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Warm Friends

Tiffany Beasley, 5, of Rockledge, Fla., and her Easter gift, a rabbit named Sweetie, became warm friends immediately. (NC Photo)

Bishops Lose; MX on Way

Washington (NC) — The House of Representatives March 26, agreeing with President Reagan and the Senate, voted 219-213 to authorize \$1.5 billion to build 21 more MX missiles.

The next afternoon the House began debate, with a 10-hour limit, on actual appropriation of the funds. A vote on appropriation was slated for March 28.

In a complex formula worked out in 1984 for considering the MX missile this year, two votes — the first authorizing funds, the second appropriating them — were demanded in both the House and the Senate before production of the 21 missiles could move forward. The week before consideration in the House, the Senate had approved the missiles by substantial margins in both votes.

In comments before the March 26 vote, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., attributed MX support in the Democratic-controlled House to old-fashioned political arm-twisting by Republican Reagan, who late March 25 used army buses to transport dozens of House members to the White House for an MX pep talk.

Reagan also called U.S. arms control negotiator Max Kampelman, a registered Democrat, back to Washington from Geneva, Switzerland, where the United States and Soviet Union are in the midst of peace talks, to promote the MX to hesitant members of Congress.

Reagan, who calls the MX the "peacekeeper," had argued that the nuclear weapon is necessary to demonstrate U.S. strength to the Soviet Union as the arms talks continue.

The House and Senate actions on the MX came despite appeals in letters from leading Catholic bishops urging Congress to reject the controversial nuclear missile.

Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago, Archbishop John J. O'Connor of New York and Bishop James Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, president of the U.S. Catholic Conference, in separate messages released March 17, opposed the weapon. They said they regarded it as potentially destabilizing to the balance of power, and they argued that the money should be allocated instead to addressing serious human needs.

In addition, Bishop Maurice Dingman of Des Moines, Iowa, met with members of Congress, urging opposition to the MX, which he termed "immoral." He encouraged support for beleaguered farmers instead.

Guess Who's Watching

Vatican City (NC) — Pope John Paul II welcomed NBC television to the Vatican March 27 and sent his best regards to the people of the United States through them.

The welcome came during the pope's weekly audience which included NBC staff members who will broadcast live programs from St. Peter's Square and from other sites in Rome during Holy Week.

"It is my hope that your work will bear much spiritual fruit during this holy season, when Christians all over the world celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ," the pope said to NBC. He announced that the network "will be broadcasting directly to the United States from the Vatican during Holy Week."

Bishop Clark's Easter Message



Bishop's Office

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

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Easter, 1985



My dear people:

The mystery of life wells up within us as we hear the resurrection story re-told. The wandering preacher of Nazareth, betrayed by his friends, unjustly condemned and suspended on a rough wooden cross tells a cruel story. The added chapter of a burial in a borrowed tomb, hastily accomplished, only confounds the story of a Savior's saving death.

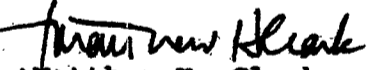
Easter morning, however, brings with it a new chapter and a new verse. The betrayal, condemnation, and cruelty is forgiven and forgotten. The newness of a resurrected life is placed before the hearts and minds of all men and women. This timeless story continues to be revealed today as new chapters to the resurrection story are written.

The newly-initiated Christians among us symbolize the continuing power of Jesus' resurrection. The renewed faith of Christians who have completed another 40-day period of prayer, reflection and sharing is a sign of hope for all who believe. The magnificence of our church buildings at this time of year is surpassed only by the joy shown on the faces of all who have been re-charged.

As we celebrate another Easter Sunday, I would like to extend my own wishes of joy and happiness. Together, we stand as a witness to the on-going nature of Jesus' resurrection as it continues to unfold in our diocesan church. May all hearts be touched by this wondrous message. May all minds be seared by the glow of faith. May all lives be changed by the Lord's words: "I have come that you might have life, life in its fullness".

God bless all of you. As I have journeyed through the Lenten Season among you, so shall we walk the paths of Easter joy together.

In the Risen Christ,


+Matthew H. Clark
Bishop of Rochester

This Love Endures Forever

Boff Book Deemed Dangerous

Vatican City (NC) — A book by Brazilian theologian Father Leonardo Boff is dangerous to doctrine because of its views on Catholic Church structure, dogma, exercise of power and prophetic role, said the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The congregation's 10-page notification to the Franciscan priest was approved by Pope John Paul II. It came six months after Father Boff was called to the Vatican to discuss his writings with congregation officials.

Father Boff's book, "Church: Charism and Power," holds that the church as an institution was not part of the thought of the historic Jesus, the congregation said in the notification,

which was dated March 11.

According to the doctrinal congregation, the book also says that the one true church can exist outside the Catholic Church. This is "a profound misinterpretation of the Catholic faith regarding the church of God in the world," the congregation said.

The congregation also criticized Father Boff for saying that "dogma in its formulation has value only for a determined time and in de-

termined circumstances."

The doctrinal body said that "dogmatic formulas remain true and coherent, determined and unchangeable even though they can be eventually clarified and better understood."

The congregation said the views contained in the book "endanger the sound doctrine of the faith."

The notification was released by the Vatican press office March 20. It was

signed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the doctrinal congregation. It said that Pope John Paul II had approved the notification in an audience with Cardinal Ratzinger.

Father Boff is a well-known exponent of liberation theology but the congregation's notification did not mention liberation theology nor did it criticize Father Boff's use of Marxist concepts in his writings.

Anti-Nuke Service Set At Depot

Catholics Against Nuclear Arms has scheduled a prayer and Communion service at 2 p.m., Good Friday, April 5, at the Troop Gate, Route 96A, Seneca Army Depot.

Cana has scheduled the service for participants to reflect on "the challenge of the bishops' peace pastoral to our 40 years of silence about the nuclear weapons in our midst."

Cana is among those who claim that the government is storing nuclear arms at the Seneca Army Depot. In Rochester, car pools will be formed at noon at St. Joseph's House, 402 South Ave.