

LENT: Pope Asks 'Responsibility' For World Development

New York (RNS) — Pope Paul, focusing his remarks on "sharing" and the "collective responsibility" for the evils afflicting mankind, urged Christians around the world to use the season of Lent to promote through direct action the human dignity of every individual through world development.

In a message issued by the pontiff to the world's bishops' conferences on the Saturday (March 3) preceding Lent, he recalled that the season is a time of "self-denial and penance; but it is also a time of fellowship and solidarity."

Citing the anxieties, sufferings and misery of people today, he said that alms-giving and the "gift of self" should not be isolated acts, but "the expression of brotherly union. Our age is deeply aware of the need to take collective responsibility for the evils that weigh upon mankind."

Stating that Lent provides an occasion for the faithful to "make a united effort," Pope Paul said that "here and now we meet the needy Christ in the people around us, and this meeting cannot leave us indifferent. The appeal of Christ in His members concerns every Christian."

The Pope observed that "many obstacles in many places hinder the promotion of human dignity of every individual" and he noted that several encyclicals have addressed themselves to these problems. "But our purpose today is to encourage commitment and direct action for its solution," he added.

The Pope's message, referring to Lent as the occasion for "organized action" by the Church through material contributions from individuals, said that "providing the means needed for development is an important work, and we hope such efforts will be intensified, in the spirit of genuine sharing."

He observed that considerable amounts of money are needed for various programs and projects around the world. "By preaching these needs during Lent, the Church wishes to underline their religious aspect," he said.

Only the person who "genuinely seeks to help his brothers and sisters, the person who accepts his share of the Cross of Christ" can achieve the real spirit of poverty, the Pope noted.

"If Lent is inspired by the charity of the Gospel and if it leads to practical action, material assistance will be ensured. Above all, Lent will bring about an increase in brotherhood, of justice, of happiness and of love. It will bring us true joy at the Resurrection of the Lord."



Pope Greet's Chief

Vatican City — Paramount Chief Wamp Wan of the Mogei Tribe at Mount Hagen in the western highlands of New Guinea is received in a private audience by Pope Paul VI at the Vatican. The chief was returning to New Guinea from London where he had seen his life story televised nationally by the British Broadcasting Company.

at Mogei in March 1934, eleven months after the Mogei tribe was discovered by the Leahy brothers of Australia, today contains the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Mount Hagen.

Although nearly all his tribe is Catholic, Chief Wamp is not but he regularly attends Sunday Mass, knows the teachings of Christianity and credits the Christian message with persuading him to discontinue killing warriors from other tribes. (RNS)

Land sold by Chief Wamp to Father William Ross, SVD, the pioneer Divine Word missionary from Orange, N.J., who arrived

BOB CONSIDINE

On the Line



One does not have to look very far for a parallel to the shocking shoot-down of a Libyan airliner by the crack Israeli Air Force. The B-52 bombings of North and South Vietnam in December represented an over-reaction that accounted for the deaths of many times the number of innocents as were killed when that wayward commercial jet was riddled after its pilot either refused or misunderstood the Israeli command to land his crew and passengers.

The U.S. was vociferously condemned for the December raids, but we have been largely forgiven by friends and foes who joined in the condemnation. Our escutcheon has come back from the cleaners, more or less shining. Those who protested the raids tend now to recall all the good the U.S. has done for them in years past. It will be justified in time, if not just now, as an atrocious act that stopped a more atrocious war. The cataclysmic atomic bombs on the peoples of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were given similar absolution because Japan sued for peace shortly after the incinerations.

But Israel is not likely to be granted the same gift of understanding in this country or abroad, in the wake of the downing of that Boeing 727. The immediate reaction at a luncheon of aviation people when the word spread through the Wings Club was summed up this way by one executive: "This will lose the Israelis sympathy for years to come. It's the worst piece of public relations on record, when you consider that Golda Meir is about to visit the President and that it was a case of one of the world's toughest little air forces jumping an unarmed plane filled with commercial passengers."

The difference between what the U.S. Air Force did in the past and what the Israeli Air Force did the other day is a question of size and power. The world cannot afford to "take it out" on the U.S., any more

Quits NFPC

Melrose, Minn. (RNS) — The Priests' Senate of the Roman Catholic Diocese of St. Cloud decided here to disaffiliate from the National Federation of Priests' Councils (NFPC). The vote was 8 to 7.

Supporters of the action argued that the federation has been weakened by the absence of priests' organizations from the larger dioceses.

The St. Cloud senate urged support of a resolution in Congress sponsored by Rep. John Zwach (R-Minn.) which proposes an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would nullify the effect of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on abortion.

Courier-Journal

than it chose to regard the Soviets with prolonged animosity for the brutal putdowns of uprisings in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Israel is small, surrounded, must fight for its existence in one way or another, day and night, and there's enough anti-Semitism left in the world to keep this ire and fire burning for months or years longer than if the act had been committed by a major power.

The historian of a thousand years hence may say that a most significant event in the decline and fall of the mighty United States of America was the demolition derby staged in the Los Angeles Coliseum Sunday, Feb. 18, 1973. Nearly 25,000 customers paid to see a bunch of helmeted drivers wreck several dozen new and almost new cars, including a Rolls Royce Silver Shadow, a Lincoln Continental Mark IV and a 1973 Cadillac Eldorado — driven by the famed Parnelli Jones.

First prize in the car-wrecking contest at Los Angeles, \$7,000, was won by one Ken McCain. His Ford LTD dealt a mortal blow to one Tom Zumwald's nice new Mercury stationwagon. They were the only two cars left running on a field of heaped wreckage. The helmeted gladiators tried to tip each other over as they bumped around the expensive junkyard in the infield. Neither could do it. So they backed off and put on a head-on collision. The Mercury made a seething noise, like a wounded rhino, and died.

It gladdened the crowd almost as much as the earlier sight of Bobby Unser's Rolls Royce, impaled on a bale of hay, being rammed from all sides by less prestigious cars, like a herd of jackals killing a noble lion.

The New York Times saw fit to cover this event and preserve it on microfilm — perhaps for the benefit of that still-to-be born historian. Its reporter cupped an ear to some pertinent comments from the assembled sadists. One man said:

"I figure it's a little like the last of the Roman Empire," as he bought an \$8 ticket for himself and a \$4 ticket for his dear little wreck-minded son. And he added, "I wanted to be here to watch the Last of the American empire."

WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters city unit will meet at 7:45 p.m. March 14 at the home of Jo Taylor, 933 Meigs, for a discussion on education in Monroe County. Interested women are invited to attend and may obtain information about the city unit by calling 442-0586.

SHARE SOME LOVE WITH HIM THIS LENT... PLEASE!

SHARE SOME LOVE WITH HIM THIS LENT... PLEASE!

SHARE

In a spirit of love for the poor and needy of the missions and for the love of Christ and His Church, I enclose a special Lenten sacrifice of \$ _____ to share in love and service of today's dedicated missionaries. CJ 3/7

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

REMEMBER THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH IN YOUR WILL

Salvation and Service are the work of

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Send your gift to:

Rev. Msgr. Edward T. O'Meara
National Director
Dept. C, 366 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10001

OR

Rev. Joseph F. Reinhart
Diocesan Director
123 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14604

Wednesday, March 7, 1973

Page 20