

Prelate admitted to hospital psychiatric unit

ATLANTA (CNS) — Archbishop Eugene A. Marino was placed in the psychiatric unit of a hospital Aug. 9, according to an announcement made Aug. 10 by Atlanta archdiocesan spokesman Father Peter A. Dora.

Archbishop Marino, 56, has been in seclusion since he resigned as archbishop of Atlanta in July. Last week, it was revealed that he had been involved in a two-year affair with Vicki R. Long, a 27-year-old single mother and former singer.

Father Dora declined to say where Archbishop Marino was hospitalized. "This is simply for the protection of his own privacy at this moment," he said.

"We anticipate that he will be there longer than just a few days," he added.

He said he did not know why the archbishop had been hospitalized and that he had no other details about the matter.

During an Aug. 7 interview with WAGA-TV in Atlanta, Long's attorney, Anthony Fontana, said his client claims she and Archbishop Marino privately exchanged wedding vows in December of 1988.

The exchange of vows allegedly took place in a New York hotel.

In response to the charge, Father Dora said the archbishop had "assured us there was no marriage that would be recognized by either church or state."

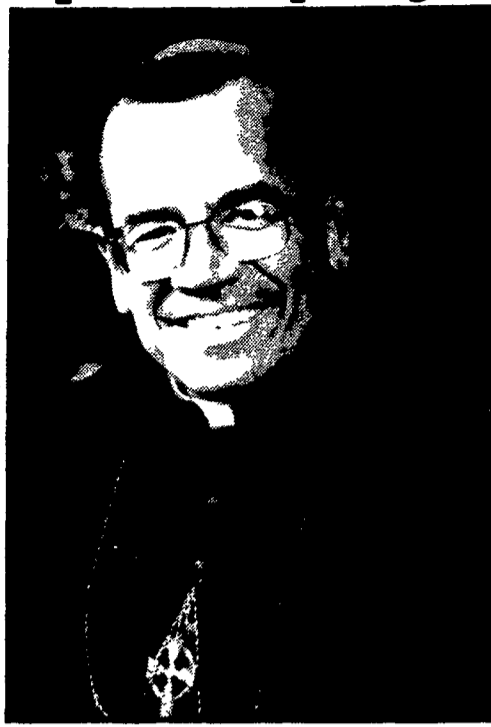
Father Dora said, "The archbishop denied the entire event — said it never occurred."

He said the archbishop knew Long considered them secretly married, but told church authorities it was not true.

Fontana, who is from Abbeville, La., says he has won more than 40 civil suits against church authorities stemming from pedophilia by priests.

Monsignor H. Alexandre Larroque, executive assistant to the bishop in the Diocese of Lafayette, La., said Fontana was involved in "a good number" of the nearly 60 pedophilia lawsuits brought against that diocese in the 1980s.

At a Mass in the Atlanta cathedral Aug. 12, Bishop James P. Lyke, apostolic administrator since Archbishop's Marino's resignation, asked the people of the archdiocese to respond to the events shaking



File photo
Archbishop Eugene A. Marino

the Atlanta church with faith and with prayers for the archbishop and others involved.

Referring to the day's Gospel reading — in which Jesus walked on water and Peter joined him but began to sink until Jesus pulled him up — Bishop Lyke said, "We pray that, like Peter, who faltered and whose faith momentarily weakened, Archbishop Marino will reach out and grasp firmly the outstretched hand of Christ."

About 500 people, representing parishes throughout the archdiocese, attended the cathedral Mass. The event had been scheduled as an introductory Mass for Bishop Lyke as archdiocesan administrator, before the archdiocese was rocked by the revelations about Archbishop Marino.

Although Bishop Lyke did not mention Long by name in his homily, he urged people to pray "for all the other persons" involved.

After Communion, Bishop Lyke invited questions and spent about half an hour responding to people's concerns about the archbishop and the controversy.



AP/Wide World Photos
A paratrooper from Fort Bragg, N.C., wears an American flag on his helmet as he awaits deployment to Saudi Arabia from Pope Air Force Base August 9. During a nationally televised speech August 8, President Bush asked for prayers for those committed to defending the interests of the United States.

President asks for prayers as U.S. enters Persian Gulf

WASHINGTON (CNS) — During a nationally televised Aug. 8 speech, President George Bush asked for prayers for those committed to defending the interests of the United States.

Bush's speech outlined the deployment of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia in an effort to stem Iraqi aggression in the Middle East.

"I ask that, in the churches around the country, prayers be said for those who are committed to protect and defend America's interests," Bush said near the end of his address from the Oval Office.

The deployment of U.S. armed forces — "all in the cause of peace," Bush said — came six days after Iraq invaded neighboring Kuwait, installed a new government, and later massed troops along the Iraq-Saudi border.

Bush said U.S. foreign-policy goals in the Persian Gulf crisis are the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the restoration of the Kuwaiti government, the security of the Persian Gulf, and the protection of

American citizens abroad.

Bush's troop deployment announcement came two days after the U.N. Security Council voted to apply sanctions against Iraq to isolate it economically from the rest of the world.

"The United States will do its part to see that these sanctions are effective and to induce Iraq to withdraw, without delay, from Kuwait," Bush said. "But we must recognize that Iraq may not stop using force to advance its ambitions."

The presence of U.S. troops on Saudi soil is "wholly defensive," Bush said. "America does not seek conflict, nor do we seek to chart the destiny of other nations. But America will stand by her friends."

The president asked oil-producing nations to increase output to delay the effects of an Iraqi oil cutoff on the world economy. He also asked oil companies to "show restraint and not abuse today's uncertainties to raise prices," and for Americans to conserve oil.

New papal pro-nuncio to U.S. arrives in Washington

By Jerry Filteau
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan arrived in Washington Aug. 8 to begin his work as the new papal pro-nuncio, or Vatican ambassador, to the United States.

Looking relaxed and fresh despite a long trans-Atlantic flight with a customs stop in New York, the 63-year-old archbishop was greeted at Washington's National Airport by about two dozen people — top officers and staff of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, two representatives of U.S. State Department and the Vatican Embassy staff.

Whereas 20 or 30 years ago hundreds of priests and seminarians from the schools around The Catholic University of America would be recruited to come down in cassocks and religious robes and applaud a newly arriving papal representative, the reception for Archbishop Cacciavillan was intimate, informal and brief.

Heading the reception group for the U.S. bishops were Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk of Cincinnati, NCCB president; Archbishop William H. Keeler of Baltimore, NCCB vice president; Cardinal James A. Hickey of Washington, where the Vatican Embassy is located; and Monsignor Robert N. Lynch, NCCB general secretary.

The closest thing to a speech came when Cardinal Hickey, who was standing beside the archbishop as he finished shaking hands with his greeters, wished him "much happiness" in the United States and assured him of the "prayers, support and love" of the U.S. bishops.

Archbishop Cacciavillan is a native of Novalo Di Valdagno, near Vicenza in northern Italy. He is a 31-year veteran of the Vatican diplomatic corps.

He had been pro-nuncio to India from 1981 until Pope John Paul II named him to the U.S. post June 13. Since 1985 he had also been pro-nuncio to Nepal.

After entering the diplomatic corps in

1959, he served at Vatican embassies in the Philippines and Spain, worked at the Vatican Secretariat of State from 1967 to 1976 and was pro-nuncio to Kenya from 1976 until his appointment to India.

In the United States he succeeds Archbishop Pio Laghi, papal representative in the United States since 1980, who in May was named head of the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education.

Archbishop Cacciavillan — who speaks English, French, German and Spanish as well as his native Italian — chatted warmly and easily with members of the welcoming party.

Representing the State Department were Paul Berg, head of the department's Vatican desk, and protocol officer Patrick Daly.

The event marked the first time the State Department was formally represented at the arrival of a Vatican ambassador to the United States. In the early decades of U.S. history, the pope had no ambassador here, although the United States had a consul and then a resident minister in the Papal States.

Congress banned diplomatic relations with the Vatican in 1867 by withdrawing funding from the U.S. delegation, and when the first papal representative was sent to Washington in 1893, he came as an apostolic delegate — a papal representative to the church in a country with no diplomatic status.

Anglicans mull effect of ordination issue on union

CARDIFF, Wales (CNS) — The issue of women's ordination has divided Anglican churches to the point that one archbishop has questioned whether it can still be called the "Anglican Communion."

During a meeting of the eighth Anglican Consultative Council in Cardiff, Archbishop Donald Robinson of Sydney, Australia, said he questioned calling the churches a communion "for the simple reason that we do not have mutual interchangeability of ministry."

The Anglican Communion is a worldwide spiritual union for autonomous

Anglican churches. New Zealand Anglicans and the Episcopal Church in the United States have women bishops, and several other churches allow female priests.

But some churches firmly oppose women priests, said the Rev. Julio Bustos of Chile. He told the consultative council that his province had instructed all mission agencies not to accept female priests or male priests who have been ordained by a female bishop.

Because of the differences in the stances

taken by autonomous churches, the consultative council commended for study by its member churches a report suggesting guidelines on how Anglican churches could overcome the tensions and difficulties created by the presence of female bishops.

A phrase commending the report for "guidance in their relationships with one another" was deleted from the resolution, which also urged churches "to strive to maintain as high a degree of communion as possible."