

World, Nation, People... in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Bishops Critical

Warsaw, Poland -- Poland's Catholic bishops Aug. 26 criticized the tough "special regulations" enacted by the government in ending martial law and said authorities had missed the chance for a "national accord" provided by Pope John Paul II's visit to Poland in June. The bishops also called for amnesty for those imprisoned under martial law, for restoring independent trade unions, for rehiring workers fired for political views and for a government dialogue with workers and intellectuals "responding to their just aspirations."

Nation

New Order Begun

New Orleans -- The new order of Franciscan Sisters of the Spirit of Jesus is a new expression of the Hermitage, a very old concept of St. Francis, said its founder, Sister Clare Francis Brunet. "The Hermitage concept, based on the Martha-Mary principle, is by nature a contemplative way of life; some are given more to prayer in the house, while others work part-time in support of the prayer apostolate to supply the basic needs of the community," Sister Brunet said.

RNS May Sell

New York -- Religious News Service, the interdenominational religious news reporting service run under the auspices of the National Conference of Christians and Jews since 1933, is negotiating transfer of its operations to the United Methodist Reporter organization. The Dallas-based United Methodist Reporter, headed by Spurgeon Dunnam, produces a weekly national newspaper with separate editions for some 300 regional units and local churches and serves some 500,000 subscribers.

Baby Doe Rules Backed

Washington -- The U.S. bishops' pro-life director has restated support for the Reagan administration's proposed "Baby Doe" rules to protect handicapped newborns. In written comments filed with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services the pro-life director, Father Edward M. Bryce, said the rules were long overdue and were a reasonable effort to protect the civil rights of infants. The new rules, published by the Reagan administration July 5, were designed to replace similar rules published earlier this year but struck down by a federal judge in April.

Cardinal Concern

New York -- Word that Cardinal Terence Cooke suffers from acute leukemia touched the heart of New York with immediate force. People went to St. Patrick's Cathedral or their parish churches to pray and light candles. Priests of the archdiocese remembered the cardinal in their Masses. Public officials and unknown citizens alike voiced their shock and concern. The 62-year-old cardinal is archbishop of New York and heads the U.S. church's Military Ordinariate. **More details, Page 5.**

Catholics in Walk

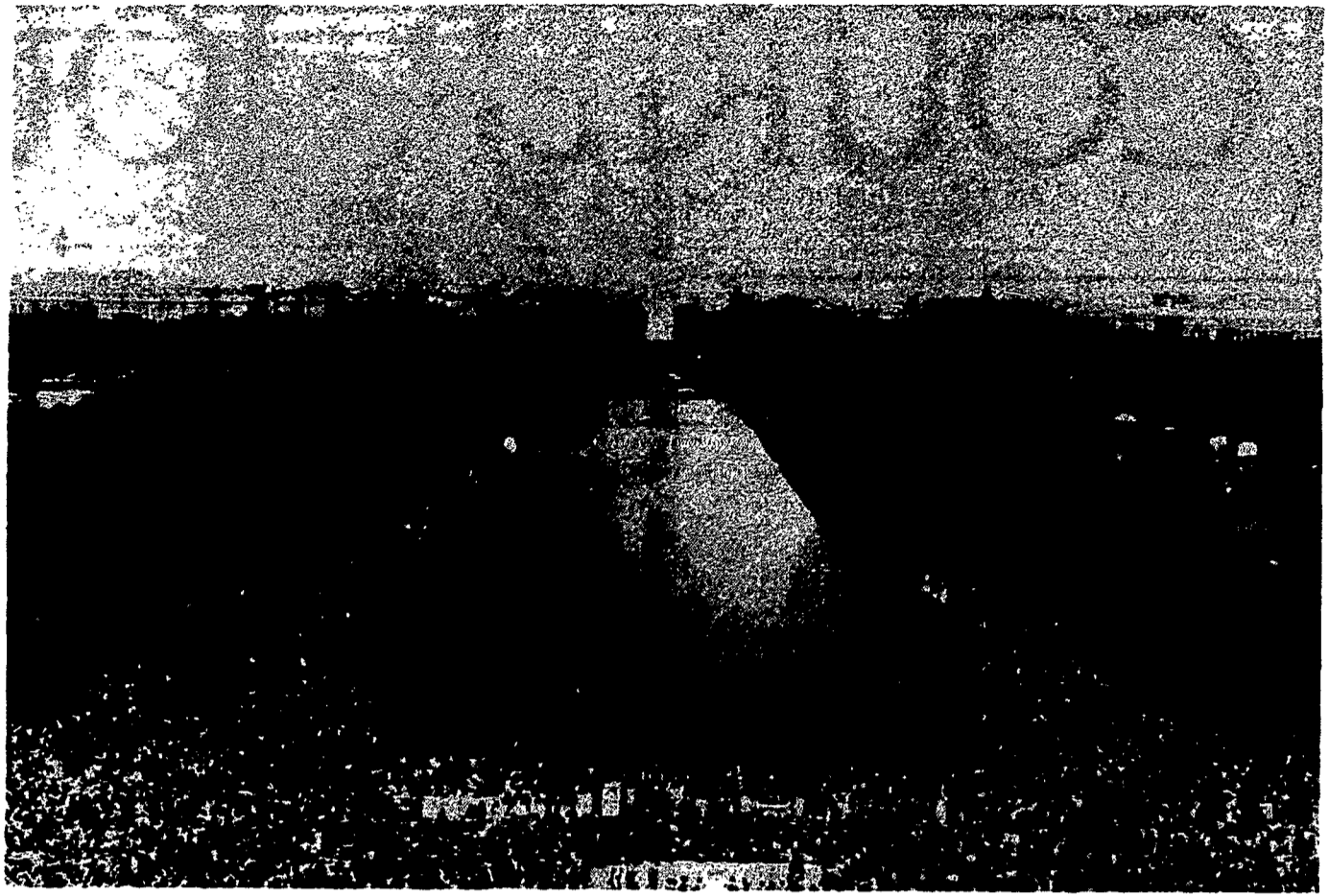
Washington -- Two Catholic bishops addressed the 20th Anniversary March on Washington, Aug. 27, and several thousand Catholics walked in the demonstration for jobs, peace and freedom. The night before the march Catholics, Protestants, Jews and Moslems turned to God for help at an interfaith prayer service. "If we trust only in our own strength in this march, we will not succeed," said the Rev. Arthur Flemming, religious coordinator for the march.

U.N. Religion Study

United Nations -- The United Nations plans to organize a seminar next year on religious freedom and tolerance. The plan was announced in Geneva, Switzerland, by Kurt Herndl, U.N. assistant secretary general for human rights, during a one-day debate in August before a U.N. subcommission on human rights.

Abortion Gaining?

Huntington, Ind. -- The percentage of American Catholics who oppose the 1973 Supreme Court decisions overturning most state restrictions on abortion has dropped until Catholics are almost evenly divided on the subject, according to Gallup Poll results published in Our Sunday Visitor. Today 48 percent oppose the court abortion decisions while 47 percent support them. In 1981 56 percent of U.S. Catholics opposed the decisions and 37 percent supported them. In 1974 they opposed the decisions by 61-32 percent.



The Dream Lives On

An estimated 250,000 people surround the reflecting pool between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument during the 20th anniversary March on Washington. Representatives from 700 organizations marched for jobs, peace and freedom. Many from the Rochester diocese took part. (NC Photo)

Austria Next Stop for Pope

Vatican City (NC) -- Pope John Paul II's forthcoming trip to Austria is designed to highlight the Katholikentag (Catholic Day), the culmination of a year-long program of study and spiritual reflection by the nation's more than 6 million Catholics, a majority of the country's 7.5 million population.

According to the schedule for the Sept. 10-13 trip, the key event will be a Sunday morning papal Mass Sept. 11 in Vienna's Danube Park.

The Mass is to be celebrated at a 297-acre site overlooking the Danube River, the nation's capital and the Vienna Woods.

The Katholikentag was

programmed to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the defense of Vienna against Moslem Turkish forces in 1683, a victory which preserved Christianity as the dominant religion in Europe. The military battle, however, will receive little emphasis.

The pope will deliver between 15 and 20 talks to a variety of groups, including migrant workers, many of them from Turkey, and Polish refugees. On Sept. 10, he will take part in a Vespers service with bishops from throughout Europe.

Local Firm Offers Diocesan Schools Computer Training

This Fall, Schoolhouse Computer Training will bring Apple computers into three diocesan schools: St. Salome, Irondequoit, and St. Francis De Sales and St. Stephen, Geneva.

Each school will receive use of a teacher trained on computers and four computer systems one day a week through Christmas.

The six-month-old company will also offer students advanced classes after school one week per month on a fee basis. In addition it will offer evening computer literacy courses for adults on a fee basis.

Adult classes are spread over four two-hour sessions

on consecutive Tuesday or Thursday evenings.

A company press release said that beginners are introduced to BASIC programming, word processing and spreadsheets. "A limit of two people per computer keeps the class small and maximizes individual attention. Jargon and mathematics are kept to a minimum."

The founder of the company is Paul Brisson of Rochester. He said that if the current school program is successful it will be offered to other schools in the Spring.

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FREE MILK PROGRAM

A free special milk policy for Catholic elementary school children unable to pay the full price has been announced by the Office of General Education. Eligibility will be determined by family size and income. The following schools are participating in the Free Milk Program:

- Blessed Sacrament Junior High, Rochester
- Corning Catholic Schools
- Good Shepherd, Henrietta
- Guardian Angels, Rochester
- Holy Apostles/Holy Family, Rochester
- Holy Cross, Rochester
- Holy Trinity, Webster
- Most Precious Blood, Rochester
- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport
- St. Ann, Hornell
- St. Anne, Rochester
- St. Charles Borromeo, Rochester
- St. Francis de Sales, Geneva
- St. James, Waverly
- St. John of Rochester, Fairport
- St. John the Evangelist, Greece
- St. Joseph, Wayland
- St. Lawrence, Rochester
- St. Louis, Pittsford
- St. Mary, Bath
- St. Mary, Canandaigua
- St. Mary, Waterloo
- St. Mary's Regional School, Elmira
- St. Michael, Penn Yan
- St. Stephen, Geneva
- St. Thomas More, Rochester

The policy is sponsored by the Bureau of School Management under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Services. School officials will use an income scale and any uncontrollable financial hardship which may affect a family's ability to pay for special milk. Provision is also made for foster children.

Families falling within the income scale are urged to apply by completing application forms sent home in a letter to parents. Individual applications may be submitted any time during the school year.

Each school will designate an official to review applications and determine eligibility. Any dissatisfaction with a ruling by an official may be appealed through a hearing.

The policy also provides that there will be no identification of, or discrimination against, any student unable to pay the full cost of the milk.



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