

World, Nation, People... in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Priest Talks to Communists

London -- Cardinal George Basil Hume of Westminster has requested a meeting with a priest who addressed the annual congress of the British Communist Party. Cardinal Hume said that he had not known in advance that Msgr. Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, would address the Communist Party. A transcript of the speech was requested by Cardinal Hume. Msgr. Kent spoke to the Communist Party Nov. 13 and said he also addressed Conservative Party groups.

Concerned by Missiles

London -- 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 Nov. 17 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 air base near London.

Irish Murders Condemned

Armagh, Northern Ireland -- The murders of three men and the wounding of seven others during a worship service Nov. 20 in a Pentecostal hall was condemned by Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich of Armagh. He called the raid by gunmen "a direct attack against God" and said the gunmen had no right to call themselves Catholic. An organization calling itself the Catholic Reaction Force claimed responsibility for the attack.

Nation

Abortion, Nukes Linked

Washington -- The Catholic Church has a unique ability to link the issues of abortion and the threat of nuclear war, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago told the National Conference of Catholic Bishops general meeting in Washington Nov. 17. He suggested that the link can be the work of the bishops' conference, whose committee for Pro-Life Activities he heads. More details Page 5; editorial, Page 13.

Vatican Relations Nearer

Washington -- Congress has given final approval to ending a century-old ban on formal diplomatic relations between the United States and the Holy See. The action came late Nov. 18 as the House and Senate disposed of dozens of bills before adjourning for the year. Among those bills was a measure authorizing programs for the State Department to which the Vatican relations issue had been attached earlier this year.

JFK Remembered

Washington -- On the 20th anniversary of his death President John F. Kennedy was praised by his brother and by the archbishop of Washington as a compassionate man whose life touched the world. "The events of 20 years ago cut short his time with us, but they cannot take away the hopes he raised, the excitement he felt and progress we made under his leadership," said Archbishop James A. Hickey of Washington in his homily at a memorial Mass Nov. 22 sponsored by the Kennedy family.

New U.S. Diocese Formed

Washington -- Pope John Paul II created the new Diocese of Colorado Springs, Colo., and named Auxiliary Bishop Richard C. Hanifen of Denver, 52, as its first bishop. He also appointed Auxiliary Bishop Daniel L. Ryan of Joliet, Ill., to be the new bishop of Springfield, Ill. Bishop Ryan, 53, succeeds Bishop Joseph A. McNicholas, who died last April.

Heave-Ho for Jimmy

(Undated) -- Two Atlanta television stations have dropped the Rev. Jimmy Swaggart's daily, paid-time TV program following Catholics' complaints that he was attacking the church. Shirley Cooke, a spokeswoman at Mr. Swaggart's Baton Rouge, La., ministry headquarters, said the organization had no comment on the stations' decisions. The two stations, Channel 5 (WAGA), a CBS affiliate, and Channel 46 (WANX), dropped the daily show after mid-November protests from Catholics, including the Georgia Bulletin, Atlanta archdiocesan newspaper, which had editorialized against Mr. Swaggart's "gospel of hate." More details, Page 4.

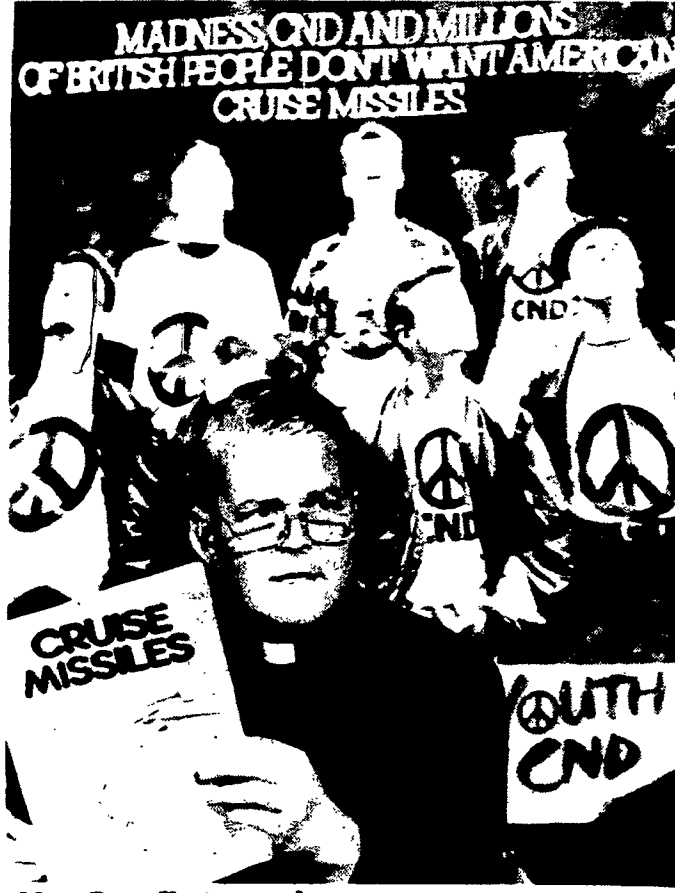
Focus on Today's World



British paratroopers encircle a vehicle as servicemen draw tarpaulins over equipment believed to be warheads for cruise missiles. The transporter was unloaded from a U.S. plane at Greenham Common Airbase in England. Women demonstrators attempted to block the gate to the airbase and more than 120 were arrested. (NC Photo)



At Nativity Church in Pleasant Ridge, Ohio, nary a whimper is uttered by Anne Reidmiller as she is immersed in baptismal water by her grandfather, Louis Rekers, a permanent deacon from St. James of the Valley parish in Wyoming, Ohio. (NC Photo)



Msgr. Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, at a London press conference explains his opposition to the arrival of American-made cruise missiles for deployment in England and Europe. (NC Photo)

the Saints by Luke

EDMUND WAS BORN THE SON OF A CATHOLIC BOOKSELLER IN LONDON ABOUT 1540.

HE WAS GIVEN A SCHOLARSHIP TO ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD, WHEN 15, AND WAS MADE A JUNIOR FELLOW AT 17. HE WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL ORATOR AND WAS CHOSEN TO SPEAK BEFORE QUEEN ELIZABETH WHEN SHE VISITED OXFORD IN 1566. HE WAS ORDAINED AN ANGLICAN DEACON BUT DOUBTS ABOUT PROTESTANTISM BESET HIM. IN 1569 HE WENT TO IRELAND TO HELP FOUND A UNIVERSITY AND RETURNED TO LONDON IN 1571.

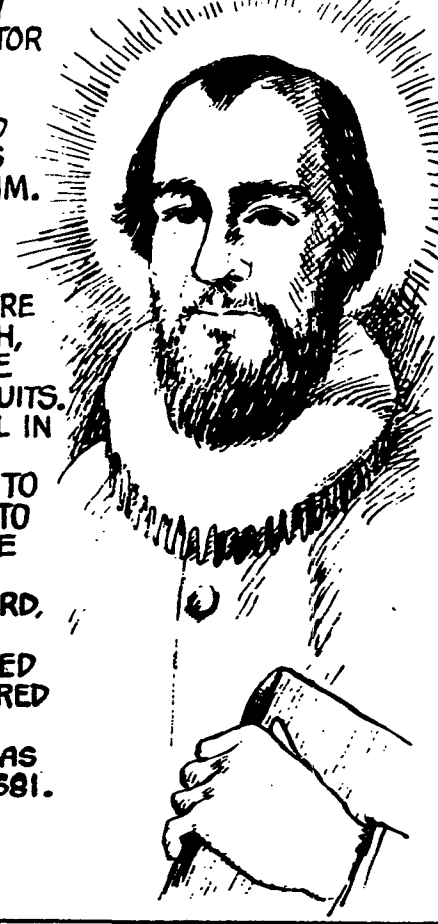
HE WENT TO DOUAI, FRANCE, WHERE HE WAS RECONCILED TO THE CHURCH, THEN MADE A PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND WHILE THERE JOINED THE JESUITS.

HE TAUGHT AT A JESUIT SCHOOL IN PRAGUE AND IN 1578 WAS ORDAINED THERE. IN 1579, HE WAS CHOSEN TO BEGIN A COVERT JESUIT MISSION TO ENGLAND WHERE CATHOLICS WERE STILL BEING PERSECUTED.

EDMUND WAS BETRAYED AT LYFORD, NEAR OXFORD AND IMPRISONED IN THE TOWER OF LONDON. HE REFUSED TO DENY HIS FAITH THOUGH OFFERED BRIBES. HE WAS TORTURED AND HANGED, DRAWN AND QUARTERED AS A TRAITOR IN LONDON ON DEC. 1, 1581.

HE WAS CANONIZED IN 1970 AS ONE OF THE 40 ENGLISH AND WELSH MARTYRS.

ST. EDMUND CAMPION



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