

'Boycott Korea,' Priest Asks Carter

Los Angeles (RNS) — A Roman Catholic priest, expelled from South Korea more than two years ago for opposing the restrictive policies of President Park Chung Hee, has called on the Carter Administration and leaders of other Western nations to use the threat of economic boycott to halt persecution of dissidents in South Korea.

Father James Sinnott, MM, who spent 15 years in South Korea as a missionary, told a news conference organized by Amnesty International here that president Carter's outspoken support for human rights throughout the world has brought hope for change among South Koreans who oppose the Park government.

"But if those hopes are disappointed there will be hell to pay," he said.

Father Sinnott, who now heads the North American Coalition for Human Rights in Korea, a group of about 40 religious and peace organizations, said that since the U.S. has sustained the Park regime with

economic aid, it was up to the Americans to force the South Korean president to end repression of his people, or lose aid.

Stating that it is a "welcome relief" to see an American government willing to criticize the South Korean government, Father Sinnott said he had been embarrassed during the time he was in South Korea to see American economic aid going to a government "that tortures, detains, imprisons and kills political opponents."

The Maryknoll priest asserted that when he and other U.S. priests went to the American embassy in Seoul to complain about other gross human rights violations, the then Ambassador Philip C. Habib, now Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, had described them as "dissidents."

"I was insulted. I am not a dissident," the priest said. "I am a Catholic missionary."

Father Sinnott said he hoped the U.S. could act in concert with other countries to exert maximum pressure

on the Park government by threatening to reduce or cut off all economic aid."

Andrea Fishman, a spokesperson for Amnesty International, said there are several hundred "documented political prisoners" in South Korea today. She said the number of those who disappeared, were detained or jailed could be as much as 10,000. Under Presidential Decree 9, she noted, Koreans who merely criticize the government can be jailed up to 15 years.

Another speaker at the news conference, 72-year-old Sang Dal Cha, chairman of the Southern California Committee to Restore Democracy in South Korea, joined Father Sinnott in calling for an end to U.S. economic aid to South Korea.

"Until President Carter came along I had felt so helpless in trying to help dissidents," said Sang. "It had looked like we were hitting our heads against a hard wall. But now I feel hope that democracy can be restored to Korea," he added.



Struggle Continues

Some of the survivors of the recent devastating Indian cyclone wait for CARE food distribution near Andhra Pradesh, India. Some two-million people were made homeless by the storm. More than 2,500,000 acres of crops were destroyed. CARE has been feeding more than 100,000 people daily and providing clothing, blankets, water-purifying powder and other emergency aid. With grants from the U.S. Government, Oxfam and Finn Church Aid, CARE'S total assistance for Indian cyclone victims will come to nearly \$21-million.

7,000 'Boat People' Seek Entry to U.S.

Washington, D.C. (RNS)—The Carter Administration will seek the emergency admission of 7,000 "boat people" refugees from Vietnam instead of the 10,000 recommended by the State Department, according to administration officials.

However, Mr. Carter is expected to support legislation proposed by Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D-Pa.) that would allow regular admission of refugees instead of the current piecemeal approach.

The State Department in early December requested emergency entry for 10,000 "boat people" to help accommodate the rising flood of refugees which has reportedly increased from 500 to 1,500 a month. To compound the problem, boats have now been denied entry in Thailand, and thousands of refugee boats are said to have been lost at sea.

The eight-member American Council of Voluntary Agencies, which includes a number of religiously affiliated groups, has appealed to President Carter for his assistance to meet the emergency of the Vietnamese "boat people."

A spokesman for the group said the immediate need is for swift action to rescue the reported thousands of boat people who may have been lost at sea in their attempts to escape.

Members of the refugee resettlement council include Church World Service, relief agency of the National Council of Churches; HIAS, a Jewish relief agency; Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service; the Migration and Refugee Service of the U.S. Catholic Conference, and the Tolstoy Foundation.

Administration officials said the main reason for cutting the admission of new refugees from 10,000 to 7,000 was budget limitations. An official said there was enough money to handle 7,000 but that a new appropriation would have to be made for 10,000 refugees.

Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. has admitted or given approval to the emergency admission of

165,000 Indochinese refugees. The U.S. approved the emergency entry of 15,000 this Summer. The latest action deals with entry of "boat people" who are said to have the most urgent need for aid.

Leaders working in the resettlement field, including Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), head of the Judiciary subcommittee on refugees, are calling for an open-ended parole authority which would allow the administration to admit as many refugees as seemed necessary without going through the current complex procedures.

White House 'Uncertainties' Stall Catholic Conference

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — A U.S. Catholic spokesman on social concerns has informed Vice President Walter Mondale that uncertainties now surrounding the planning of the 1979 White House Conference on Families are inhibiting preparations by the U.S. Catholic Conference and other agencies for the event.

Msgr. Francis J. Lally, USCC secretary for Social Development and World Peace, said the specially-

established Catholic Committee for Cooperation in the White House Conference on Families is disturbed over the delay in appointing a national advisory body and staff for the conference.

The Boston priest, who chairs the special committee, also expressed concern over the lack of information on preliminary goals and objectives, the absence of an identifiable planning process, and a

firmly established date for the conference.

In addition, he said, there are preliminary indications that the Carter administration is considering merging the conference on families with a White House Conference on Children scheduled for 1980. "Despite the related nature of both conferences, such a consolidation would, in our judgment, be an inadvisable economy," the priest said.

"The social, educational and economic needs of our children should be examined subsequent to an overall assessment of the status of families," he stated.

Msgr. Lally said, "The subject of family and the problems besetting it today are of foremost concern to the Catholic community in America. This concern flows from a very rich heritage of support for family life," with parishes, schools, charitable institutions and social ministry providing a testimony to service and commitment to families.

In his letter to Mondale, the USCC official said, "It is largely on this account that we come to the White House Conference on Families with such a strong desire to take part in its proceedings and to help identify the major social and economic needs of families today."

Msgr. Lally told Mondale that the concerns expressed by the Catholic committee do not "diminish our admiration" for the Carter administration's proposal to assess family needs.

"Let me assure you," he said, "that the Catholic Committee is prepared to place its resources at the service of those responsible for planning the White House conference."

'Supermarket Psychics' Proved Wrong Again

New York (RNS)—America's "supermarket psychics" had another bad year of it

The sensational predictions that screamed from the headlines of the mass-marketed National Enquirer and National Star last January may look embarrassingly silly one year later.

But, just for the record, here were some of them:

Pope Paul will negotiate a

CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM

Dublin — Christians for Socialism, a movement that originated in Latin America and has spread to Europe, has appeared to have taken root in Dublin

The movement was brought to Ireland from Chile by Irish Roman Catholic missionary priests, who claim to have the support of other Irish priests working in Third World countries.

peace settlement in Northern Ireland.

Cures will be discovered for diabetes, leukemia and multiple sclerosis.

Archaeologists in Egypt will find a spaceship that crashed in ancient times. Also, the U.S. Air Force will capture some aliens from outer space.

Barbara Walters will quit her TV career; Grace Kelly will quit her marriage, return to movies and win an Oscar; Ethel Kennedy will marry Andy Williams.

A U.S. politician will be miraculously cured of cancer at Lourdes.

A rush-hour commuter train will collide with a chemical-laden freight train and hundreds will be killed in America's worst rail disaster.

Geologists will discover the world's greatest oil reserves under the Great Lakes.

That the fortune-tellers made predictions more fanciful than accurate hasn't dissuaded them, however. They're back in business with predictions in 1978.

A&G WHOLESALE MEATS



Serving Rochester's Parishes over 15 yrs. Quality Meats

Beef, Pork, Veal Poultry

Custom Order Cuts To All Parishes.



A&G Wholesale Meats 170 Pt. Pleasant Rd. 342-6550

Sam Calarco; Sales Rep. WHOLESALE ONLY



Bridal Corner

KAKE 1688 CLIFFORD AVE. near Goodman

3-tier serves up to 100 \$29 PHONE 482-1133
4-tier serves 175 to 200 \$45
4-tier fountain cake, \$80
3-tier whipped cream, custard filling serves up to 100 \$45 We Deliver

Decorator cakes, whipped cream & strawberry, lemon, pineapple, custard filling: 1/4 sheet, \$5.00; 1/2 sheet, \$8.00; full sheet \$15.00; Decorator cakes, butter cream frostings, half sheet \$7.00; full sheet \$13

BURT SHAPIRO Photography Studio WEDDINGS from \$99 Phone 244-3554

FOR AD RATE INFORMATION CALL 454-7050