# World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

## World

### Soviet Claim Said False

**Vatican City** — A harsh Soviet article accusing Pope John Paul II of subversive activity in Poland is false, said a Vatican communique issued Dec. 30. The Vatican said allegations against the pope included in an article distributed by Tass "needs no reply." Tass claimed the pontiff has been responsible for "subversive activity" destined to undermine Communist societies, especially in Poland.

### Who's in Charge?

**Managua, Nicaragua** — The question of who should make the arrangements for a visit by Pope John Paul II here has become a controversial Church-state issue even though there is no confirmation that the pope actually will visit. State authorities say it is the government's job and criticized Archbishop Miguel Obando Bravo for announcing details of the proposed visit.

### 'Shoot First' in Ireland?

**Armagh, Northern Ireland** — Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich has expressed concern that British security forces may have new "shoot first" instructions concerning possible guerrillas. The cardinal said the killing of seven men, believed to be guerrillas, by police and soldiers in seven weeks has given rise to allegations that security forces are shooting first and asking questions later.

### Argentina Peacemakers

**Buenos Aires** — Argentina's Catholic bishops began the new year hoping that they have set in motion a plan which can help heal some of the nation's political, social and economic wounds. As 1982 drew to a close, the bishops launched a reconciliation program aimed at softening the growing antagonism between the military government and human rights groups. The effort will include separate meetings by bishops with military and civilian groups.

### Pope Urges Disarmament

**Vatican City** — Pope John Paul II opened the new year with an appeal for bilateral disarmament involving nuclear and conventional weapons. At a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, the pontiff asked the world's superpowers to take steps toward the reduction of weapons arsenals "in equal measure."

### Probe Judge Visits Germany

**Rome** — Judge Ilario Martella, chief Italian investigator of the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II, left here Jan. 2 to visit West Germany in his probe of the case. His office said he expects to interrogate Musa Cedar Celebi, a Turk jailed in Frankfurt as a complicity suspect in the May 1981 attempt on the pope. **More details, Page 3.**

## Nation

### Donations Set Record

**Washington** — A record $4.2 million was donated to the annual Black and Indian Mission Collection, the oldest collection in the American Church, according to Msgr. Paul A. Lenz, executive director and secretary of the Commission for the Catholic Missions Among the Colored People and the Indians. Msgr. Lenz said the 1982 collection was an increase of nearly $250,000 over the collection of 1981. Although the 1982 collection was the best ever recorded since the program began in 1884, requests for grants from the U.S. bishops for the Black and Indian apostolate totaled more than $12 million. The 1983 collection will be taken up Feb. 20.

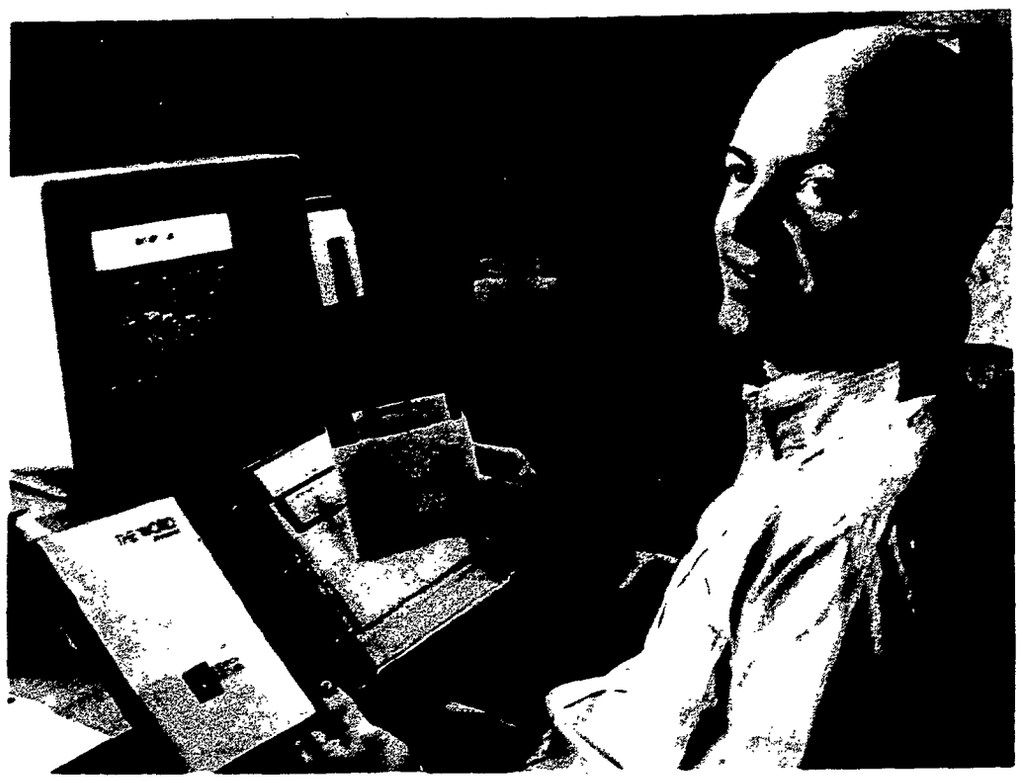
### Pro-Lifers Set Back

**Washington** — It will be more difficult for Congress to approve new restrictions on abortion funding under a set of rules adopted by the House of Representatives the first day of the 98th Congress. The leadership, however, dropped another proposed rule which would have made it more difficult to bring constitutional amendments on issues such as abortion to the House floor for a vote. **More details, Page 5.**

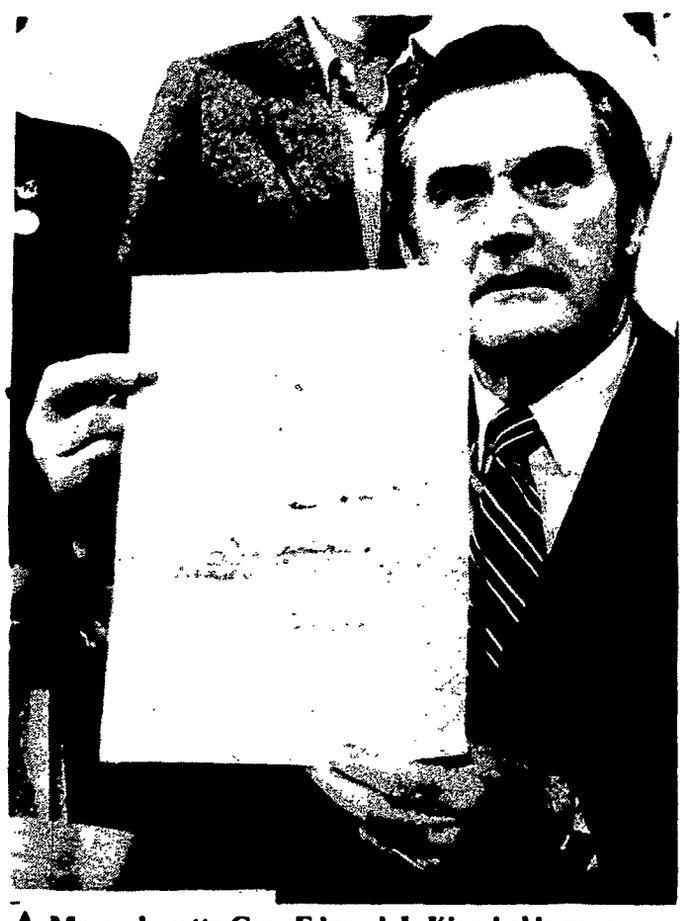
## People

**Archbishop Edward D. Howard,** retired archbishop of Portland, Ore., and the world's oldest prelate, died Jan. 2 at the Maryville Nursing Home in Beaverton. He was 105 . . . **Gov. Hugh Gallen** of New Hampshire "loved people and especially those who were needy," said **Father Patrick Irwin** in a eulogy at the governor's funeral Jan. 3. Gov. Gallen died Dec. 30 from liver and kidney failure. **Jimmy Carter,** former president, gave the eulogy at a statehouse memorial service.

# Focus on Today's World

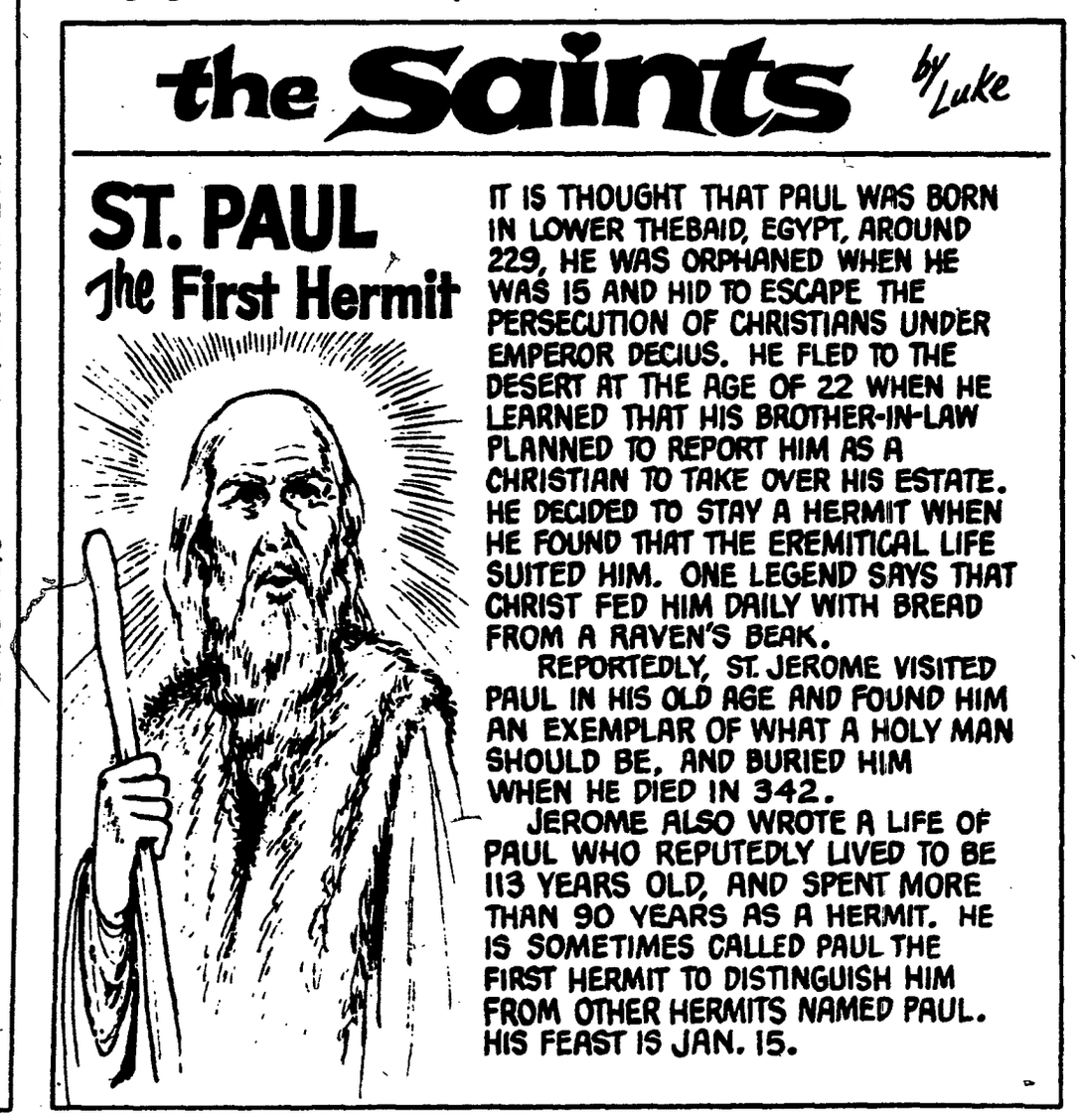


◄ Bert Brown of Austin, Tex., shows off "The Word," a computer program of the Bible designed by Brown and another Texan. The computer program allows detailed analyses of scripture at the touch of a button. (NC photo)



▲ Massachusetts Gov. Edward J. King holds up a sweeping death penalty bill after signing it into law. The new law clears way for the first executions in the state since 1947. Boston's Cardinal Humberto Medeiros said he will support repeal of the new law when the incoming legislature convenes. (NC photo)

► At St. Eric's Cathedral in Stockholm, young women wearing red blazers bearing the emblem of the cathedral can be found throughout the church during Mass. They assist the elderly and handicapped and if a baby begins to cry, a church stewardess is there to help. (NC photo)

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