World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service



Pilgrimage Blocked

(Undated) -- Religious women have protested to the U.S. and Honduran governments after being barred from entering Honduras to hold what they said would be a prayer pilgrimage. Honduras "welcomed thousands of U.S. military personnel with arms" but denied entry to 150 religious women "who came, unarmed, to pray for peace," a Dec. 8 statement by the women said. The members of the Women's Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in Central America attempted to enter Honduras Dec. 5. Fifty of the women landed in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa but were not allowed to deplane. Another 100 women were not allowed to board a Honduran airline flight to the capital city.

Details Released

Paris -- Polish labor leader Lech Walesa said in an interview that he and Pope John Paul II, consoled each other about the future of Poland during their private meeting near Cracow, Poland, June 23. Walesa offered the first public details of the meeting, which occurred at the end of the pope's trip to his homeland, in an interview published Dec. 7 in the Paris-based International Herald Tribune. Walesa praised the church's role in aiding jailed dissidents, explained his reluctance to accept in person his Nobel Peace Prize and predicted the government's economic program would lead to the 'pauperization of the nation.'

Notion.

Salvador Reports to Continue

Washington -- The Reagan administration says it plans to continue making periodic reports to Congress on the situation in El Salvador despite a surprise decision by President Reagan Nov. 30 to veto a bill that would have breathed new life into a more formal certification process. The bill Reagan vetoed would have required the administration to make at least two more reports, next January and July, certifying that the government of El Salvador was continuing to make human rights progress. The veto was announced two days before the third anniversary of the murders in El Salvador of four American churchwomen.

Nicaragua Priest Won't Quit

United Nations -- A controversial Nicaraguan priest, who was once publicly admonished by Pope John Paul II for holding a government post, said Nov. 30 that he plans to remain in the government. The priest, Father Ernesto Cardenal, said he would rather write poetry than be the minister of culture in the Sandinista government. But the government had asked him to stay on the job and, since "everyone obeys his conscience," he will remain, said Father Cardenal, who has published several collections of poetry. The 58-year-old priest spoke at a press conference at U.N. headquarters after arriving in the United States for a speaking tour.

Life March Date Changed

Washington -- The 1984 March for Life in Washington will take place Monday, Jan. 23, instead of the usual Jan. 22 date to allow marchers to lobby their congressmen, Nellie J. Gray, March for Life president, said Dec. 1. Miss Gray said last year when marchers converged on Washington on a Saturday for the 10th march, many expressed disappointment that their representatives were not available. Congress will reconvene Jan. 23. The March for Life commemorates the Jan. 22, 1973, U.S. Supreme Court decision which struck down restrictive state abortion laws.

Tact Questioned

Washington -- Catholic scholars, in a series of essays released by the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, have questioned the church's handling of the case of former Mercy Sister Agnes Mary Mansour. The writers suggested that Ms. Mansour was not treated fairly, that the church needs to follow its own human rights teachings better, and that the power of the magisterium (the church's teaching authority) was misunderstood and misapplied. According to the CMSM, the seven essays were written because of the concern about the Mansour case expressed frequently at meetings of Religious.

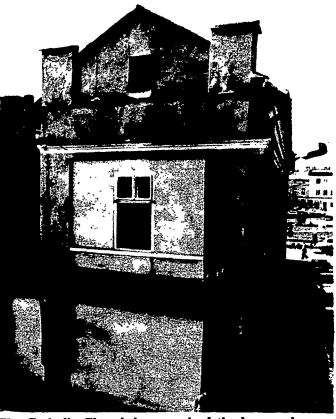
Arrangement a 'Hoax'

New York -- South Africa's new constitutional arrangements to allow Indian and Colored (racially mixed) citizens but not blacks into the national parliament are a "monumental hoax," Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu said Dec. 7. People who think conditions in South Africa are improving have been "hoodwinked," he said. The South African bishop and King Juan Carlos I of Spain were honored at the annual Family of Man Dinner, sponsored by the New York City Council of Churches.

Focus on Today's World



Eleven new electro-art sculptures depicting the theme "Journey to Bethlehem" have been added to the 14th annual Way of Lights display at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows near Belleville, Ill. More than 125,000 lights are spread over a mile and a half route to illuminate the display which will continue until Jan. 8. (NC Photo)



The Catholic Church has acquired the house where Pope John Paul II was born in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. The former home of Karol Wojtyla in southern Poland will become a museum of the pope's life and works. (NC Photo)

DELAIDE, BORN IN 931, WAS THE



Bishop Francis X. Roque, 55, poses with two unidentified American soldiers in West Germany. Bishop Roque, one of three new auxiliary bishops of the U.S. Military Ordinariate, is the first bishop to serve as episcopal vicar for U.S. Catholics in Europe. Each of the three bishops will serve four months in Europe to support the work of 100 Catholic military chaplains there. (NC Photo)

the Saints

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A DAUGHTER OF RUDOLF II OF UPPER BURGUNDY. SHE MARRIED LOTHAIR OF ITALY AT 16 AS PART OF A TREATY BETWEEN HER FATHER AND LOTHAIR'S FATHER, ARRANGED WHEN SHE WAS TWO. LOTHAIR DIED IN 950, POSSIBLY POISONED BY HIS SUCCESSOR BÈRENSARIUS, WHO IMPRISONED ADELAIDE WHEN SHE REFUSED TO MARRY HIS SON. ADELAIDE WAS FREED BY THE INVADING GERMAN KING OTTO THE GREAT AND MARRIED HIM IN PAVIA IN 951. HE WAS CROWNED EMPEROR IN ROME THE FOLLOWING YEAR AND DIED IN 973. HIS SON OTTO II SUCCEEDED HIM. BECAUSE OF THE HOSTILITY OF THEOPHANO, OTTO II'S WIFE, ADELAIDE LEFT THE COURT BUT THE TWO WERE RECONCILED BY AN ABBOT.

WHEN OTTO DIED IN 983, THE INFANT SON OTTO III SUCCEEDED TO THE THRONE, WITH THEOPHANO AS REGENT. SHE DROVE ADELAIDE FROM THE COURT, BUT WHEN THEOPHANO DIED IN 991, ADELAIDE RETURNED AS REGENT.

ADELAIDE WAS ACTIVE IN FOUNDING AND RESTORING MONASTERIES AND IN WORKING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE SLAVS. SHE DIED IN A MONASTERY SHE HAD FOUNDED AT SELTA, NEAR COLOGNE ON DEC. 16, 999.
HER FEAST IS DEC. 16.



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