

COURIER-JOURNAL

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COURIER-JOURNAL
CHRISTMAS FUND

Give Generously

The Neediest Cases Only Represent Widespread Misery

Throughout the diocese this Christmas season are individuals and families for whom what should be a time of celebration and joy is nothing less than a time of hopelessness and deep anxiety.

They are our brothers and sisters: elderly, living alone in one-room apartments without adequate food, medicine or companionship; young, abandoned wives with small children, struggling to make a better life for themselves and their families; handicapped, mentally or physically, and shunted aside from the normal course of social activities; the terminally ill, the unemployed, the homeless.

All of them are living in the Diocese of Rochester, our neighbors.

Since 1969, the Courier-Journal, in conjunction with agencies of diocesan Catholic Charities, has provided help at Christmas time, through

the Courier-Journal Christmas Fund.

In connection with the fund, this paper annual publishes the true case stories of the diocese's 100 neediest people. But that list is not exclusive by any means. For each individual case listed here, there are hundreds more, suffering equally.

Many readers may be moved by a particularly dramatic need case and want to help that individual or family, while other cases may go unnoticed. For that reason, the distributing agencies must use their expertise to help as many as possible.

Parishes and organizations wishing to participate in the fund are asked to contact the Catholic Charities office.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the fund should send donations to:

Courier-Journal
Catholic Charities
Christmas Fund
50 Chestnut St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14604

Neediest Cases In the Diocese

21 Mrs. C is a 61-year-old woman who is crippled with arthritis. She is living on a fixed income and has to support her teenage son who is unable to find work.

22 The Es are a disabled couple living on a fixed income with their five children. After expenses, their limited income does not leave much money to spend on other personal needs.

23 Mrs. E is a 58-year-old widow living on Social Security. She has severe medical problems: a thyroid condition that has her weighing more than 350 pounds and diabetes. She is confined, at all times, to her home. Her required medication is such an added expense that she often goes without regular meals.

24 The Ns have six children, the oldest 11. N is a seasonal worker and is presently unemployed. The family is living in inadequate housing and the children are often without food or clothing.

25 Ms. S, a single mother, and her three children are on welfare. The youngest is 2 months old. The mother recently underwent major surgery. The family has had to move three times in the past two

years. The mother finds it hard to provide the basic necessities for the children, especially warm clothing and food.

26 Mrs. R is a 52-year-old mother of three. She suffers from chronic health problems, including diabetes, and recently had a mastectomy. She is on a fixed income and is often depressed because she finds it difficult to make ends meet.

27 Mrs. R is an 83-year-old woman who lives alone. She recently had her left foot amputated because of gangrene. She is living on a fixed income, but recently received notice that her landlord is going to increase the rent. It is going to be very difficult for Mrs. R to meet her financial obligations.

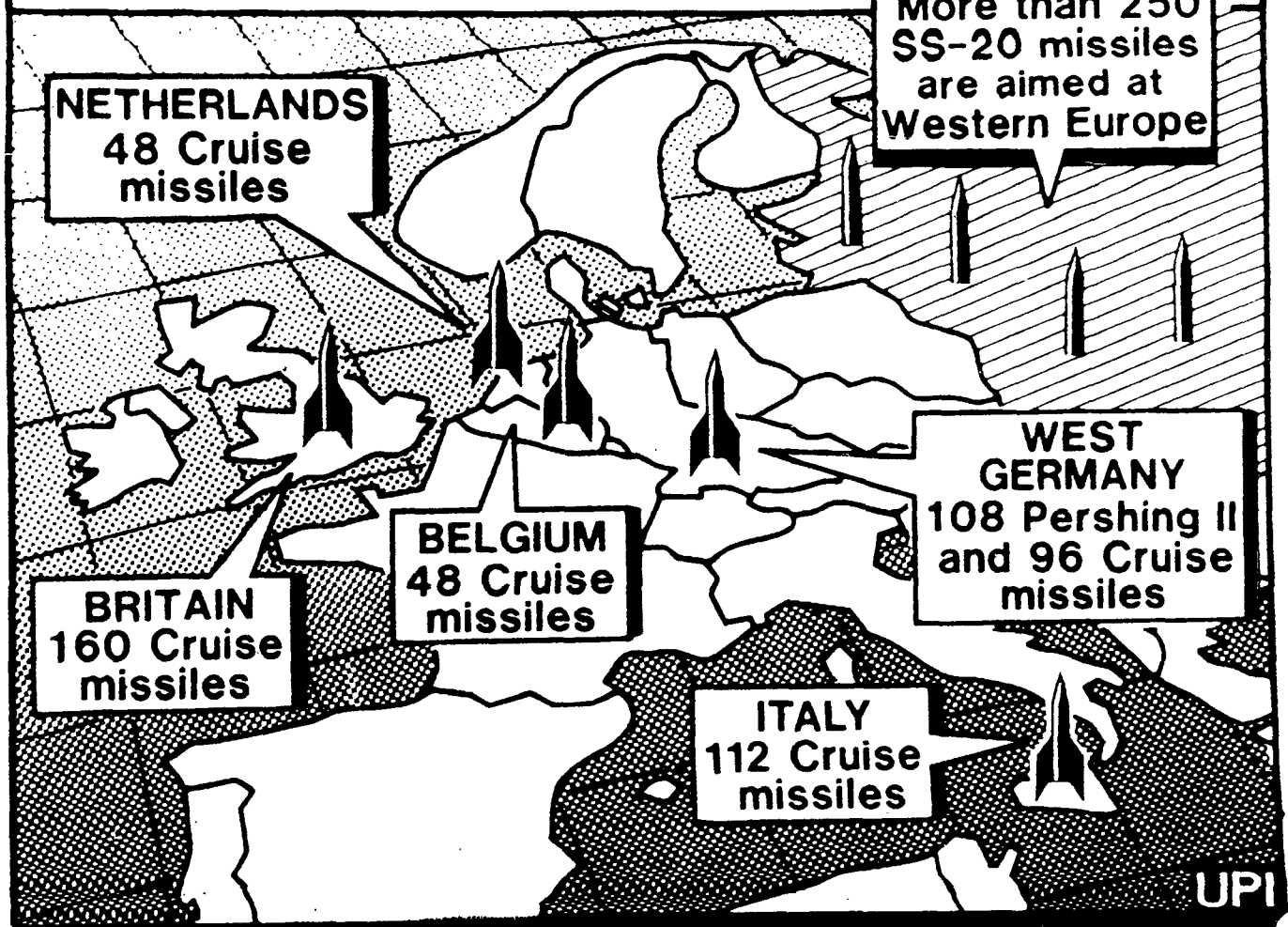
28 Mrs. P is a 62-year-old woman living on a fixed income who recently had a stroke which has affected her memory. She is trying to cope with the problem, but the stroke has also left her depressed. She has incurred high medical bills.

29 The Ms are an elderly couple, 94 and 82, with limited English and no children to provide support.

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PROPOSED DEPLOYMENT OF NEW U.S. MISSILES IN WESTERN EUROPE

Total: 108 Pershing II and 464 Cruise missiles



Map shows proposed locations for Cruise and Pershing II missiles in Great Britain and Europe. (NC News Service)

U.S. Missiles Protested By England, Wales Bishops

London (NC) -- The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have expressed "grave concern" at the arrival of U.S. cruise missiles and said this puts into question the British government's determination to seek nuclear disarmament.

The bishops approved the statement at the end of a four-day meeting of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales. It came three days after the first U.S. cruise missiles were delivered for deployment to an American air base near London.

"This new situation would appear to make it more difficult for (the British) government to demonstrate convincingly its commitment to a policy of progressive and mutual disarmament. Such commitment is essential if the policy of nuclear deterrence is to be morally acceptable," the bishops said.

"Deterrence ought to be regarded as a temporary measure and a stage toward multilateral disarmament," they added.

The statement urged the British government "to provide the public with further grounds for reassurance and with evidence of its intensified efforts to achieve

genuine and effective disarmament."

The bishops said they planned to write to British, Soviet and U.S. government officials to express their concern about the nuclear arms race. They noted that arrival of the missiles has caused "considerable anxiety and in some places anger and unrest."

The week the missiles were delivered, police arrested more than 600 protesters.

A public opinion poll showed 50 percent of the British against U.S. cruise missiles in Britain, with 38 percent favoring their deployment. In May, 46 percent of the British opposed the missiles, and 42 percent favored them.

At a press conference Nov. 17 Cardinal George Basil Hume of Westminster said he could not see any morally legitimate use for nuclear weapons "because I believe that once you start using nuclear weapons even in a battlefield situation you are crossing a nuclear threshold."

Regarding the morality of breaking the law to protest public policy, he said that upholding the law is vital and that anything which provokes violence could be dangerous.

"What I do not approve of is any violation in respect of property or persons," he added. As an example, he said he feels deeply that abortion is immoral, but this does not give him the right to throw stones through the windows of an abortion clinic.

Also on Nov. 17, an article by Cardinal Hume on nuclear morality appeared in The Times of London. The article paralleled the positions in the conference statement.

Nuclear deterrence under

Nuclear Specter Incentive to Work For Peace -- Pope

Vatican City (NC) -- "The frightening specter of nuclear holocaust" is an incentive to work for peace, said Pope John Paul II Nov. 19 to a private group which supports the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"While nations are naturally preoccupied with the requirements of their own defense, the seemingly endless instances of discord and unrest in the world, and especially the frightening specter of nuclear holocaust,

strict conditions and as a temporary step toward disarmament is emerging "as the most widely accepted view of the Roman Catholic Church," said the article.

The cardinal also stressed the need to halt the increase in armaments and said there was room for different opinions in the "agonizing and unclear situation."

"People everywhere have a right to know in what ways their governments are pursuing policies that will

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are powerful incentives to continue the unrelenting search for practical and enduring means of achieving peace," the pope added.

Pope John Paul said the church's interest in peace stems from the Gospel and its role in the international community.

"The church engages in this pursuit, furthermore, not in a secondary or extraneous way, but in faithful compliance to the exhortation of the

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Church Links Abortion, Nuclear War Threat ... Page 5