

Christian Soldier's Viewpoint:

We Are Not Warmongers

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — "I reject out of hand any view that we in the military are war mongers," insisted a four-star general who says he has been "baptized in the Holy Spirit."

Gen. Ralph E. Haines Jr., who, as commanding general of the Continental Army Command, leads the largest army command

in the West, went on to make what he called a "simplistic" comparison. "We are no more war mongers than firemen are arsonists or firebugs."

The U.S. military fights wars only when directed to do so by duly elected and constituted civilian authority," said the general, addressing a breakfast

meeting of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International here.

The 58-year-old career officer (41 years' service) said he finds "no inconsistency between my responsibilities as a soldier and my convictions as a Christian. I feel I can serve my God and my country at the same time — in fact, that service in these fields is complementary and mutually reinforcing.

"Over the ages," he continued, "God has been the soldier's constant companion. Like other Christians, we servicemen and women find no problem in combining our faith and our profession and, in so doing, prove our faith and improve our profession. "If we are to be positive witnesses to our faith," he said, "two things are necessary. First, we must be convinced ourselves about the reality of sin, the necessity of repentance, and the indispensability of Jesus Christ as Divine Savior and Lord.

"Those of us who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit are beneficiaries of an infinitely valuable gift," he added, explaining that he received the "baptism in the Holy Spirit" last July at a "full Gospel" meeting at Buffalo, N.Y.

"Today, I'm on fire for the Lord! And I'm witnessing up a storm," he said.

Buffalo Bishop Critically Ill

Montclair, N.J. (RNS) — Roman Catholic Bishop James A. McNulty of Buffalo was listed in critical condition in St. Vincent's Hospital here after suffering a massive stroke.

Bishop McNulty, 72, came here to visit a fatally ill friend, James J. McMahon, when his own illness occurred. The bishop was stricken just prior to Mr. McMahon's death.

Born Jan. 15, 1900, in New York City, the bishop became a resident of Montclair when his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William McNulty, moved here in 1902.

Mixed Marriages To Be Irish Topic

Dublin — (RNS) — Ireland's Roman Catholic bishops agreed here to discuss with the Irish Council of Churches the thorny subject of marriages between Catholics and Protestants.

Cardinal William Conway of Armagh, Ireland's Catholic Primate, made the announcement following a three-day conference of Ireland's Catholic bishops at Maynooth College in County Kildare.

Noting that the invitation for dialogue on mixed marriages was initiated by the Irish Protestant council, the cardinal stressed at a news conference that the whole field of ecumenism, barring no issues, will be covered.

PILGRIMAGE

Port Byron — Forty-one members of St. John's Altar and Rosary Society recently toured the Shrine of the North American Martyrs at Auriesville. Their pastor, Father Robert Kress, was a concelebrant of Mass at the Coliseum.

PARISH FESTIVAL

The annual festival of Most Precious Blood Parish will be held on the church grounds July 28-30.

Wednesday, July 26, 1972

Demetrios I Pledges To Work for Unity

Istanbul — (RNS) — With a pledge to pursue Christian unity, Demetrios I was enthroned here as Ecumenical Patriarch, spiritual leader of the world's 180-million Eastern Orthodox believers.

He succeeded Patriarch Athenagoras who died on July 6, and was led to the 1,600-year-old throne of St. Andrew by Metropolitan Meliton of Chalcedon, whose candidacy for the primacy was vetoed by the Turkish government.

The new Patriarch, 58, was the junior member of the Holy Synod of the Church of Constantinople (the Greek name for Istanbul). His election by his fellow metropolitans was recognized by Turkey, which is an unwelcome host to the "first-among-equals" in the Orthodox hierarchy. Turkey is predominantly Muslim.

In his enthronement address, Patriarch Demetrios pledged to carry on the work of Christian unity in the tradition of Patriarch Athenagoras, who three times met with Pope Paul and, along with the Pope, ended 900-year-old mutual bans of excommunication between Orthodoxy and Roman Catholicism.

The new Patriarch said he

would function in "the spirit of Pan-Orthodox unity." This was regarded as a pledge to continue plans for a Pan-Orthodox Council, initiated by Patriarch Athenagoras.

He also said he would carry out his duties "as a loyal Turkish citizen."

The Turks captured Constantinople from the Greeks in the 15th Century. The Ecumenical Patriarchate thus has lived precariously for centuries. Turkey insists that any Patriarch must be a Turkish citizen, and following the death of Patriarch Athenagoras it exerted a claim to hold veto power over patriarchal candidates.

Both Metropolitan Meliton and Archbishop Iakovos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America, were found unacceptable by the Turks.

While the Ecumenical Patriarch is spiritual leader of Orthodoxy by virtue of his post, he holds administrative jurisdiction only over the small Church of Constantinople and dioceses in the Americas, Western Europe and the Pacific. Most Orthodox patriarchates and national Churches are independent.

'Abortion Mill' Image Has Capital Worried

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — The District of Columbia City Council has adopted new regulations aimed at preventing the nation's capital from continuing to be called an "abortion mill."

Under the new rules, there is a 24-hour waiting period for pregnant women after initial contact with an abortion clinic — this will provide time for counseling and "time to consider" before they go through with an abortion. One councilman said this would end "quickie abortions."

However, girls 18 and older may obtain an abortion without parental consent, and wives are permitted to secure abortions with the consent of their husbands.

Out-patient abortion facilities are prohibited from advertising their services under the new regulations. This is intended to reduce the number of out-of-town women who have been coming here in increasing numbers to obtain abortions.

But the regulations also state:

"This prohibition shall not be deemed to include the use of professional business cards or listing in the yellow or white pages of the telephone book."

Written by a City Council committee headed by a doctor, the regulations are also more stringent on standards for personnel, sanitary, and other related matters connected with abortion clinics. And they provide for the dissemination of contraceptive information and devices to abortion clinic patients.

Each of the clinics here must also have two qualified gynecologists who are affiliated with a local hospital.

The council acted after having become "alarmed" at the increased number of abortion clinics which have moved into the city since a U.S. Supreme Court ruling more than a year ago, in which an abortion conviction involving Dr. Milan M. Vuitch, a Washington-area physician, was overturned, having the effect of legalizing abortions in the District.

Finnish Group Issues Warning on Abortion

Helsinki (RNS) — Finland's Christian Medical Society warned here that the "relaxation" of abortion regulations could lead to the increasing use of abortion as a method of family planning.

A superior alternative to abortion would be the prevention of pregnancy at public expense and improvements in child care facilities, the society said in a statement reported here by The Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Finland's information office.

"The fetus cannot either on the basis of biological or ethical facts be regarded in any phase as part of the maternal body," the statement said. "The fetus is from the time of fertilization a separate being fully capable of development.

"Destruction of the fetus can be likened rather to abandoning a helpless person rather than elimination of a part of the body."

The statement was a rejoinder to a proposal by the Gynecolo-

gists Association and Association of Midwives that abortions be made completely free during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

Under current law, abortion may be performed on social or medical grounds up to the 16th week of pregnancy.

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If you have news about your organization or parish event, please let us know.

CONESUS RECEPTION

Conesus — A reception for Father Roy F. Hagerty, retiring pastor of St. William's Church, will be hosted by the parish Altar Society, Sunday, July 30, 2-4 p.m., at the new church annex.

Private School Aid Law Signed in Pennsylvania

Harrisburg, Pa. — (RNS) — Gov. Milton Shapp has signed into law two measures that will provide assistance to private and parochial schools.

One provides for the lending of textbooks, instructional materials and equipment to non-public school children, with a limit of \$10 per child for books and \$25 per child for materials and equipment. The total estimated cost is \$16.6 million.

The second measure finances various auxiliary services, including remedial reading, counseling, special testing and speech and hearing services, with a limit of \$30 per pupil.

Total cost for this measure is estimated at \$14.2 million.

Msgr. Francis X. Barrett, superintendent of education for the Catholic Diocese of Allentown, praised "the concern of the legislators and the governor evident in this action which makes auxiliary services available to all the children of Pennsylvania and provides a measure of relief to the financially overburdened

parents of non-public school children."

The Allentown diocesan director of information, Msgr. Vincent E. Lewellis, called the passage of the bills "a clear indication of growing consensus and support for the concept of aid to non-public school children."

"It took over five years during the early 1960s," he commented, "for the Pennsylvania Legislature to agree on a bill which provided busing along established routes for non-public school children. Then it again took almost four years before the Legislature, in 1968, passed purchase of service legislation aiding non-public education."

"When the latter law was declared unconstitutional in 1971, however, it took less than two months for Pennsylvania to pass the Parent Reimbursement Act now being tested in the courts," he continued. "And now, two months after their introduction in the House, the 'textbook' and 'auxiliary services' bills are law."

Black Catholics' Office Launches Fund Drive

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — The National Office for Black Catholics opened a nationwide fund-raising campaign here, entitled "Black Catholics Concerned," following a decision by the U.S. Catholic bishops conference not to fund the office this year.

A national collection aimed at all black Catholic parishes in the country is set for Oct. 8.

The drive got under way with a concelebrated Mass at Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Church here with Auxiliary Bishop Harold J. Perry of New Orleans, the nation's only black bishop, the main concelebrant. Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle of Washington presided.

The proceeds of the national

drive, according to NOBC director Brother Joseph M. Davis, S.M., will be used for programs geared to recruiting blacks into religious life and to develop lay leaders among black Catholics.

Bishop Perry said he saw the campaign as a "challenge" to the black community, considering the many parish financial problems and demands made on people's charity throughout the land. There are about 600 black parishes or missions in the U.S.

Brother Davis said campaign leaders will be named in some 26 dioceses which have a black Catholic population of over 2,500 persons. Thus far, about 75 U.S. Catholic bishops have accepted the invitation to be honorary members of the campaign committee.

U.S. Catholic Committee Backs Lettuce Boycott

Washington — The Committee on Social Development of the United States Catholic Conference (USCC) has called for a boycott of all "iceberg" lettuce except that clearly marked with the United Farm Workers' label.

The committee stated that "a fundamental issue of social justice" is involved, because "without strong, honest representation the plight of agricultural workers and their families will remain desperate."

Some growers have signed contracts with the UFW, but after two years of efforts by the workers to win their case, the majority of the industry still re-

fuses to deal with the United Farm Workers.

Emphasizing that their purpose in supporting the boycott is specifically to bring about collective bargaining and a "just settlement" in this dispute, the USCC Committee on Social Development also stated that

In the name of justice, church agencies must speak out on controversial issues such as this one even with the knowledge that they might be misunderstood. Sensitive to the needs and the problems of both sides, these agencies must encourage dialogue by helping to create an atmosphere of charity and justice