

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Pope 'Persuasive' on Nukes

Vatican City -- Pope John Paul II was "articulate and most persuasive" about the need to reduce world tensions caused by nuclear weapons, said U.S. Vice President George Bush Feb. 15 after a 50-minute private audience with the pope. The audience was held at the Vatican during Bush's overnight stop in Rome on his return from Moscow, where he had represented President Reagan at the funeral of Soviet leader Yuri Andropov. At a press conference at the U.S. embassy in Rome following his visit to the Vatican, Bush said that his meeting with the pope and his talks the same day with Italian government leaders had "centered on the desire we all hold for peace in the world."

National Religion Not Aim

Dublin, Ireland -- If Ireland and Northern Ireland formed one nation, the Catholic bishops would not push to make Catholicism the state religion, said Bishop Cahal Daly of Down and Connor, Northern Ireland. "We believe that the alliance of church and state is harmful for both," Bishop Daly said at a February meeting of the Forum for a New Ireland. The forum, established last May by Irish Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald, is drafting proposals to unite Ireland, where Catholicism is the state religion, and British-ruled Northern Ireland, which has a predominantly Protestant population.

Salvadoran Trial Proceeds

San Salvador, El Salvador -- A Salvadoran appeals judge has denied a motion by five former Salvadoran National Guardsmen that there is not enough evidence to bring them to trial in the murders of four U.S. churchwomen. Judge Luis Alonso Melara, who issued the decision Feb. 10, was quoted by Associated Press as saying that the case could come to trial within a month and a half if defense lawyers make no further procedural motions and the trial judge proceeds without delay. The ex-guardsmen were arrested in May 1981, five months after the bodies of the four women -- Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel and lay missionary Jean Donovan -- were found.

Nation

Parade Controversial Again?

New York -- The unification of Northern Ireland and Ireland will be the only political issue of the St. Patrick's Day parade, said Thomas Gleason, 83, who was elected Feb. 14 to be the parade's grand marshal. But the election of a former Irish Republican Army member, Michael O'Rourke, as the parade's honorary grand marshal may create political problems. O'Rourke, 32, is a convicted bomb-maker who blew his way out of a Dublin, Ireland, jail in 1976 before fleeing to the United States. He was arrested on suspicion of entering the United States illegally and has been held without bail in a New York jail for 4½ years while fighting extradition.

\$351,000 for Vatican Embassy

Washington -- The State Department told a House appropriations subcommittee Feb. 9 it needs to shift \$351,000 from other programs to administer its new embassy at the Vatican. Opponents of the new ties, meanwhile, used the hearing to continue their attack. The \$351,000 figure, for the current fiscal year, would be added to the \$482,000 already in the 1984 budget for the office of the president's personal envoy to the Vatican, making the total cost of operating the Vatican embassy about \$833,000, said Kenneth W. Dam, deputy secretary of state. Protestant and Catholic groups opposed to the exchange of ambassadors urged the subcommittee to reject the funding request.

People

Names Make News

Although Archbishop Helder Camara of Olinda-Recife, Brazil, submitted a letter of resignation as head of his archdiocese, the widely-known churchman said he would not slow down as a defender of the poor in the Third World. The archbishop turned 75 on Feb. 7 and, as requested by church law, sent a letter of resignation to Pope John Paul II. "I don't plan to slow down," he said, announcing plans to travel to Italy, Canada and the United States in 1984 as part of a campaign to get renegotiations of Third World debt payments to North American and European banks. . . . Archbishop John F. Whealon of Hartford is making "extremely rapid progress" following a Feb. 10 operation for rectal cancer, Father Edmund M. O'Brien, archdiocesan spokesman, said Feb. 13. Archbishop Whealon, 63, underwent surgery to remove two malignant growths from the lower bowel.

Focus on Today's World



Bishop Arthur Tafoya, left, of Pueblo, Colo., and Archbishop James V. Casey of Denver lead Bishop Richard C. Hanifen to the episcopal chair during his installation as first bishop of Colorado Springs at Pikes Peak Center. Bishop Hanifen had served as auxiliary bishop under Archbishop Casey. (NC Photo)



Cardinal Timothy Manning of Los Angeles, above, bids Godspeed to Columban Sister Mary Mulcahy as she prepares to leave for Lima, Peru, to replace Sister Joan Sawyer, who was shot and killed by police Dec. 14 in a van where she was held hostage by escaping prisoners. Sister Mulcahy, who taught for 16 years in Los Angeles, will do pastoral ministry in squatter settlements in Lima. (NC Photo)



Newly-ordained Bishop Adam Malda is hugged by his mother, Sophie Maida, at the kiss of peace during his installation Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Green Bay, Wis. The new bishop had just been led to his chair by retired Bishop Aloysius J. Wycislo of Green Bay and Archbishop Rembert Weakland of Milwaukee. (NC Photo)

the Saints *by Luke*

GABRIEL POSSENTI WAS BORN MARCH 1, 1838, IN ASSISI, ITALY, THE 11TH OF 13 CHILDREN. BECAUSE HE WAS INORDINATELY VAIN AND DEVOTED TO WORLDLY PLEASURES, HIS TEACHERS AND FRIENDS WERE SKEPTICAL WHEN HE ANNOUNCED HE WOULD ENTER RELIGIOUS LIFE AFTER HIS GRADUATION. YET UPON ENTERING THE PASSIONIST ORDER, HE BECAME DEVOTED TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS.

THERE WAS NOTHING EXTRAORDINARY ABOUT GABRIEL EXCEPT HIS FAITHFULNESS TO PRAYER, HIS LOVE OF SACRIFICE, AND HIS JOYFUL SPIRIT. HE MEDITATED DAILY ON THE GRIEFS OF MARY AND ENCOURAGED OTHERS TO DO SO.

GABRIEL NEVER LIVED TO SEE ORDINATION, AT AGE 23, JUST AS HE WAS FINISHING HIS STUDIES FOR THE PRIESTHOOD, HE CAME DOWN WITH TUBERCULOSIS; A YEAR LATER, NEAR DEATH, HE ASKED THAT A PICTURE OF OUR LADY OF DOLORS BE PLACED OVER HIS HEART, HE THEN DIED, ON FEB. 27, 1862, IN ISOLA, ITALY.

ST. GABRIEL WAS CANONIZED IN LESS THAN 50 YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH. HIS FEAST IS FEB. 27.

ST. GABRIEL of the Sorrowful Mother



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