

Msgr. John E. Maney, former vicar general, pastor, 75

Monsignor John Edward Maney, former vicar general of the Diocese of Rochester and pastor of Corpus Christi and St. Mary of the Lake churches, died on Friday, Jan. 5, 1990, at Strong Memorial Hospital. He was 75 years old.



Monsignor Maney was born Nov. 1, 1914, in Geneva to the late John A. and Elizabeth Scheiberling Maney. He attended St. Stephen's School and DeSales High School; and went on to study at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester. He furthered his studies at North American College and Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Ill. Monsignor Maney was ordained July 30,

1939, at St. Ignatius Temple, Rome, and returned to Rochester to teach at St. Andrew's Seminary. He served as secretary of the diocesan Tribunal and was named vice chancellor of the Tribunal June 16, 1944.

He was appointed papal chamberlain with the title very reverend monsignor in 1952. Monsignor Maney was named chancellor of the Diocese of Rochester on July 2, 1954. In 1955 he was appointed administrator of Corpus Christi Church and named domestic prelate, with the title right reverend monsignor, by Pope Pius XII.

In 1962, Monsignor Maney accompanied Bishop James E. Kearney to the opening session of Vatican Council II, where he was elevated to the rank of Protonotary Apostolic — the highest rank of monsignor or domestic prelate — by Pope John XXIII.

Named vicar general of the diocese by

Bishop Kearney in October, 1963, the monsignor resigned from that post on the advice of his physician in 1964.

He remained at Corpus Christi until 1976, when he was appointed to St. Mary of the Lake Church, Ontario, serving there until his retirement in 1985.

Diocesan archivist Father Robert F. McNamara, who worked with Monsignor Maney in many diocesan endeavors over the years, recalled him as "well-traveled ... a man of social grace and conservative good taste."

Father McNamara pointed out that music was long an avocation of Monsignor Maney's and that he had enjoyed serving as chaplain of the Newman Club at the Eastman School of Music.

After retiring, Monsignor Maney moved to Avon, living in the St. Agnes rectory. There he was able to do what he loved most

— travel, play weekly bridge games, take daily walks and visit with the people in the community.

"The late monsignor was characterized by firmness, compassion and loyalty," Father McNamara said. "This happy combination of traits enabled him, both as a diocesan official and as a pastor, to make a positive contribution to his church."

The Mass of Jesus Christ the High Priest was celebrated on Monday, Jan. 8, at St. Agnes Church in Avon. A Mass of Christian Burial took place at St. Mary's of the Lake Church on Tuesday, Jan. 9. Interment was at St. Mary's of the Lake Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Masses may be offered or memorial contributions may be made to St. Agnes Church, 108 Prospect St., Avon, N.Y., 14414, or St. Mary's of the Lake Church, Ontario, N.Y., 14519.

Salvador

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months. Although federal surveillance of U.S. groups opposed to the Salvadoran government has been reported in the past, information has recently surfaced that raises questions about the American government's culpability in the harassment of religious workers.

For example, the National Security Archive has learned that the U.S. Department of State kept files on the six slain Jesuit priests as far back as 1977. The archive, a non-profit, non-partisan research institute in Washington, D.C., obtained the files through a petition filed under the Freedom of Information Act.

Among other things, the documents described the Jesuits as "sympathetic" toward but not uncritical of left-wing rebels, and as influential opponents of U.S. policy in El Salvador.

The FBI has acknowledged that it spied on the Committee In Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES), a 10,000-member U.S. organization, from 1981-85. Frank Varelli, an FBI employee at the time, was quoted in New York City's *Village Voice* as saying he had swapped information on various U.S. activists with the Salvadoran National Guard as part of his work at the Dallas FBI office.

FBI spokesman Tom McDoyle told the *Catholic Courier* that the bureau no longer engages in such surveillance, and he added that it is against FBI policy to keep tabs on people solely because they are opposed to

U.S. policy.

Although no recent charges have been made against the FBI for spying on activists opposed to U.S. policy, such activists have criticized the state department as a result of information found in an internal memo obtained by the Center for Constitutional Rights, a New York City-based legal organization.

The March memo was written by the state department's Policy and Threat Analysis Division, and was issued to nine regional special agents on both the east and west coasts of the United States. The memo details plans for protest rallies by CISPES and the Salvadoran Refugee Committee on March 20, 1989, to coincide with the Salvadoran presidential elections.

The memo concludes by stating: "This information should be shared with appropriate law enforcement contacts as well as official, government of El Salvador representatives."

A state department official who asked not to be identified asserted to the *Catholic Courier* that the department had gathered information contained in the memo solely by reading public documents and by phone calls to CISPES and the Salvadoran Refugee Committee, not through surveillance activity. He noted that the state department is obligated by law to inform foreign embassies whenever demonstrations are planned against them, and that the CISPES demonstrations last March fell under that category.

The official also said that the department keeps no lists of Americans opposed to U.S. policy in El Salvador. Salvadoran

ambassador Salaverria confirmed that he receives no such information from the U.S. government. The ambassador noted, however, that his government considers CISPES and the Salvadoran Refugee Committee to be supporters of the FMLN.

In an interview with the *Catholic Courier*, Omar Centurion, a spokesman for the Salvadoran Refugee Committee in Washington, denied that his group is affiliated with the FMLN, and claimed that his office has been monitored by employees of the Salvadoran embassy.

Jinsoo Kim, an employee of the Center for Constitutional Rights, acknowledged to the *Courier* that surveillance is largely unnecessary for the U.S. state department and the Salvadoran Embassy to obtain much of their information on activists and religious workers throughout the country.

Nonetheless, she noted that the FBI has asked a federal court for permission to permanently seal its files on CISPES — barring access to the files to both government and public scrutiny. Kim also claimed that the agency has admitted conducting 181 "spin-off" investigations during the CISPES probe, touching upon thousands of people not involved with CISPES but with other religious and political groups opposed to U.S. policy in Central America.

Kim said she has spoken with people who have seen their names on lists at the Salvadoran consulate in New York City. Noting the close relationship between the U.S. and Salvadoran governments, she said, "(a)ll of this leads to some kind of speculation that ... names of individuals could ... be shared."

Whether the U.S. government is directly sharing information with El Salvador's death squads, evidence indicates that the death squads may be bringing their war to U.S. shores. In recent months, two Catholic priests in Los Angeles have received death threats from anonymous sources in the city.

The priests' work with Salvadoran refugees has incurred the wrath of Salvadoran rightists, according to Rabbi Steven Jacobs of Encino, Calif., who has participated in demonstrations with Father Michael Kennedy and Father Luis Olivares of La Placita Church in Los Angeles.

"(La Placita) is the most active church in all of L.A.," the rabbi told the *Courier*. "It gives sanctuary to (Salvadoran) refugees." The rabbi noted that as recently as Jan. 2, the priests had received a phone call threatening that the church would be blown up because of their refugee work.

Blatz of CES noted that his San Antonio home has been burglarized and searched, and speculated that the U.S. government might have a hand in the burglary. A co-worker has also received death threats, he said.

And an article in the Dec. 26 issue of the *Village Voice* noted that a minister active in CISPES in Louisville, Ky., had received a note in the mail warning "You're next," accompanied by a picture of the six slain Jesuits.

No religious workers in the Diocese of Rochester have been subjected to such intimidation. Efforts to silence religious workers in El Salvador have, in fact, encouraged local activists to take further steps to shed light on human-rights abuses there. One such action took place Dec. 17, when Bishop Matthew H. Clark, along with leaders of the local Jewish and Protestant communities, conducted a service at Rochester's Christ Episcopal Church for all the victims of El Salvador's civil war.

Among other actions planned locally are a hunger strike by religious leaders, a boycott of Salvadoran coffee and letter-writing campaigns to U.S. Congressmen, urging the end of U.S. aid to El Salvador, according to Sister Kathy Weider, SSJ, director of Medaille House, a community house sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

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