In New York

By John Dash

New York — From the moment his plane, Shepherd One, touched down at LaGuardia Airport to the moment a day later, it rose again, bound for Philadelphia, Pope John Paul held this great city in thrall. Thousands upon thousands saw him in person, millions saw him on television, and the whole world listened to his voice.

And the message he gave

to the world was one of love, of justice, peace and of unabashed enjoyment.

To Albany's Bishop Howard Hubbard, who met him at La Guardia, he said, "You are the baby bishop," and, spotting Rochester's Bishop Matthew H. Clark, "You are another baby bishop. I consecrated you in Rome," reaching out in affectionate humor to grip him by the ear.

The 59-year old pontiff's

itinerary included visits to the United Nations, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Charles Borromeo Church in Harlem, Yankee Stadium, Madison Square Garden, Battery Park, and Shea Stadium. At each of the stops, and the places along the route he had words to give, blessings to bestow, and an extraordinary spiritual embrace for the throngs who massed everywhere he went.

The city sang, cheered applauded, wept. The word most commonly heard among members of the press corps was "thrilling."

But, too, there were very sober words which the world heard. To the General Assembly of the United Nations the pontiff said, "It is no secret that the abyss separating the minority of the excessively rich from the multitude of the destitute is a very grave symptom in the life of any society. This must also be said with even greater insistence with regard to the abyss separating countries and religions of the earth. Surely the only way to overcome this serious disparity between areas of satiety and areas of hunger depression is SHEPHERD I

The pope raises his hands in greeting as he decends the ramp of Shepherd One

through coordinated cooperation by all countries. This requires above all else a unity inspired by an authentic perspective of peace."

And he said, "It is a question of the highest importance that in internal social life, as well as in international life, all human beings in every nation and country should be able to

enjoy effectively their full rights under any political regime system."

"Be faithful to the truth and to its transmission, for truth endures," he told reporters at the U.N.; and to dignitaries, on his departure from the U.N., he said, "Peace is possible when it is based on the recognition of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of all men."

The more than 80,000 who jammed into Yankee Stadium heard him say, "Jesus does not merely give us peace. He gives us his Peace accompanied by his Justice. He is Peace and Justice. He becomes our Peace and our Justice. He is one who realizes in himself what man has the vocation to be: the one who is fully reconciled with the Father, fully one in himself, fully devoted to others. Jesus Christ is living Peace and living Justice."

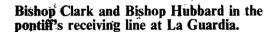
In Harlem he said, "If we are silent about the joy that comes from knowing Jesus, the very stones of our cities will cry out! . . . But how many people have never known this joy? They feed on emptiness and tread the paths of despair. They live without true joy because they live without hope . . . because they have never met a brother or a sister who touched their lives with the love of Jesus and lifted them up from their misery."

To those who stood in the pouring rain at Battery Park, he said, "It is then my wish that your sense of freedom may always go hand in hand with a profound sense of truth and honesty about yourselves and about the realities of your society. Past achievements cannot be an acceptable substitute for present responsibilities toward the common good of the society you live in towards your fellow citizens."

But as urgent and as solemn as his message was, he peppered his visit with high-good humor, nowhere more strikingly than at Madison Square Garden. The Holy Father had a fine time there, egging cheers from the more than 19,000 young adults, "hamming it up, addits, harming it up, and conspiring with the children eigenst the program preordained, by Cardinal Terence Cooke, "We will destroy the program," he stage whispered to the crowd, needling the cardinal who had displayed some anxiety over the time the pope was taking. Then, in a master-stroke of practical joking, the pontiff utterly patronized the cardinal by telling the crowd, "You be nice to him (the cardinal), he's your bishop too."

"Today, this is a garden of life," he said, "Where young people are alive: alive with hope and love, alive in the life of Christ."

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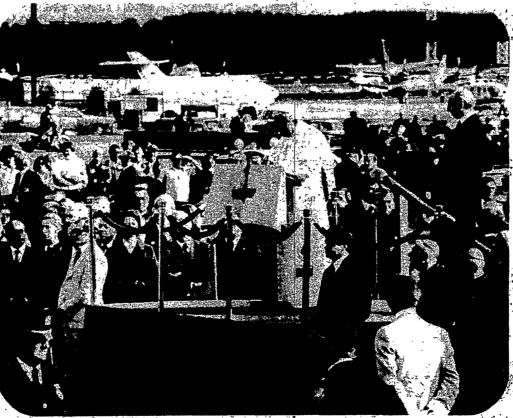
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The pontiff embraces Kurt Waldheim, secretary general of the United Nations, at La



The crowd gathers at La Guardia for a sight of the pope.



Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

Pope John Paul speaks to the crowd at La Guardia.

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