

U.S. Military Aims in El Salvador Unacceptable to U.S. Bishops: Prelate

By Jim Lackey

Washington (NC) — Archbishop James A. Hickey of Washington rejected a Reagan administration "innuendo" that Church policy in Central America serves Marxist interests and urged Congress March 7 to make a "distinct shift" in U.S. policy toward the region.

Appearing at a hearing on Central America conducted jointly by two House subcommittees, Archbishop Hickey sharply criticized current U.S. policy and urged the Reagan administration to "promote dialogue, insist on a ceasefire and support a negotiated end to the conflict" in El Salvador.

Archbishop Hickey, who toured Central America with two other U.S. archbishops Feb. 1-9, also said he was "profoundly disappointed" that the United States was urging increased military aid to El Salvador "just as the Holy Father was about to

embark on a pilgrimage of peace to Central America."

The hearing came only one day after Pope John Paul II had visited El Salvador during his March 2-9 tour of Central America.

It also came less than a week after two top administration officials Vice President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz said they were concerned about what they said was the way the Catholic Church was aiding Soviet influence and Marxism in Central America.

"We reject the innuendo suggesting that Church policy in Central America serves Marxist interests," said Archbishop Hickey in his remarks prepared for the hearing. "On the contrary, Catholic policy and pastoral activity is guided by a clear and consistent teaching based on the Gospels and committed to the defense of the human person."

He continued, "Certainly

the involvement of Pope John Paul II is so clear in its orientation and so beneficial in its impact that it is beyond the need for any defense. The outpouring of faith and human emotion which his visit to Central America this past week has produced is eloquent testimony to the meaning the Church has for the people of the region."

Archbishop Hickey added that the Church in Central America "has eminently more credibility in the lives of the people of the region than any government, including our own," and said the Church "knows full well" how Marxist regimes suppress human liberty.

The testimony by Archbishop Hickey focused not just on El Salvador's three-year-old civil war but also on U.S. relations with Nicaragua and Honduras. Archbishop Hickey, Archbishop Peter L. Gerety of Newark, N.J., and Archbishop Patrick Flores of San Antonio, Tex., had visited the three nations during their February trip.

Archbishop Hickey noted that the three also had hoped to visit Guatemala, but were unable to do so.

On El Salvador, Archbishop Hickey repeated the U.S. Bishops' contention that the war there is not rooted in East-West conflict but in the social injustices suffered for years by the Salvadoran people.

"Unfortunately, this geopolitical conception of the conflict has reappeared with new emphasis in recent days," said Archbishop Hickey, referring to President Reagan's contention that the U.S. must hold the line in El Salvador to prevent the rest of Central America from falling to Communism.

Archbishop Hickey said U.S. policy in El Salvador faces a "crucial choice" in the next few weeks and said the United States "should talk more about ending the violence and less about prosecuting the war with large increases in military assistance and more American advisors."

Liturgist Set For Confab Here

Renowned liturgist Father Eugene Walsh, SS, will speak on the Liturgy of the Eucharist during a day-long conference April 23 at St. Mary's Church, Waterloo.

The conference, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Liturgy, is open to the public, and particularly priests, liturgical ministers and those involved in liturgical planning.

The fee is \$5 per individual and \$25 for groups of six and more from a single parish. Reservations are made by calling the Liturgy Office, (716) 328-3210.



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Frank Wolfe

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that much lay ahead including the exquisite moment when God would ask him for everything that he was. He knew that life is always a gift, always unfolding, ever calling us to Christ...

"There is not anyone here who will not miss Frank."

And the number there nearly filled St. Thomas More Church. Included were two bishops, Bishop Clark and Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, St. Thomas More pastor, and some 25 other priests, including Father Francis Pegnam, longtime pastor of the church, and close friend and associate of Mr. Wolfe.

"The emerging layman," said Father Pegnam, "is a familiar term since Vatican II but long before that time, Frank Wolfe had emerged."

"Today there's a whole reservoir of good will but I think that sometimes there is a great overlapping of the service and work of laymen in the Church. Sometimes they are doing (and God bless them for it) what others are better trained to do."

"Frank Wolfe's contribution to the Church was in an area of his lifetime's experience and training. Although self-taught, he was uncanny in his analysis of economic situations. His advice was always measured and well thought out. This area is so unfamiliar and, to be truthful, so boring to churchmen that its takeover was treasured and appreciated. It was a beautiful and needed gift."

"He reminds me of the man in the Gospel with the five talents who used them all. The humor of this parable is simply that because he used all his talents he was given more responsibilities. And that is why Frank Wolfe's contribution to the Church are so great. In the words of the Gospel: 'Well done, my good and faithful servant.'"

Frank E. Wolfe filled a variety of roles in the Rochester diocese.



When Frank Wolfe was named Man of the Year by the National Kolping Society in 1976, the then Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin was on hand to present the honor. The archbishop is now a cardinal and bishop of Chicago.

He was past president of the diocesan Holy Name Union, of the Layman's Retreat League of Rochester, St. Ann's Home for the Aged and St. Mary's Hospital Men's Board. He was a co-founder with Msgr. Joseph Cirrincione of the Family Rosary for Peace and its treasurer.

A resident of Rochester since 1911 when his family moved here from Bethlehem, Pa., he was a trustee of St. Thomas More Church, St. John Fisher College, Catholic Charities and Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

He was a member of the advisory boards of Lincoln First Bank and of the Community Chest. Among the many organizations to which he belonged are the Nocturnal Adoration Society, the Daily Mass League, the Third Order of St. Dominic, the Oblates of the Redemptorist Order, the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion. He was a past trustee of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

He served for 20 years as treasurer of the Courier-Journal. Anthony J. Costello, publisher and general manager, remembers him for

his generous service — "He was always available. I never knew anyone so generous with his time and talent. When you called, Frank answered."

Costello continued, "He not only was a valuable financial adviser but he was a guiding hand for me in many areas of running the newspaper. And he always conducted himself as the true gentleman he was."

Mr. Wolfe's daughter, Mary Catherine Wolfe, is a cloistered nun at the Dominican Monastery in Elmira. She told the Rochester Times-Union that

her father "didn't have hobbies. His whole interest was in helping people."

He was a favorite with Sister Catherine's associates at the monastery. In dealing with the outside diocese, they would often ask to be remembered to "Pa Wolfe."

His wife Loretta died in 1961. In addition to his daughter, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Anne McMahon and Sister Regina, SSJ, and several nieces and nephews.

Blessed Sacrament Shroud Talk

The evangelization committee of Blessed Sacrament Parish will sponsor a talk and slide presentation on the Shroud of Turin by Father Vincent Donovan, 7:30 p.m., March 23, in the school hall. The Oswego pastor is a recognized expert on the subject and has traveled extensively in this diocese with this presentation.

SEND THIS TO THE POPE CUT THIS OUT AND MAIL TO ADDRESS BELOW FOR LATER FORWARDING TO JOHN PAUL II IN THIS IMPORTANT HOLY YEAR, STARTING MARCH 25.

John Paul tells us often of the need to repent & be renewed for our own sake & to obtain true peace with justice. He especially recommends the rosary & proper devotion to the Blessed Virgin who gave a similar message at Fatima, Portugal, in the predawn of our dangerous nuclear age.

Give personal value to the message by your commitment to:

- Pray at least a weekly rosary
- Do without a "Favorite Thing" for the entire Holy Year
- Think about need to act for Social Justice.

(your signature is optional)

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