

# World, Nation, People... in Brief

## World

### Investigation Continues

Rome — The chief investigator of the 1981 attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II flew to Sofia, Bulgaria, July 11 to interrogate several people linked to the attempt by the convicted papal assailant, Mehmet Ali Agca. Italian Judge Ilario Martella, who heads the 14-month-old investigation, was accompanied by deputy state prosecutor Antonio Albano and three other Italian officials. Martella's departure came three days after Agca, a 24-year-old Turk who is serving a life sentence in Italy for his attempt to kill Pope John Paul on May 13, 1981, said publicly that he had been trained by "the KGB (Soviet secret police) international terrorists" and that the attempt on the pope's life "was done by the Bulgarian secret services."

### 'Coup Spirit' Opposed

Buenos Aires, Argentina — As Argentina prepares to vote for its first civilian government since 1976, the Argentine Catholic bishops have opposed a "coup spirit" within the military and defended the need to return to constitutional rule. The bishops' statement, issued in July, coincided with a wave of rumors that groups within the military opposed to elections were planning a coup against the current military leaders.

## Nation

### Bishop Releases Pastoral

Buffalo — Baptism and confirmation give every Catholic the right and responsibility to minister, said Bishop Edward D. Head of Buffalo. In a pastoral statement on ministry in the diocese, "I Will Give You What I Have," the bishop emphasized the need for lay involvement as eucharistic and music ministers, acolytes and lectors.

### Pro-Lifers Sentenced

St. Paul, Minn. — A Minnesota county judge sentenced five pro-life activists, convicted of trespassing at an abortion clinic, to community service with organizations other than pro-life groups. On July 1 Ramsey County Municipal Court Judge Donald E. Gross ordered the activists to perform 30 hours service for groups other than pro-life organizations or spend 15 days in jail. Gross also required that they stay off the clinic's property for a year.

### Bishop Promises Aid

Butte, Mont. — Bishop Elden F. Curtiss of Helena, Mont., pledged \$100,000 in aid and more priests to economically depressed Butte. The bishop also challenged the Anaconda Minerals Company and the Butte labor unions to negotiate a fair settlement of benefits to the unemployed of the community. The company, after 100 years of copper mining in the area, suspended operations July 1. Seven hundred employees have been laid off since December and only 70 remain with the company, which at one time employed 15,000. Bishop Curtiss announced he would establish a diocesan committee in the predominately Catholic area "to deal with the hurting people in western Montana with a special focus on Butte and Anaconda," a neighboring city also hurt by company shutdowns.

### Pastoral Praised

New York — Leaders of the West German Green Party commended the U.S. Catholic bishops' pastoral on war and peace during a visit to New York July 12. The Green Party is an anti-nuclear and environmentalist movement that won 5.6 percent of the vote in the March 6 West German elections and for the first time gained representation in the country's Parliament, the Bundestag. When asked about the overall West German reaction to the pastoral, a party member said the government was "hostile," the press was "divided" and the peace people, which he claimed were the majority, were "very happy."

## People

Pope John Paul II has named Archimandrite Vladimir L. Tarasevitch titular bishop of Mariamme and apostolic visitor of Byelorussian (White Russian) Catholics living outside Byelorussia. Bishop-designate Tarasevitch, a Benedictine, is pastor of Christ the Redeemer Church in Chicago. . . Josephite Father John L. M. Filippelli has been elected to a second four-year term as superior general of the Josephite Society. The Josephites, American priests and brothers based in Baltimore, are dedicated to spiritual ministry to blacks in the United States. . . Cardinal Lawrence Shehan, retired archbishop of Baltimore, has accepted a one-year position as chairman of the board of directors of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. CARA is a research and development agency for the church, founded at the close of Vatican II. Cardinal Shehan headed CARA from 1966 to 1968.

# Focus on Today's World



During a papal audience in St. Peter's Square, Pope John Paul II takes the hands of cheering visitors from Gniezno and Poznan, Poland. At the audience, the pope spoke of his Polish trip. (NC Photo)



Bishop Rene Gracida takes care of a little chore — feeding a goat kid — before leaving the Pensacola-Tallahassee diocese for his installation July 11 as bishop of Corpus Christi, Tex. The kid, one of several small farm animals that the bishop kept at his rural Florida home, was reported to be doing well after the bishop's nurturing. (NC Photo)



As the trial of 13 women charged with abortion offenses continues in Spain, supporters of legalized abortion place a sign atop an old fountain in Madrid. (NC Photo)

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## the Saints *by Luke*

### ST. JOSEPH of PALESTINE



JOSEPH WAS AN ASSISTANT TO RABBI HILLEL, A FAMOUS TEACHER OF THE JEWS. HE WAS VERY MUCH IMPRESSED BY THE DEATHBED BAPTISM OF THE RABBI AND THE CHRISTIAN BOOKS HE LEFT.

JOSEPH WAS APPOINTED HEAD OF THE SYNAGOGUE AT TARSUS, BUT WHEN HIS CONGREGATION FOUND HIM READING THE GOSPELS THEY BEAT HIM AND THREW HIM INTO THE CYDNUS RIVER. HE THEN BECAME A CHRISTIAN, AND WAS MADE AN ADVISOR TO EMPEROR CONSTANTINE. HE BUILT SEVERAL CHURCHES IN GALILEE.

JOSEPH LEFT TIBERIAS AND TOOK UP RESIDENCE AT SCYTHOPOLIS, WHERE HE GAVE SHELTER TO REFUGEES FROM ARIAN PERSECUTION, AMONG THEM ST. EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI AND ST. EPIPHANUS, WHO LATER WROTE JOSEPH'S BIOGRAPHY.

JOSEPH DIED ABOUT 356, HIS FEAST IS JULY 22.

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