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Ethiopian child suffers.

ETHIOPIA

'I've Never Seen Anything This Bad'

By NC News Service

Catholic Relief Services is stepping up its efforts in Ethiopia to combat what one CRS official calls an unprecedented level of starvation afflicting the country.

The New York-based Catholic overseas aid agency is coordinating a food airlift to affected regions, and it has increased its appeals to the U.S. government for more food and transportation aid.

"I've never seen anything this bad," Kenneth Hackett, CRS senior director for Africa, said in an Oct. 26 press release. "We've gone beyond documenting the cases of malnutrition to counting the dead. In two small towns I visited, there were 106 deaths in one day alone."

(Carol O'Connor of the American Red Cross in Rochester will serve as press officer for one of two Red Cross fact-finding teams that will visit Ethiopia and Mauritania this month to assess the famine.)

Drought and famine which have afflicted 24 Sub-Saharan African countries have been particularly devastating in Ethiopia, affecting 12 of its 14 regions. CRS has estimated that more than 6 million Ethiopians face starvation.

"The number of (Ethiopian) people arriving at feeding centers after walking for several days far exceeds the available supplies of food," said Beth Griffin, CRS press spokeswoman.

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INDIRA GANDHI

INDIA

Pope Speaks

By NC News Service

The assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi led to the death of her son which has shocked the world. Pope John Paul II Oct. 31.

Earlier in the day Gandhi was fatally wounded by Sikh members of her security force while she was walking to her office.

"This morning another grave gesture of violence has shocked public opinion: Mrs. Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India, has fallen victim to an attack," said the pope in a 150-word statement at the end of his weekly general audience.

"Besides expressing my profound deploring of this criminal act, I wish to express my sincere participation in the pain of the family and the consternation of the great nation of India," he added.

The pope also prayed that the Indian people "know how to confront with the dignity and wisdom proper to them" the difficult situation caused by the death of the prime minister.

The Indian Army earlier this year stormed the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikh religion's holiest place, in a battle with Sikh rebels.

The impact Gandhi's death will have on India's 11 million Catholics is hard to predict, said Jesuit Father James Redington, an assistant professor of theology at

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FATHER POPIELUSZKO

POLAND

'World Shocked' By Priest's Death

By NC News Service

A day after the body of pro-Solidarity Father Jerzy Popieluszko was found in a frozen reservoir in northern Poland, Pope John Paul II said the murder had "shocked public opinion and public consciences in Poland and the world."

Speaking in Polish at the end of his Oct. 31 general audience, the pope said: "With Christian dignity and with feelings of peace we render the final salute to Jerzy Popieluszko. The great moral eloquence of this death will not in any way be dimmed."

Several hundred Polish pilgrims attending the audience. Many of them wore black armbands and Solidarity pins. After the pope spoke they sang "God Save Poland" and held up their fingers in V for victory signs.

Pope John Paul compared Father Popieluszko to Christ who "gave his heart and finally his own life for his brethren."

"The Christian is called to victory in Jesus Christ. This victory is inseparable from a fatiguing effort, and finally from suffering, just as the resurrection of Christ is inseparable from the cross," the pope said.

There was a prolonged applause in the Paul VI audience hall after the pope read his 250-word statement. At about the time the pope spoke, a plane with a Solidarity banner flew over Rome and St. Peter's Square.

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Father Walz Dies

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated yesterday, Nov. 6, for Father Frederick L. Walz, former pastor and chaplain, who died Nov. 3, 1984.

Mass of Christ the High Priest was celebrated Monday in the chapel of St. Ann's Home.

Father Walz was 77 years old. He was ordained June 10, 1933. He had attended Holy Redeemer School; St. Mary's Seminary, Burket-



FATHER WALZ in 1958 photo

tsville, Ohio; and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

He was first assigned as assistant pastor of Our Lady

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Bishops Ready New 'Challenge'

Washington (NC) -- What does Catholic social teaching have to say about the U.S. economy? Just before the U.S. bishops meet Nov. 12-15 in Washington, their first effort at answering that question will be released.

To avoid any possibility of political exploitation in an election year, the drafting committee, headed by Archbishop Rembert Weakland of Milwaukee, decided it would not even send the first draft of "Catholic Social Teaching and the American Economy" to the country's bishops until after election day. It is to be released to the press Nov. 11.

Inside sources say the

closely guarded first draft will run more than 50,000 words. That's twice as long as the first draft of the 1983 war and peace pastoral and longer even than the much-expanded final 42,000-word version of that document.

The first half of the new pastoral will be devoted to biblical and theological analysis of the ethical principles involved in dealing with economic issues.

The second half will seek to apply those principles to specific issues in U.S. economic policy.

It will challenge all the elements of the economy -- federal and local govern-

ment, big and small business, organized labor, other groups or coalitions, and individual workers -- to collaborate in making the economic systems in America do a better job of serving human needs and human dignity.

The committee draft will not be the bishops' final statement by any means. But even before a word of it appears, it has generated more public commentary and controversy than the bishops' war and peace pastoral had brought at a comparable stage in its development.

And the controversy is likely to grow by leaps and

bounds once the first draft is released.

The idea for the economic pastoral actually began with a pastoral letter on Marxist communism that the bishops issued four years ago. As they were debating that document in November 1980, several bishops urged a comparable letter addressing the evils of unrestrained capitalism.

Bishop William Weigand of Salt Lake City, a former missionary in Latin America, said there would be little attraction to Marxism in that part of the world if it were

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