



[From Courier-Journal Services]

World peace is being preserved largely by a balance of terror, declared Cardinal John Heenan, Archbishop of Westminster, to Roman Catholics in London. "Nations refrain from attacking each other from fear of retaliation," he said in a pastoral letter observing Britain's "Peace Sunday." He noted "Justice and peace go together. Almost all conflicts arise when people believe that they cannot obtain justice without the use of violence." The issue of peace was also the topic of a conference between Pope Paul and Kurt Waldheim, United Nations Secretary General. Following the meeting, the Vatican said that Cyprus, South Vietnam and the Middle East, including the "question of Jerusalem," were discussed.

Mother Theresa of Calcutta, winner of the Pope John XXIII Peace Prize, the Nehru Award and the Templeton Prize, recently announced plans to increase the number of centers offering shelter to the poor and dying in India. The order she founded, the Missionaries of Charity, now maintains 54 centers in India and works in several other nations, including the U.S.

In Lisbon, a government ban against the publishing of Portugal's only Roman Catholic daily newspaper has been quashed by a district judge on the technical grounds that the banning order was issued to the wrong person. The paper had recently published an allegedly "alarmist" article about a left-wing political meeting.

Talk about priests in politics! The Notary for the Diocese of Pueblo, Colo., Father John Beno, has been elected chairman of the Pueblo County Democratic Central Committee by a vote of 112-72. He's the first cleric to hold the position. A nationally known Catholic columnist and editor, Father John Sheerin, CSP, has been named general consultant to the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish relations of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The question of woman's role in the Church is making headlines in this country. The nation's Catholic bishops were told last week that no women were in decision making posts in national-level bodies of the U.S. Church, despite a call issued three years ago by the world's bishops for women to share in ecclesial "responsibility." The report came from Dolores C. Pomerleau and Sister Carol Coston, OP, executive director of Network, a Congressional lobby group of Catholic nuns. And in the Episcopal Church, a bishop has threatened to resign his post if the 1976 General Convention does not approve ordination of women. Bishop John H. Burt of Ohio further challenged, "These ordaining hands of mine shall no longer be limited to male heads after 1976."

South Africa's Catholic bishops have asked the government to repeal or "drastically revise" laws permitting the lifting of passports, the refusal of resident permits, and the incommunicado detention of persons opposed to the policy of apartheid. In Pamplona, Spain, four Catholic priests have been jailed for refusing to pay fines imposed on them for preaching in support of striking potash workers. The Italian government is ready to discuss with the Vatican revision of the 1929 Concordat which regulates relations between the nation and the Church.

4 Women Appointed To Catechetical Unit

Vatican City [RNS] — Four women have been named to the 25-member International Catechetical Commission just announced by the Vatican's Congregation for the Clergy. One is an American nun, Sister Maria de la Cruz of San Francisco.

According to an observer, the presence of the four women on the commission reflects the fact that the greater number of religion teachers throughout the world are women. Two of the women are nuns; one is a laywoman from the Philippines, the other a wife and mother from Italy.

Seventeen of the commission's members are from outside Europe, one of whom is an American prelate, Auxiliary Bishop John McDowell of Pittsburgh.

The long-awaited commission is a response to a request of the Second International Catechetical Congress, held in Rome in 1971, for an advisory group chosen from various parts of the world to assist the Congregation's Catechetical Section in the formulation of guidelines for teaching religion throughout the world.

Plenary meetings are scheduled at two-year intervals. Each session will elect its own

moderator. Subjects for discussion will be proposed by commission members themselves. The first scheduled plenary meeting will be in September. Smaller interim meetings will be held from time to time as need arises.

The commission is consultative, not legislative and is designed to meet the congregation's need for fresh and continuing "input" from the field for its work of guidance and coordination.

The women on the new commission are: Sister Veronica Blount, Edinburgh, Scotland; Sister Maria de la Cruz, Aymes, San Francisco; Miss Teresita E. Nitorreda, Quezon City, Philippines; and Mrs. Margherita Radaelli, Rome, Italy.

FISHER SLATES ALISON LURIE

Alison Lurie, novelist, will speak at 8 p.m. Monday, March 3, in Basil Hall auditorium, St. John Fisher College. The lecture, sponsored by the English Department, is free and open to the public. Miss Lurie, whose current best-seller is *The War Between the Tates* is a professor of English at Cornell University. Her lecture topic is Point of View in Fiction.



Bishop Released from Prison

Roman Catholic Bishop Daniel Tji Hak Soun of Won Ju waves to people who greeted him upon his release from prison in Seoul. Bishop Tji was among a group of 24 political prisoners released on Feb. 17 by President Park Chung Hee, bringing to 149 the number released by a presidential order over the weekend of Feb. 15. Bishop Tji, 54, was sentenced last August to 15 years in prison and his "civil rights" were suspended for another 15 years. He was accused of having given the equivalent of \$2,500 to the poet Kim Chi Ha, who, in turn, was alleged to have handed the money to dissident students to organize anti-government demonstrations. (RNS)

Vatican Censures Kueng

Vatican City [RNS] — The Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has issued a declaration strongly censuring the well-known Swiss theologian, Father Hans Kueng, asserting that in two books he wrote — *The Church and Infallible?* — there are opinions "opposed" to Catholic doctrine, Vatican Radio reported here.

The declaration, issued Feb. 20, was the first document of the doctrinal congregation — once known as the Holy Office — to name directly the controversial priest and to reject his views pointedly.

In what was described as a final statement on the "problem" authorized by Pope Paul, the congregation charged that Father Kueng's position on the infallibility of the Church and Pope in doctrinal and moral matters "contradicts the teaching defined by the First Vatican Council and confirmed by the Second Vatican Council."

It added that the theologian "does not hold a genuine concept of the authentic magisterium (teaching authority)" of the Church, by which the bishops have the power to teach the Catholic faith "that is to be believed and to be practiced."

The congregation also took issue with Father Kueng for "the opinion already insinuated" in his book, *The Church*, which holds that the Eucharist, in cases of necessity, "can be consecrated validly by the baptised even though they have not been ordained." The declaration said this position "in no way agrees" with the teaching of Vatican II.

Father Kueng, a professor at the Ecumenical Institute of the University of Tübingen, West Germany, was previously criticized, though indirectly, by the Vatican's doctrinal congregation. In July 1973, the congregation issued a strong defense of the doctrine of papal infallibility and other doctrinal positions which was clearly aimed at the theologian.

In his various writings and statements, including the book, *Infallible?*, Father Kueng has contended that no papal pronouncement is totally free from error, even if only

linguistically. Rather, he has claimed the Church — and the Pope so far as his authority is concerned — is "indefectible", that is, preserved in truth by the Holy Spirit despite occasional instance of individual error.

Despite the serious tone of the Vatican congregation's declaration and the gravity of the opinions challenged by it, the congregation indicated it was not taking any strong punitive or disciplinary action against Father Kueng.

Noting that a September 1974 letter from the priest "does not exclude the possibility, with time, of harmonizing his own views with the teaching of the authentic magisterium of the Church," the congregation said it was simply pressing Father Kueng "not to continue to teach such opinions" and reminded him that the "ecclesiastical authority entrusted him with the office of teaching sacred theology in the spirit of the doctrine of the Church and not according to opinions which place it (theology) in doubt and destroy it."

The congregation, which has been sustaining a four-year verbal battle with the controversial 47-year-old theologian over doctrinal questions, advised the bishops of Germany "and other regions where occasion may demand, especially in the — ological faculties and seminaries," to exercise caution in the instruction of basic Church doctrine and to disseminate the contents of the declaration.

In addition, the congregation's declaration stressed that "priests, preachers of the Gospel, teachers and catechists have the obligation of professing faithfully the doctrine of the Church on these problems and expressing to others."

"Finally, theologians are again requested to deepen their knowledge of the mystery of the Church and of the other mysteries of the faith, and to make them known in obedience to the Church and faith," it added.

This instruction, the congregation said, "which for the moment concludes the declaration of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of

the Faith on this problem, has been approved by Pope Paul VI in audience given Feb. 14... to the prefect (Cardinal Franjo Seper) and ordered him to publish it."

The Vatican Radio broadcast noted that in 1971 the congregation wrote two letters to Father Kueng, expressing concern about some opinions included in his books and asking him to explain how his opinions did not contradict Catholic doctrine.

It added that in July 1973, the congregation again offered the Swiss theologian an opportunity to explain his views in the form of a dialogue. However, the broadcast said, Father Kueng "did not take up this opportunity and in a letter sent by him to the Congregation in September 1974, he did not prove that his opinions concerning the Church do not, in effect, contradict Catholic doctrine."

Last Summer, in a strong statement aimed at the doctrinal congregation, Father Kueng denounced what he termed "inquisitorial practices" in the investigation of his books. At that time, he again asked to be allowed to appoint his own attorney and be given access to files relating to his case.

"I do not desire escalation but a peaceful solution," said the priest. He added that he believed the theological implications of his case concerned "only marginal questions."

After two Swiss bishops had intervened on his behalf and Arch-bishop Jerome Hammer, secretary of the doctrinal congregation, indicated he wanted to dialogue with Father Kueng, the priest issued a statement saying the Swiss bishops had been "deceived" in Rome. He added that their intervention was "seriously misleading" to Swiss Catholics.

Father Kueng stated that he would debate the issue publicly in Switzerland with any high-ranking Vatican representative as a means of presenting "objective information to the public." But he would not go to Rome for a closed discussion with the doctrinal congregation.