

### More Opinions

#### Rockets, No Books, Si

EDITOR:

Two events that might interest your readers:

1. "THIS END TOWARD ENEMY" read the label on the rocket launcher recovered by Nicaraguan border guards after a military engagement along the Honduran-Nicaraguan border last month. The launcher was part of the covert military aid Mr. Reagan is directing against Nicaragua. The "enemy" included the 10 members of my former parish in Tipitapa who were killed by last year's installment of the covert aid. The "enemy" includes the three young men we gave a lift to as they were returning to their border units last week after a few days rest in Managua. Why does President Reagan see "enemy" rather than human beings? Why does Congressman Barber J. Conable Jr. insist on "neutralizing" human beings whom he arbitrarily considers "enemy" as he implicitly did by his July 28 vote to continue covert aid, despite the explicit opposition of the U.S. Catholic Conference and the World Council of Churches or is it true there's more Church-State conflict in Western New York than here in Nicaragua?

2. In the course of planning our parish catechetical program for the second semester, Sister Theresa explained how we'll have to make special efforts to reach the many children who have so little educational stimulus in their homes or even in school for lack of instructional materials. I can verify this from previous pastoral experience in Central America (e.g. San Salvador) where the 25-piece picture puzzles I'd make available would be worn out in a week as they were re-worked by so many eager hands.

Sister Theresa dedicates her time to religious education because she believes that education is the way by which the people of Central America are going to see their way through. The Church, she notes, has the opportunity to be part of this educational process through well-prepared and well-equipped catechists.

The catechists we have. What we lack are things such as crayons, pencils, pens, books of all kind for children in Spanish, coloring books, chess and checker sets for older children, simple musical instruments such as recorders, guitar strings, used eye glasses for children and adults, and, yes, picture puzzles, etc. Many U.S. families have such items around the house and if not too heavy or oversize can be sent by sea or air to us marked "donacion" at: P. Bernardo Survil, c/o Asociacion Para el Desarrollo de Los Pueblos, Apartado 4627, Servicios Multiples, Managua, Nicaragua.

No one likes to beg, not even nations. But who asked for the rocket launchers, the value of two or three being enough to pay, fair and square, for all the instructional material we could ever use?

Father Bernard A. Survil  
Casa Curial  
Esquipulas, Nicaragua

#### Get Our Troops Out!

EDITOR:

We have telephoned the following message to Sens. D'Amato and Moynihan and Congressman Kemp:

"In the name of God control that man of violence in the White House before it is too late.

"Get our military out of Central America, Lebanon and Grenada."

Please do something. Take a stand. President Reagan is bringing us closer and closer to the day when the nuclear missiles will fly and we will all join the soldiers who have given their lives in Central America, Lebanon and Grenada.

Adolphe and Loe d'Audiffret  
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#### Everyone Urged: Fight Abortion

EDITOR:

I write this with a heavy heart. Thousands are willing to rally in support of peace and my prayers are with and for them. A world free from the threat of nuclear destruction is everyone's desire. No one can disagree with this goal.

On the other hand, a present and very real destruction takes place each and every hour of every day and has been going on for almost 11 long years. This holocaust has the sanction of our Supreme Court, the majority of the leaders of our nation, and, sad to say, perhaps even the majority of those who profess to be followers of Christ.

The Sept. 1 Courier-Journal reported that the percentage of American Catholics who opposed the 1973 Supreme Court decision overturning most state restric-

tions on abortion has dropped from 61 percent opposition in 1974 to 56 percent in 1981 and to 48 percent in 1983.

False accusations that pro-life activists are unconcerned for the already born, the poor, and the quality of life, and of being sanctimonious fanatics can be disheartening and demoralizing. But those involved in the fight for defenseless life will not give in to these feelings of discouragement because we realize that our real enemy, the father of lies and destruction, Satan himself, is the author of such accusations and we will give him no ground. We have a greater and all powerful advocate for this just cause, the Creator of all.

The most puzzling fact to deal with is the apathy of

those whom you would assume to be like-minded concerning the sanctity of life at all stages and conditions. How do you activate the clergy, religious and fellow Christians to prayer and action for God's most threatened and defenseless creations -- our innocent pre-born brothers and sisters? How many Jan. 22nds have come and gone since that tragic one in 1973?

When will we, as a people, rise up and no longer tolerate the killing to continue by reaching out to women with unexpected pregnancies to help find a more acceptable solution to their difficult problems?

Does anyone really care that more than 15 million images of God have been destroyed in the hospitals and

clinics of this land? My heart is broken. Imagine the sorrow of our Creator.

I challenge all who read this to be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. To support, learn and rally on Jan. 22 in a display of love for the weak and helpless. And most of all, to intercede in prayer that ears may be opened to hear and eyes to see the Creator's will for, and answer to unexpected pregnancies.

I write in a spirit of love and not condemnation of any persons. I hate the evil in our world, but I truly love all my brothers and sisters of our heavenly Father.

Jean Saltisiak  
Box 312 D RD 1  
Owego, N.Y. 13827

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