

Bishop Joins Kodak Action

By JOHN DASH

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan has joined with 10 other church leaders in the Rochester area to encourage serious reflection on the moral aspects of a Kodak shareholders' resolution. That resolution calls on the Eastman Kodak Co. to establish a company policy not to sell photographic equipment to the government of South Africa or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.

The shareholders' resolution was filed Dec. 14, 1977, by a number of religious groups including the Catholic Theological Union, the Marianist Provincial House, the Servants of Mary, the Sisters of Charity Center, and the Society of Jesus in Maryland.

According to Ms. Martha Savio of the American Baptist Churches in the USA, who will speak for the resolution at the annual Kodak meeting on April 25 in Flemington, N.J., the holdings of those who filed the resolution are about 25,000 shares of Kodak stock.

In a letter to parish and congregational leaders, the 11 clergymen note that the

shareholders intend to persuade Kodak directors that the crucial situation in South Africa requires the company to take definite steps to avoid being implicated in the racist apartheid system which is ruthlessly oppressing the black majority in South Africa.

"We believe the letter states God has created one human family on earth and therefore we American citizens have a deep human bond with our black and white brothers and sisters in South Africa. Moreover, we acknowledge that business involvements of American corporations in South Africa further enlarge the economic and political dimensions of our interdependence and thus our social responsibility.

The letter concludes with:

"In view of the unique concentration of Kodak shareholders and employees among church members in the Rochester area, we feel a special responsibility to call this action by various national religious organizations to your attention. We ask that you give this matter serious reflection and that you provide your parishioners with in-

formation and encourage discussion of the moral aspects of this situation. We hope that shareholders will exercise their vote from an informed conscience and with prayerful attention.

The specific area of concern Ms. Savio noted is that with the withdrawal of the Polaroid Corp. from its practice of providing film and devices which are used in the pass system whereby each black citizen of South Africa is subject to identification search, Eastman Kodak could step in to fill the void.

She says that conversations with Kodak indicate the company's unwillingness to establish a policy whereby it would not provide film and devices to such an end.

She further stated that Kodak provides South Africa's military with aerial

reconnaissance for which she says she is pleased to maintain apartheid.

The company has responded to the shareholders' resolution with a statement that reads in part: "Kodak's management believes that the Company should continue to make regular commercial photographic products available to customers in South Africa. Any other policy would not only jeopardize the economic health of our business in South Africa but would seriously affect the economic, social and physical well-being of our 470 employees and their families in that country."

"We shall constantly review the South African situation to be sure that the Company continues to meet its business, social and industrial relations responsibilities.

CBS to Present Pro-Life View

New York (RNS) — The CBS News, the target of recent attacks by some Roman Catholics for allegedly being pro-abortionist, has scheduled an hour-long program on the movement to reverse the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

"The Politics of Abortion" will be telecast as a CBS Reports on Saturday, April 22, from 10 to 11 p.m. WHEC Channel 10 will broadcast the program in the Rochester area.

CBS announced that the program reviews the complicated constitutional and philosophical problems created by the abortion issue — problems perceived by many to be fundamentally related to the legal separation of church and state.

Among those interviewed are Msgr. James McHugh, director of pro-life activities of the U.S. Catholic Conference, who states according to a CBS news release, "I think every church has a right to use its political muscle and political expertise to try to persuade the rest of the society to adopt the views that they find consonant with their faith and consonant with the political philosophy of the country itself."

Also appearing, according to CBS, will be the Rev. Calvin Didier, president of Americans United for

Separation of Church and State, who says, "I honor their right to choose. I do not honor anyone's right to choose for me or you or someone else as an imposition."

From grassroots to Congress, the anti-abortionists' activities are reported on the broadcast, as are the efforts of pro-abortion groups to set up a counteroffensive. CBS stated.

PACE BENEFIT

The West Side Theatre Collective will perform Black Hands Play Noisy Drums in the presence of the playwright, Irene Collins Peoples. Curtain time will be 8 p.m. April 28 and 29 at the YWCA, 175 N. Clinton. The engagement was planned as a fund-raiser for the 1978 Pan African Cultural Exposition. Tickets, \$6 at the door, may be purchased in advance for \$5 at PACE, 410 N. Clinton, or at the Y. The community theatre group is directed by Carl A. Powell.

BOOK REVIEW

Robert Kidera, president of Nazareth College, will review H.R. Haldeman's book, "The Ends of Power," next Wednesday noon, April 26, at St. Thomas More. The dessert and coffee gathering, sponsored by the Women's Guild of the parish, will take place in the school gymnasium and is open to all.

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