

Amnesty International Report Criticized by Nicaragua

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Washington, D.C. (RNS) — The government of Nicaragua, branding a recent Amnesty International (AI) report on that country as "supportive of all acts of terrorism and subversion," asserted that the Roman Catholic Church "is divided on the matter of human rights in Nicaragua."

The reaction to the AI report, issued by the Nicaraguan Government Information Service, said that "Jesuit Father Carlos Caballero, vice rector of the University of Central America, has stated that he has 'witnessed with pain and

sorrow, the behavior and attitudes of certain Nicaraguan and foreign priests who have let themselves be carried away with the politics of parties or groups, based on family ties, hereditary interests or other unavowable motives."

"Said Father Caballero regarding statements against the government by members of the Church," the government reaction continued, "these statements have not always adhered to honesty and truth, but have deviated into the fields of exaggeration, lies, rumors and false interpretations."

"Although Amnesty International is an organization which claims it works for those have 'neither used nor advocated violence,' it also attempts to make a case for Costa Rican Liana Benavides, who attempted to join the Cuban Marxist FSLN terrorists knowing full well of their

avowed purpose to overthrow the government of Nicaragua by force," the government claimed.

In a recent 75-page report on Nicaragua, Amnesty International charged that the government of Gen.

Anastasio Somoza has carried on a program of kidnapping, torture and killing of campesinos (poor farmers) which included the extermination or abduction of entire villages.

the findings of a two-man team sent to Nicaragua in 1976, documented the political imprisonment, denial of due process, the use of torture and summary execution which have taken place since the imposition of martial law in 1974.

The AI report, based on

Devotions Set

Devotions of penitential fasting and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament have been slated for Thursday, Sept. 1 at Blessed Sacrament Church.

According to Wilma Higgs, organizer of the monthly rites of adoration, persons attending have also been asked to include fasting among their prayers, for the intentions of Pope Paul VI, and for priestly fidelity to the Holy Father.

The rites start at 12:15 p.m. and continue through the afternoon until a 5 p.m. benediction and celebration of the Eucharist.

JUSTICE FORUM

The Forum on Justice sponsored by the Judicial Process Commission of Genesee Ecumenical Ministries will reopen Sept. 14 with the first of three meetings on proposed revisions in the federal criminal code. Commissioner Benjamin Ward of the state's Department of Correctional Services will speak on The Potential for a Model Sentencing Code. The Wednesday lunch-time sessions at 101 S. Plymouth begin at 12:15 p.m. The Forum is funded by a grant from Xerox Corporation.

discovering a leprechaun's storied pot.

Gustatory delights are many but several dozen steamed clams washed down with a draft beer on a dock at Perkins Cove can and does sustain me for a whole year.

And last but certainly not least there is my favorite store, L.L. Bean in Freeport, Me., open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year where it is possible to count 32 different state license plates at one time in the parking lot.

Wool blankets purchased for a song, trout knives with a thousand uses, chamois shirts and gumboots fill us with delight. We are woodsmen for an hour or two at least.

Back home Quoddy Mocs and boxes of salt water taffy serve to remind us of the heavy scent of tall pines, shimmering lakes and hard working friendly natives. Next summer cannot come fast enough.



ALL IN THE FAMILY

Sarah Child

A few weeks ago in this space I wrote about vacationing in Maine and the fact that the peace and quiet on a somewhat isolated lake wore a little thin.

Some readers took umbrage. One insisted that I did not give Maine enough time. Another decided I must be out of my head.

Enough. Enough. The truth is I'm crazy about Maine and that our recent trip was the sixth or seventh in a dozen years.

In previous summers we have gone to the southern coastal towns which are to put it mildly becoming more crowded every year.

So this year, at my insistence, we went farther north and inland. We did, for old time's sake, make a side trip to Ogunquit and Wells and York Beach and immediately got caught in a traffic jam that would give New York City residents pause for thought.

And for the first time, yielding to the kids' pleas, we visited Old Orchard Beach, a horrendous honky tonk carnival strip that must give State of Mainers nightmares even while filling their coffers.

In spite of the above, our ardor was dampened not one whit for this marvelous state. There is nothing I know to compare with climbing to the top of the slope Two Lights State Park and watching in the far off distance between the sparkling blue of sky and white capped cobalt of the water a huge ocean liner shrouded in mist moving eerily along.

Walking the beaches at dawn or dusk and finding treasures of driftwood, sand dollars ranks with

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Illustration of a door

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