12 minutes of work in beating an opponent into virtual insensibility. What a strange scale of values we hold up to our youth."

EAGLE SCOUTS

Father Robert J. Winterkorn, Diocesan Scout Chaplain, will deliver the invocation and Eagle Scout Gary Schreck of Troop 37, at St. John the Evangelist Church, will speak on behalf of the 1971 Eagle Scout recipients, at the annual Eagle Scout Recognition Day Luncheon, Monday, Feb. 21, at the Chamber of Commerce. About 124 Scouts will be honored.



BOB CONSIDINE
On the
Line

Thought for a Sunday, or any other day:

SLOW ME DOWN, LORD!

Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.

Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory.

Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking minute vacations — of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines from a good book.

Remind me each day of the fable of the hare and the tortoise, that I may know that the race is not always to the swift — that there is more to life than increasing its speed.

Let me look upward into the branches of the towering oak

And know that it grew great

and strong because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down, Lord, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values

that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.

Richard Cardinal Cushing

Students of refined invective will mourn the retirement from the Metropolitan Opera of Sir Rudolph Bing. With his retirement seems to have come a mellowing, the enemy the well-honed tongue. The man who punctured a generation of golden voiced hams and hammers with a word or a look, was close to sentimental at a farewell luncheon given to him at the Waldorf by the Metropolitan Opera Guild.

Bing's targets were not confined to artists. Years ago, in the course of negotiations with a tough union leader, Bing said something that enraged the man.

"Are you trying to show your contempt of me?" the union boss thundered.

"Not at all," Bing said glacially. "I'm trying to conceal it."

Pray for End to Violence In Ulster, Pontiff Urges

Vatican City — (RNS) — As thousands of Irish Catholic civil rights demonstrators marched in Newry, Northern Ireland, Pope Paul VI called for prayers that there would be no violence.

Speaking to the throng gathered in St. Peter's Square for his blessing on Sunday, Feb. 6, the date of the march, the Pope asked his audience to unite their prayers with his for peace and justice in Northern Ireland.

He urged the crowd to pray that "every form of violence from any side will be avoided, and that justice and peace will be reached through the way of reason and goodwill."

Meanwhile, following the events of Jan. 30, in Londonderry, when British troops killed 13 civilians during an

illegal civil rights demonstration, Australia's Catholic bishops cabled Cardinal William Conway, Irish Catholic Primate condemning all violence in the British province.

The cable, signed by Archbishop Thomas V. Cahill of Canberra, said:

"We are united in prayer with you and your fellow bishops for Northern Ireland. We pray with you for the cessation of all violence. May the manifest injustices be lifted from your long-suffering people."

"We, with you, protest against the systematic degrading and cruel treatment of prisoners detained without trial."

"May God console all the bereaved in Northern Ireland and bring peace to the whole community."

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