

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Vatican Agrees to Payment

Rome — The Vatican bank has agreed in principle to pay about \$250 million to creditors of the bankrupt Banco Ambrosiano, according to Adolfo Gatti, the lawyer representing the Vatican bank in the repayment negotiations. "The Vatican bank does not admit in the agreement any responsibility" for the debts, Gatti told NC News May 22. "The accord contains a proviso that all further legal action against the Vatican be forgone."

Pope Backs Nuke Halt

Rome — Pope John Paul II has supported a call by six governmental leaders for a halt in nuclear weapons testing, production and deployment. "I hope that this initiative and other similar ones will receive wide acceptance and be generously supported by those who have responsibility for promoting the cause of peace," the pope said of the peace initiative sponsored by the leaders of India, Mexico, Tanzania, Sweden, Greece and Argentina. The governmental leaders signed a declaration released May 22 asking the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China to end the nuclear arms race.

Nation

African Drought Worsening

New York — Food shortage is just part of the damage caused by widespread drought in the African country of Senegal, said Samba Sount Fall, a Senegal Catholic Relief Services official in Senegal. In Senegal, where CRS operates several aid programs, water supplies are drying up, villages are losing population, livestock is disappearing and refugees from the countryside are crowding the cities in search of help, he said. CRS last year funneled \$10.3 million worth of food and other aid into Senegal, according to the organization's 1983 report.

Chapel Survives Lawsuit

Cleveland — U.S. District Judge George W. White has dismissed a lawsuit to block construction of a diocesan chapel at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The suit, filed last August by Americans United for Separation of Church and State, contended that a lease agreement between the Cleveland Diocese and the city of Cleveland violated constitutional guarantees of separation of church and state. Lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union in Cleveland said they would draft an appeal.

'Individual Rights First'

Waltham, Mass. (NC) — Cardinal Jaime Sin of Manila, Philippines, in a commencement address at Brandeis University, warned against "government machineries" that sacrifice individual rights for national security. "Whenever the freedom and rights of men and women are sacrificed in the interests of national security, the abomination that was Auschwitz (the Nazi death camp) once against casts its demonic presence," the cardinal said May 20 at the Waltham campus.

Anti-Catholic Bigot Proceeds

(Undated) — Tony Alamo, whose anti-Catholic pamphlets are being distributed across the United States, defended the pamphlet on a radio talk show in Miami May 22, and said proof that the Catholic Church is a "prostitute" is found in the Book of Revelation. Earlier in the month he told the Catholic Bulletin, newspaper of the St. Paul-Minneapolis Archdiocese, that 5 million copies of the pamphlet had been spread around the country so far, and he hoped to distribute another 45 million within the next few weeks. In Milwaukee, a spokesman for the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights said the Alamo campaign marks a new peak in anti-Catholic bigotry in the United States, with a volume and intensity not seen since the zenith of Ku Klux Klan agitation in the 1920s.

Bishop in Arms Protest

Syracuse — About 100 people in Syracuse, including Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Cozzello, expressed their opposition to nuclear arms at a May 24 prayer vigil organized by seminarians John Janak, Janak and nearly 1,000 others joined in related vigil at the same time throughout the United States and in El Salvador. Janak, a 25-year-old student at the St. Thomas Aquinas House of Studies in Syracuse, said he planned the anti-nuclear vigil because "a lot of American people are being civil disobedience or protesting and the vigil was a way for more people to recognize the fact that we are in imminent danger of having a nuclear war and finally blowing up the world."

Focus on Today's World



Bishop William G. Con-nare of Greensburg, Pa., gets a lift from Jamie Adams of St. Edward's Parish in Herminie, Pa., to kick off the fourth annual Marathon for Catholic Education in the Greensburg diocese. The event attracted nearly 2,000 supporters to raise money for schools throughout the diocese. (NC Photo)



Archbishop John J. O'Connor of New York prays outside a solitary confinement cell at the Women's House of Detention in New York. The archbishop visited the center as part of a tour of his new archdiocese. (NC Photo)



Pianist Liberace autographs a program for St. Francis Sister Mary Adele Meiser at St. Francis Hospital in Pittsburgh. Liberace paid a return visit to the hospital where he was treated 21 years ago after nearly dying from a kidney problem. Sister Meiser was the administrator during his sick stay. (NC Photo)

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the Saints by Luke

ST. BARNABAS



"THERE WAS A CERTAIN LEVITE FROM CYPRUS NAMED JOSEPH, TO WHOM THE APOSTLES GAVE THE NAME BARNABAS (MEANING 'SON OF ENCOURAGEMENT'). HE SOLD A FARM THAT HE OWNED AND MADE A DONATION OF THE MONEY, LAYING IT AT THE APOSTLES FEET." (Acts 4:36)
BARNABAS, ONE OF THE FIRST PIONEERS OF THE MISSIONARY APOSTOLATE OUTSIDE OF PALESTINE AND SYRIA, PREACHED IN ANTIOCH ALONG WITH ST. PAUL FOR A YEAR. THEN THE TWO SET OUT TOGETHER TO CYPRUS AND THE CITIES OF ASIA MINOR, WHERE THEY PREACHED WITH GREAT SUCCESS. AFTER A MIRACLE AT LYSTRA, THE PEOPLE REGARDED THEM AS GODS, BUT THE TWO SAID, "WE ARE ONLY MEN, ... BRINGING YOU THE GOOD NEWS THAT WILL CONVERT YOU FROM JUST SUCH FOLLIES AS THESE TO THE LIVING GOD." (Acts 14:)
LATER, BARNABAS AND PAUL SEPARATED, WITH BARNABAS TAKING MARK TO CYPRUS AND PAUL TAKING SILAS TO SYRIA. THEY WERE REUNITED LATER, BEFORE THE DEATH OF BARNABAS IN CYPRUS.
THE FEAST OF ST. BARNABAS, APOSTLE, IS JUNE 11.

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