

World, Nation, People... in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Pope Recalls Shooting

Vatican City — Pope John Paul II recalled the attack on his life three years ago, blessed Catholic schoolchildren and prayed for mothers and for an increase in vocations May 13. Speaking from the window of the papal apartments during his noontime Regina Coeli address, the pope recalled the day "exactly three years" before, when a would-be assassin fired near-fatal shots at him in St. Peter's Square. "On this anniversary so significant to me, my thoughts go to Fatima to renew to Mary the expression of my affection and my gratitude for her maternal protection," the pope said to about 40,000 pilgrims in the square.

End of Pilgrimages Sought

Vatican City — A commission established to investigate reported Marian apparitions in Yugoslavia has recommended that local priests stop organizing pilgrimages to the site and stop making a public display of the 16 young people who say they have seen the apparitions. The commission cannot approve of the fact that processions of people are organizing pilgrimages to Medjugorje and that the public display of the "seers" is being processed in the churches. Before an authoritative judgement can be made on the authenticity of the visions, a commission president said. The commission statement was published in the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano*, May 14. The statement followed a meeting of the panel of Vatican theological and medical experts in March.

Nation

Bishop Drops Support

New York — Bishop Michael J. McHugh of Newark, N.J., May 10 told a Brooklyn audience May 10 that he had changed his position on the Equal Rights Amendment and would not support it unless it was modified to prohibit any connection with abortion. Bishop McHugh, chairman of the New York State Council on the Status of Women from 1974 to 1982, had argued that the ERA did not imply a right to abortion. He had unsuccessfully urged the NYS to support the constitutional amendment. "But the circumstances today were completely different," and he called for adoption of the ERA anti-abortion rider proposed by Rep. F. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis.

Execution Protested
(Unstaffed) — James Adams, executed in Florida May 10 for the murder of a teacher a decade ago, became the latest Florida bishop called the latest victim of a criminal justice system of "inherent unfairness." The state's seven bishops in a joint statement had seen an appeal in Florida Gov. Robert Graham May 10 asking for a stay of execution. Adams died in the electric chair in Starke, Fla., 10 days after he was indicted May 10. Adams, 47, was the 19th person to be executed in the United States since the Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976 and the first to be executed in Florida in 20 years. The statement, the bishops said, "if our system of justice was inflexible, the administration of the death penalty might be considered differently, but it is subject to error."

S. Africa Racism Hit

Vatican City — A Vatican official has criticized the "racial ideology" of the South African government and has praised local church efforts to promote the Gospel without attachments and support. Archbishop Desmond Tutu of Johannesburg said the South African government had set a "dreadful example" in the anniversary of the Vatican's signing of a peace treaty convention on "human rights." The article was published in the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano*, pp. 4, 5.

People

Names Make News

James Quinn... New York... (The following text is mostly illegible due to heavy shadowing and high contrast in the original scan.)

Focus on Today's World



Press representatives and guests get an advance look at the "Treasures of the Vatican" exhibit in the Vatican Pavilion at the Louisiana World Exposition in New Orleans.



In Brownsville, Tex., Stacey Merkt and her attorney, Daniel Sheehan, answer questions from reporters after she was found guilty of smuggling three Salvadoran aliens into the United States. She could face up to 15 years in prison.

Photos provided by NC News Service

Pope John Paul II kneels in prayer at St. Peter's tomb in the Vatican grottos following his return to Rome from his 11-day Asian trip.

the Saints by Luke

ST. JEANNE LA PUELLE, BETTER KNOWN AS JOAN OF ARC, WAS BORN ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY, 1412, AT DOMREMY, FRANCE. ESSENTIALLY UNEDUCATED EXCEPT IN HOUSEHOLD SKILLS AND PRAYER, HER PEASANT CHILDHOOD WAS MUCH THE SAME AS OTHER CHILDREN OF THE REGION. AT 13 "VOICES" WHICH SHE KEPT SECRET FOR NEARLY FIVE YEARS, REVEALED HER MISSION - THE DELIVERANCE OF THE FRENCH KINGDOM FROM ENGLISH CONTROL.

BARELY 17, JOAN WENT TO CHARLES VII AND CONVINCED HIM OF HER DIVINE MISSION WITH HER BANNER, "JESUS, MARY," RAISED ABOVE HER, JOAN AND HER ARMY MARCHED IN VICTORY ON ORLEANS ENDING AN EIGHT-MONTH SEIGE. THIS OPENED THE ROAD TO RHEIMS WHERE CHARLES WAS CROWNED KING IN THE CATHEDRAL.

LATER, ABANDONED BY HER KING, SHE FELL INTO THE HANDS OF THE ENGLISH WHO GAVE HER A MOCK TRIAL AND BURNED HER AS A HERETIC. WITH HER EYES ON A CRUCIFIX SHE CRIED OUT "JESUS, JESUS" THROUGH THE FLAMES.

CANONIZED BY POPE BENEDICT XV ON MAY 13, 1920, SHE IS PATRONESS OF FRANCE AND SOLDIERS. THE FEAST OF ST. JOAN OF ARC, VIRGIN, IS MAY 30.

ST. JOAN OF ARC

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