



A group of prominent Protestants, most of them evangelicals, have formed a Christian Action Council that will stress non-Roman Catholic opposition to abortion. Sponsors include, from left: Dr. J.A.O. Preus, president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; Mrs. Ruth Bell Graham, wife of evangelist Billy Graham; and Dr. Harold Lindsell, editor of Christianity Today, the evangelical fortnightly. The two basic goals of the council are: To remind non-Roman Catholic Christians that "virtually all Christians from the beginning have been against permissive abortion and for the protection of all human life," and "to make clear to lawmakers that abortion and related problems are not merely sectarian or 'doctrinal' issues but of fundamental importance to the whole of Western civilization." (RNS)

### Spanish Nuns Arrested In La Paz

La Paz, Bolivia [RNS] — Three Spanish Roman Catholic nuns were among 33 persons arrested for allegedly trying to organize a general strike against the military regime of Gen. Hugo Banzer Suarez.

Interior Minister Col. Juan Pereda Asbun told newsmen here that most of the arrests were made July 14 in Oruro, 125 miles south of La Paz. He said the nuns were accused of having ties with left-wing labor leaders and were threatened with expulsion from Bolivia.

### Pageant of the Martyrs Slated at Auriesville

One of the earliest events in New York State's pre-Revolutionary history, the coming of the Jesuit missionaries to the Mohawk Indians in the 17th Century, will be commemorated dramatically this Summer at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs at Auriesville.

Pageant of the Martyrs, written and directed by Father John Barrett, SJ, was premiered at the Mohawk Valley shrine last August on an outdoor rustic stage in a natural amphitheater ringed by woodlands.

A Sunday performance has been scheduled for 2 p.m. on July

27 as well as two Saturday matinees on Aug. 2 and 9.

Father Barrett, a veteran of nearly four decades as a missionary in India who is serving on the shrine staff this summer, is currently a member of the faculty at LeMayne College in Syracuse.

A cast of 50 players has been gathered from the Order of Pocahontas, Mohawk Council 338; the Teroga Lodge Improved Order of Red Men and from members of the Order of the Arrow, Sir William Johnson Council Scouts of America.

Authentic costumes and Iroquois customs will re-create the atmosphere of the forest primeval against a backdrop of a palisaded Mohawk Village.

Central characters are Father Isaac Jogues, Brother Rene Goupil and the young French layman Jean de Lalande, now canonized saints.

In the epilogue the acceptance of Christianity by the majority of the Mohawks and the sanctity of their illustrious maiden, Kateri Tekakwitha, is brought into focus.

**POPE AT SUMMER HOME**  
Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul flew by helicopter to his Summer residence at Castelgandolfo on July 16 for his annual "working vacation" in the Alban Hills, some 15 miles southeast of Rome. The 77-year-old pontiff plans to commute by helicopter to the Vatican to conduct weekly general audiences for Holy Year pilgrims.

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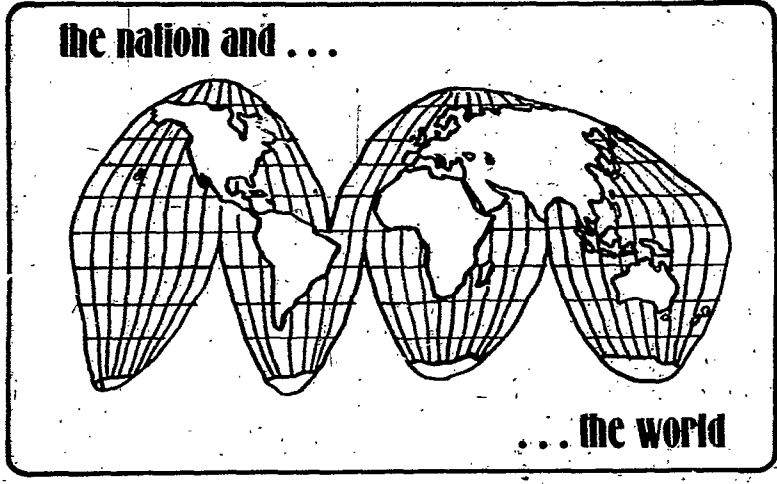
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From Courier-Journal Services

An unprecedented surge of contributions to Catholic Relief Services has provided "concrete evidence of the concern of the American people" for the hungry, Bishop Edward Swanstrom, executive director, has stated in a special report. From mid-December to mid-June, he said personal donations over and above regular CRS programs totaled more than \$2 million. Relations between Chile and the United Nations are at an all-time low. The government recently postponed indefinitely an investigation by a U.N. fact-finding team into charges of continued violations of human rights in Chile.

Some 100,000 Roman Catholics demonstrated in the streets of the northern coastal city of Aveiro in Portugal to protest the seizure by Communist-led workers and subsequent nationalization of Radio Renascença, the Catholic Church's radio outlet in Lisbon. Cardinal Joseph Slipyi of Lwow, major archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, was chief concelebrant of a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica for some 3,000 Ukrainian Rite Catholic pilgrims. The Catholic Church in the Soviet Ukraine has been under a severe and crushing government persecution for years.

The Catholic Daughters of America has reiterated its opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment. "We feel strongly that the vague wording of the proposed 27th amendment which makes it capable of wide interpretation, would have a devastating effect on the family unit," the national board stated. Father James Carroll, a writer and university chaplain whose column appears in the National Catholic Reporter, has announced that he is leaving the priesthood "in attempt to overcome a deep and unyielding pain." Dr. Andrew Cordier, president-emeritus of Columbia University and a prominent Christian ecumenist, has died at 74. He was a member of the National Council of Churches. A member of the Church of the Brethren, Dr. Cordier was a spokesman for a Protestant delegation that met with Pope Paul during the pontiff's visit to New York City.

The president of Mozambique, Samora Machel, has banned infant baptism. Baptizing an infant, he said, interferes with the fundamental principle of freedom of belief. Aside from that pronouncement, it is also a fact that Machel does not like the Catholic Church. Archbishop Helder Camara of Brazil will be among an impressive lineup of speakers for a conference in Auckland, New Zealand, in October. "The Quality of Life" will be the theme of the meeting.

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