

# A Reporter's Notebook

Rome — Covering a news event in the Vatican is akin to trying to make sense of a visit to Wonderland.

Perhaps if you are Italian, things make sense but if you speak English you are an almost ignored entity.

Pope Paul VI died here Sunday night and by Thursday noon the English-speaking Vatican press representative had still not arrived. Apparently Father James Roach found that his activities in Chicago were somehow more important than being here to help press and broadcast media from around the English-speaking world.

The Jimmy Breslins, Bill Claiborne of the Washington Post, Michael Quint of ABC News, Loren Jenkins of Newsweek and hundreds of others would have to struggle in broken Italian to understand what was going on.

Charles Lovebridge, the press attache at the American Embassy in Rome, who had little official business with the events at the Vatican, tried to come to the rescue. He gathered American press representatives at the embassy in Rome and invited Peter Sarros, his liaison with the Vatican, to present a briefing. It was the first helpful assistance in English for people who were reporting the event to millions around the globe. Except for three harried women on hand in the Vatican press room, the rest of the Church "home office" were their characteristic haughty and difficult selves.

As with just about everybody else here, the press speculated on Paul's successor.

Grázia Gaspari of the Rome II Manifesto had a "choice of the heart," a Cardinal Pellegrino, but her head predicted Cardinal Sergio Pignedoli, a heavy choice among the press, who it must be said, had no more idea than any man in the street.

Cardinal Pignedoli also was the favorite of artist Ninni Verga, television director Mirko Ikonomoff and his Danish wife Lynn, an actress in European films.

"It is a time for the Church to build. Paul was alright," Ikonomoff said, "but his job was to hold the line, to maintain the status quo. Now the Church, to keep from stagnating, must move ahead behind a progressive pope."

He and his colleagues feel that Cardinal Pignedoli is an ideal man for that job.

## Archbishop Jadot:

# God Grant Another Paul

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — Archbishop Jean Jadot, Pope Paul's personal representative in the United States for five years, in commenting on the death of the pontiff, said that he prayed "that God will grant the Catholic Church another leader like this."

The Apostolic Delegate in the U.S., added that "looking back in time, history will discover the moral greatness, the astonishing wisdom and the profound humanity of a man of God sharing with all his heart the joys, the pains, the hopes and the frustrations of his time."

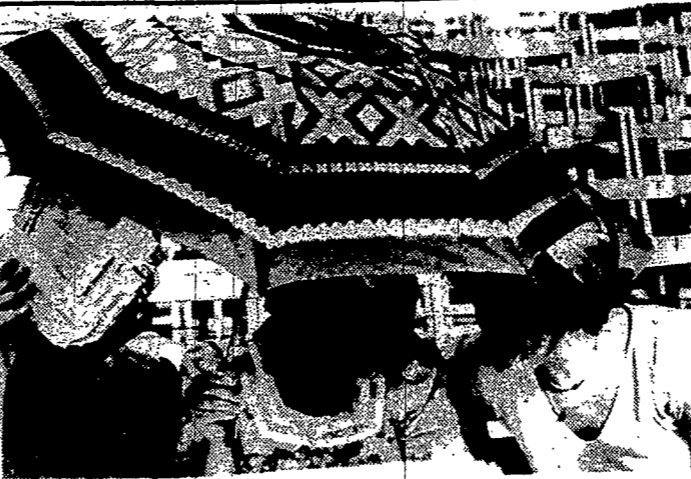
On taking office here in 1973, Archbishop Jadot, as the papal representative, said his assignment here was to be a link "between the Holy Father and the Church in the United States of America... between the Pope and our Christian brothers to whom we are united by our common

faith in Christ; between the Pope and the members of the Jewish community; between the Holy Father and all those who believe in God and every man of goodwill."

Archbishop Jadot characterized the late Pope as "a person governed by a threefold faith: faith in Jesus Christ, faith in the Church, faith in man."

"One is able," he added, "to appreciate the constant concerns of Paul VI for doctrinal truth, for authentic prayer, for unity, for justice and peace, for dialogue, for courage and for hope against all hope."

"Looking back in time, history will discover the moral greatness, the astonishing wisdom and the profound humanity of a man of God sharing with all his heart the joys, the pains, the hopes and the frustrations of his time."



Photos Anthony J. Costello

## Umbrellas

Paper hats and umbrellas shelter these pilgrims from the searing heat of the sun during a Roman summer. These women were among the first to get seats for the funeral services.



Also mentioned by every speculator was Cardinal Giovanni Benelli, archbishop of Florence.

But a hotel chambermaid offered some keen insight.

"He is too young (57) to become pope. He would be around too long for the Church. If he were not a good pope what 'would be the effect on the Church? Not good."

But if she had wise perception on that score, she seemed wide of the mark on her idea of just who would be the next pope.

"It will be an American or a Negro," she offered. "Definitely not an Italian."

Taxi drivers the world over are supposed to know more than even the top insiders. A Roman driver had no doubt.

"No use talking," he said. "Benelli."

Fortunately, we all will have the final verdict soon.

According to Chuck Loveridge, press attache at the American Embassy in Rome, it takes him seven days to get a package to the USA. It took the Courier-Journal about 10 hours. But it wasn't easy.

Stories were written Thursday night at the Vatican press room and then the arrival of Mrs. Carter on Friday morning had to be covered. Air Force One landed at the Rome military airport. We had hired a taxi for the duration of the day's work.

Directly from the military airport we sped to Leonardo DaVinci Airport. With the assistance of Carmello Panebianco, head of security for Alitalia Airlines, and the chief of the airport police, we were let into the waiting zone for departing passengers. Getting this done was particularly difficult because of security precautions with dignitaries arriving almost hourly.

We looked for a priest or a nun and came up with Sister Aurora of Montreal. We explained our plight and she

took the package of newsphotos and stories with her on the flight departing for Montreal.

Then we contacted the home office by telephone and asked Mike Groden to go to Montreal to pick up the package. As this is written, we are still unsure what happened on your end, but if we have a special edition on the pope's death, it has worked out.

In addition to Panebianco and our taxi driver, Alfiero Chiavistrelli, many others had a part in getting this week's Courier out. Hearty thanks are due to Sam Marorana of Marcellus, N.Y., who carried a second package of news on Sunday night to our staff. He was met by Gary Ayers, foreman of the Courier composing room. A tip of the hat too, to Joe LoGiudice of our advertising staff, who stationed himself at Kennedy Airport in anticipation of forestalling difficulties in the package's delivery.

Jake Sullivan of the White House staff answered queries. Anthony Caione developed both color and black and white photos. Father Enrique Planas of the Vatican staff got us into important places. But Loveridge of the embassy press corps and Sister Aurora deserve our particular thanks.

Covering the proceedings for the Washington Post was former Democrat and Chronicler William Claiborne. He was sent here from Jerusalem where he covers the Mideast for the Post.

At Rome's military airport Ciampiano, we put Jake Sullivan of the White House staff on the spot with a loud, "I bet you miss Midge."

"Sure," he smiled; but others with him shouted mirthful no comments.

And if you don't know the name of the American ambassador to Rome, don't feel too badly. Neither did Sullivan nor did some of the American television reporters. When we sheepishly asked Chuck Loveridge of the embassy we noticed several widely known TV commentators writing down the answer. Incidentally, the ambassador is Richard Gardner and many were miffed that he stayed on vacation in Colorado instead of getting back to his post, especially with his nation's gracious First Lady on hand.

—Viglucchi



**OPEN NIGHTS**  
AND ALL DAY SATURDAY

**UP TO 50% OFF ALL ITEMS IN STOCK**

**We're Putting on a Sale**  
We Go Way Ahead in Quality and Far Behind in Price

**SERTA & SPRING AIR BEDDING LIVING ROOMS—HIDE-A-BEDS SOFAS • ACCESSORIES**

WHITNEY RD. AT BAIRD FAIRPORT      385-1267  
MON-FRI 10-9; SAT 10-5  
FREE DELIVERY

**Perinton Furniture**