

Pope Condemns 'Balance of Terror'

Vatican City [RNS] — Scoring the geo-political theory of a "balance of terror," Pope Paul expressed his growing concern over global developments, which, he said, had reached a "pre-war" stage.

Referring specifically to the Middle East, Vietnam, and Cambodia as posing threats of all-out conflict involving "the great powers," the pontiff declared that "the voice of reason must prevail over the voices of those who want war."

The Pope was addressing members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See at a special audience on Jan. 11. The Vatican maintains diplomatic relations with some 80 countries.

After exchanging New Year's greetings with the diplomats, Pope Paul said he felt a "growing preoccupation" with the "developments of the world situation."

"To us," he said, "and to not a few others, (this situation) appears to be gradually deteriorating to the extent that it causes some to speak of a transition, already begun, from a post-war to a pre-war phase."

Suggesting that this phase could lead to the outbreak of a new world war, the Pope stressed the horrors of war, especially of nuclear warfare, and underlined his opposition to the "balance of terror" theory on which "present policies appear to be based."

"As you know," he told the diplomats, "the Holy See has never shown itself enthusiastic about the balance of terror formula as a means of safeguarding peace."

"Although the maintenance of such a balance might have certain short-term advantages, it is far too costly in terms of weapon production and the arms race to be a valid long-term formula."

"It is too fragile a shield against the onslaught of temptations to predominance and oppression which are at the root of so many situations of tension and conflict. This fragility is unfortunately confirmed by the present situation."

Pope Paul then appealed for the rule of reason and wise diplomacy as rational alternatives to nuclear threats and blackmail.

"The voice of reason," he insisted, "must prevail over the voices of those who want war, and that is where diplomacy comes in. Diplomacy must work for peace. Yes, the world needs today perhaps more than in past years the courageous and persevering action of wise diplomacy oriented towards the safeguarding of peace in all its dimensions, in all its causes, in all the conditions that render it possible and secure."

Pope Paul said the Church had an important role to play in fostering the rule of reason in affairs of state and international concerns. This role, he said, has particular significance in the field of human rights.

"These rights have already been accepted and professed by states and by their supranational organizations, and it is for the respect and evermore complete promotion of these rights that the Church offers the collaboration which is called for by fidelity to

her teaching and which is rendered more valuable by the universality of her presence and her actions," the Pope said, and added:

"This causes us as it must to call for timely and effective action for peace, especially in those parts of the world where the situation appears capable of spreading the danger of conflict to even wider areas, even to the point of involving the great powers themselves and the groups allied to them."

The pontiff said he was thinking specifically of the Middle East "about which we

have had to speak so often and about which we must speak again, in view of the new and more threatening complications caused by the so-called war of energy sources."

"We repeat that political wisdom and foresight and the spirit of justice and equity and respect for the norms and the rights of all peoples in the area must be the basis of solutions there."

The Pope went on to refer to "other places where peace does not reign and where people continue to suffer the horrors of war, poverty, hunger, and

misery," but which "public opinion often ignores in its preoccupation with other concerns."

"We are thinking," he explained, "of the regions of Vietnam, so long the center of the world's attention, and of Cambodia — places where the menacing rekindling of the smoldering fires of hostility and guerrilla warfare tend to endanger an equilibrium that has remained unstable, even where agreements have committed all parties concerned to a gradual normalization of peaceful relations."

Pope Urges Dialogue For Christians, Jews

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul, at a special audience with a group that included representatives of the world Jewish community, appealed for a "true dialogue" between Jews and Christians that will really "help us to know one another better."

"We also hope that such dialogue will lead us all to know better the Almighty and Eternal One and to follow more faithfully the way that has been traced out for us by Him who — in the words of the Hebrew prophet Hosea — is in our midst as the Holy One who takes no pleasure in destroying," the Pope said.

The pontiff was addressing members of an international liaison committee representing the Catholic Church and world Jewry. The committee, formed in

1970, held its fourth plenary meeting in Rome Jan. 7-9.

Jewish members of the liaison committee were named by the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC). Catholic members were named by Pope Paul according to proposals made by Cardinal Jan Willibrands, president of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity.

These Catholic representatives are members of the newly-created Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with Judaism, which grew out of proposals of the international liaison committee. Cardinal Willibrands is president of this commission.

The IJCIC represent the World Jewish Congress, the Synagogue Council of America, the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Israel Interfaith Committee.

The international liaison committee has met in Paris (1971), Marseilles (1972), and Antwerp (1973).

In his address to the liaison committee members, Pope Paul referred to recent Vatican

Guidelines and Suggestions on Catholic-Jewish relations.

The declaration denounced anti-Semitism as un-Christian and rejected the concept that Jews as a people were responsible for the death of Jesus.

"This document," said the Pope, "evokes the difficulties and confrontations, and all the regrettable factors involved, which have marred relations between Christians and Jews over the past 2,000 years."

"But," Pope Paul went on, "one should not forget that there have also been, over the centuries, examples of good and worthy relations between Jews and Christians."

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At Home With The Movies

CHARLEY [1968]
Sunday, Jan. 26

Cliff Robertson plays the title role as a mentally retarded man, and is quite convincing in a dramatic part that undergoes the startling changes demanded by the plot.

The rest of the cast is equally good especially Claire Bloom and Lilia Skala. Ralph Nelson directed the Stirling Silliphant script adaptation with obvious care, although his use of split screen devices seems pointless and unnecessary.

It is an above average film with an intriguing plot which will please many including those who might profess publicly that they really don't care for "sentimental pictures."

A-III

THE BOSTON STRANGLER [1968]
Monday, Jan. 27

Rather seamy, occasionally distasteful and generally unpleasant quasi-documentary based on the "fictionalized" book by Gerold Frank. The subject is

Albert DeSalvo, the self-confessed "Strangler," who terrorized Boston for a number of months in the late Sixties, mainly by strangling 13 of its female inhabitants.

The film unfolds as a gritty terror-mystery as the strangler (Tony Curtis) stalks victims one after another (thankfully, they are shown in aftermath) and the police, headed by detective George Kennedy and Massachusetts Attorney General Henry Fonda, concentrate on the investigation. The film is taut and realistic — and gruesome enough to make grown men wince and women faint dead away.

B
PLAY MISTY FOR ME [1971]
Monday, Jan. 27

Gore and more gore are the emphases as Clint Eastwood and Jessica Walter star in an Eastwood-directed suspense tracing a slick California disk jockey's near tragic-involvement with a severely disturbed woman who's a fan of his.

The title comes from the woman's nightly telephoned request for "her" special song — but when the DJ and the girl meet, she displays unexpected and very dangerous fits of jealousy.

The film is gripping, but it drips with violence. Eastwood, is less wooden than usual though still lethargic, and it is Ms. Walter who adds the spark of manic menace.

A-IV

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
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She continues to let her guests steal the limelight. And the mixture of talk and entertainment seems to be in the same proportion.

In the past two weeks I've seen portions of three shows (competition is the blockbuster "Flintstones" and "Sesame Street" — at least at our house.)


Dinah is not particularly adept at interviewing. And her voice could be described as rusty at best. But there is no talk-variety show host with fewer pretensions or a more quiet charm, not even Mr. Modest himself, Mike Douglas.

The guests I've seen have comprised a motley crew: A raucous Kaye Ballard, a monotonous Henny Youngman, and Ronny Schell striving for a wild man image, have been among them.

Guess then the main reason I've watched thus far is the lady herself. Any woman over thirty has to take heart watching this slim, graceful and still very attractive 55-year-old woman.

Watched President Ford at last week's press Conference unveil his new image which obviously includes a lot of gesticulation. I think it would be kind of his TV adviser to tell him to sit on his hands the next time.

AS I SEE IT



Pat Costa

The main difference between the old Dinah Shore Show (seen at 10 a.m. over Channel 8) and the new Dinah Shore Show (screened at 4 p.m. also over Channel 8) subjectively speaking is that I can sit down in the afternoon and stare at the boob tube with a lot fewer compunctions than I could justify at the early morning hour.

Other than lack of guilt feelings for wasting time, the other difference in the programs that I note is the length. The morning show ran 30 minutes. The version we get here is 60 minutes although I believe it runs 90 minutes elsewhere. The extra time makes for gabbiest guests.

Dinah has a new backdrop also and there may be fewer woman-oriented segments but basically it's the same format. The lady has kept her soft, low-key approach.



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