

National/International Report

Chile expels, detains church workers in police crackdown

By NC News Service

Catholic missionaries were caught up in a Chilean government sweep that followed an unsuccessful Sept. 7 assassination attempt against President Augusto Pinochet. 7.

Three French priests and two lay missionaries were expelled immediately, and other missionaries were detained or had their immigration status changed.

Vatican officials said the Holy See was "interested" in the situation but that Pope John Paul II had no plans to cancel his scheduled April visit to the South American country.

Fathers Pierre DuBois, Daniel Caruette and Jaime Lancelot, missionaries who worked in a Santiago slum, were expelled Sept. 11 and returned to France.

In addition, two female Peruvian lay missionaries were expelled, according to Paul Joly, spokesman for Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in Maryknoll, N.Y. Joly said the women, members of the Peruvian Missionary Association, were released to the Peruvian consul in Lima, Peru.

The women worked in Santiago with U.S. Maryknoll Fathers Thomas Henehan and Terrence Cambias, regional superior for Chile. Fathers Henehan and Cambias were detained briefly Sept. 8, the day after the assassination attempt.

On Sept. 11, the government revoked the permanent visas of Fathers Henehan and Cambias and issued them temporary, 15-day visas, Joly said.

He also said Maryknoll lay missionary Jose Luis Aguilar was arrested Sept. 10 and held in a central Santiago police station. Joly said Sept. 15 that Father Cambias had visited

Aguilar "several times."

Fathers DuBois, Caruette and Lancelot were met Sept. 12 at Charles de Gaulle Airport near Paris by Bishop Guy Deroubaix of Saint-Denis, France; Danielle Mitterand, wife of French President Francois Mitterand; and the French minister of human rights, Claude Malhuret.

Father DuBois said the military regime in Chile long suspected the priests' parish, in the La Victoria slum, of being "a base for armed struggle."

He said that in a 5 a.m. raid on the parish Sept. 8, police broke down doors in a search for weapons, but found only milk that the church distributes to children.

Father DuBois said their mistreatment ended when they were turned over to paramilitary police. He said they were held four days, but were not interrogated and that there was no formal investigation of their activities.

Their expulsion orders accused them of "subversive activities."

In La Victoria, a banner stretched across the priests' former church read, "They have stolen Father DuBois from us."

A French press agency reported that Catholics in the area organized a hunger strike to protest the expulsion. Priests from other parts of Santiago celebrated a Mass in the priests' honor.

At the Vatican, an official involved in Chilean affairs said Sept. 15 that the Vatican planned no public protest of the expulsions, but would continue to follow developments closely. He added that Cardinal Fresno Larrain was acting with the full support of the Vatican nunciature in Chile.



With his wife Lucia and dozens of bodyguards at his side, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet arrives for a pro-government rally outside the presidential palace in Santiago. About 40,000 people paraded past Pinochet to show support for the military leader two days after rebels tried to assassinate him. Pinochet is marking his 13th year in power.

Father James Young, founder of ministry to divorced, dies in Washington

By Jerry Filteau

Washington (NC) — Paulist Father James Young, nationally known for his pioneering ministry of reconciliation among separated and divorced Catholics, died Sept. 12 at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington. He was 46.

When he was working at the Paulist Center in Boston in the early 1970s, Father Young started a self-help group of separated and divorced Catholics that became a model for nearly 3,000 such groups across the United States and Canada.

He formed the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics in 1975 and was its national chaplain until his death. He was author of several books, including the 1979 work, "Ministering to the Divorced Catholic," which conference leaders consider the basic text for Catholic ministry to the divorced.

The cause of Father Young's death was not immediately known. He was hospitalized because of a high fever in late August. Father Thomas Stransky, director of novices and former president of the Paulists, said the fever appeared to have been related to a recurring respiratory problem Father Young developed "a couple of years ago" during a sabbatical year in Jerusalem.

"Father Young was a pastoral giant of the post-Vatican II Church," said Father Joseph Gallagher, president of the Paulist Fathers. "His aggressive leadership and ministry brought new hope and rekindled faith to thousands of divorced, separated and alienated persons."

Kathleen Kircher of Rochester, N.Y., executive director of the North American conference, said the vitality of Catholic divorced ministry in the United States today is due "to Father Young's leadership ability and his absolute commitment to lay ministry."

What made his approach different from others, Kircher said, was "his vision of divorced people helping one another."

For the past eight years, except for the sabbatical, Father Young had been rector, community superior and formation director at St. Paul's College, the Paulist seminary at The Catholic University of America. He was about to leave for a new assignment as pastor of Old St. Mary's, a Paulist-run church in San Francisco, when he was hospitalized.

Paulist officials said Father Young would be buried Sept. 16 at the Paulist cemetery in Oak Ridge, N.J., where he entered the Paulist novitiate 26 years ago. The wake was



NC photo, 1979

Father James J. Young

scheduled for Sept. 15 at Trinity College Chapel in Washington, and the funeral Mass the evening of Sept. 16 at Holy Trinity Church, a Jesuit-run parish near Georgetown University.

Local leaders in ministry to the divorced, separated, bereaved and remarried are planning a memorial service for Father Young. For details, call the Genesee Valley Office of Social Ministry, (716)546-4894.

Born in Philadelphia Aug. 3, 1940, Father Young was ordained a priest in 1967.

His first assignment was at Old St. Mary's Church in downtown Chicago, where he was associate pastor 1967-70 and pastor 1970-71.

In February 1972, shortly after he began a new assignment at the Paulist Center on Park Street in Boston, he started what is believed to have been the first group in the country to offer support to divorced Catholics of both sexes.

His pioneering ministry started with three Catholic divorced women asking him for help. It quickly burgeoned into a course for divorced Catholics, which drew 40 students the first time he offered it, a discussion and socializing group that usually attracted about 75 people to its twice-a-month meetings, retreats for divorced or separated Catholics, and seminars for those undergoing separa-

tion or divorce.

As a result of publicity about the activities at the Paulist Center and Father Young's strong appeals for the establishment of a church ministry to reconcile separated and divorced Catholics, Father Young's program quickly became a model and resource for similar Catholic groups all across the country.

In 1975, the more than 100 such groups in existence banded together under his leadership to form the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics. Kircher, who became its executive director in 1982, estimates that the conference has been "instrumental in the formation of almost 3,000 self-help groups" for divorced or separated Catholics in North America.

In addition, she said, she believes that Father Young's writing and extensive teaching and speaking engagements all over

the country "have awakened all the clergy to a sense of compassion and reconciliation" toward divorced Catholics.

Father Young continued his national divorce ministry from Washington after he was made rector of St. Paul College.

Father Young said in an interview in 1975 that the key to his ministry was to view the time of divorce or separation as "a teachable moment, when people have their whole value system before them and are open to new understanding, new insight."

When helped to see that a divorce or separation "does not make me a bad Catholic," many people discover in the transition "a point of reconversion in their lives," he said.

Father Young is survived by his mother, Nora Young; two sisters, Ellen Greenlee and Mary Ann Costello; and a brother, John Young, all of Philadelphia.

Priest's article against vocations draws fire

Cincinnati (NC) — An anonymous priest who wrote in St. Anthony Messenger magazine that he would now have to "discourage strongly" someone who wanted to become a priest has drawn heavy reader reaction, including a response from Archbishop Roger Mahony of Los Angeles.

Archbishop Mahony, one of about 200 letter writers responding to the article, urged the priest to "re-ignite your prayer life."

He said the article indicated that the author "has long ago lost the meaning of his share in the priesthood of Jesus Christ."

The controversial article appeared in the August issue of the monthly magazine, which is published by the Cincinnati Franciscans. It was written by a Midwestern priest in his early 40s who used the pen name "Father William Wells."

Barbara Beckwith, the magazine's managing editor, said the article provoked two or three times as much mail as anything else the magazine has published in at least two years.

She said three of the letters were published in the September issue, and five pages of the October issue would be devoted to further responses, including Archbishop Mahony's letter.

Father Wells wrote that if he had a son of his own "I would have to discourage strongly my hypothetical son from becoming a priest."

He called the priesthood a "dying profession" and mandatory celibacy a "millstone around the neck of the priesthood

threatening to destroy it."

He said some priests have "married secretly" and others have taken "lovers" in heterosexual or homosexual unions while continuing to function as priests.

Father Wells also wrote that priests face loneliness, stress, "burnout" and loss of identity. He attributed a growing shortage of priests to the Church's unwillingness to ordain women or married men and to its treatment of resigned priests as "outcasts."

He believes God still calls men to become priests, he wrote, but "the Church itself keeps putting up roadblocks to the fulfillment of that vocation."

Archbishop Mahony, whose response first was published in The Tidings, Los Angeles archdiocesan newspaper, wrote that he was disturbed "that not once in your article did you refer to 'Jesus Christ,' 'prayer,' 'discipleship with Christ,' or any other hint that your own prayer life was deep and alive." The archbishop suggested that lack of a prayer life was at the root of the priest's lack of happiness and hope.

He also challenged the author's "assertion that many heterosexual and homosexual priests have taken lovers." In years of living with priests of three different California dioceses and giving priests' retreats across the country, Archbishop Mahony said, "that is not the reality which I have found."

Beckwith said about three-fourths of the letters on the anonymous priest's article criticized him.