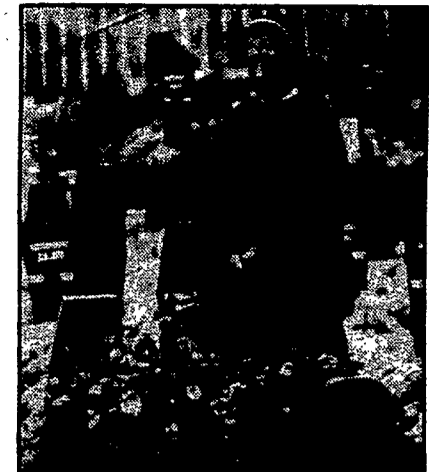


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AP/Wide World Photos

A Roman Catholic sister prays before a grave at Sarajevo's Lions Cemetery, where Muslim, Catholic and non-denominational victims of the Bosnia war are buried.

Vatican official: World nations must establish new guidelines on intervention

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The international community needs to draw up guidelines for humanitarian intervention aimed at protecting human lives and human rights, a Vatican representative said.

Such guidelines would help ensure that multinational action in a particular country is clearly focused on protecting people and is not an attack on national sovereignty, said Archbishop Ernesto Gallina, the Vatican's delegate to international governing organizations.

A seven-page summary of Archbishop Gallina's late October speech to the World Law Conference in Manila, Philippines, was published Nov. 16 by the Vatican press office.

Tragic events in many parts of the world give urgency to the need for a "new examination and new emphasis on human rights and the rights of peoples with a view toward re-ordering the world in peace," the archbishop said.

The heart of the problem today, he said, "is to make effective the recognition and protection of fundamental rights which until recently have been understood almost exclusively as a task which states themselves implement within their borders," with the international community powerless to intervene in situations of abuse.

The international community must give strong support to those organizations that monitor the human rights situation throughout the world and, at the same time, "provide for direct action by the international community through its institutions when obvious violations of human rights exist in a country," he said.

The international community's action must be "a clearly defined intervention aimed at guaranteeing the protection of fundamental rights and not at limiting, excessively, the individual countries," the archbishop said.

The summary of Archbishop Gallina's talk did not mention specifically the two most obvious situations where U.N. peacekeepers have intervened to protect human rights — Somalia and Bosnia-Herzegovina — but it did discuss "centrifugal nationalistic forces" that are splintering nations.

Continued on page 18



Bishops warn against isolationism

By Jerry Filteau
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Catholic bishops warned strongly against U.S. isolationism in a 60-page statement on world peace they approved Nov. 17 at their national meeting in Washington.

The statement is titled, "The Harvest of Justice Is Sown in Peace."

It passed easily on a voice vote after the bishops defeated several efforts by Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton of Detroit to introduce language bluntly condemning recent wars, current U.S.

nuclear deterrence policy and international monetary policies that he said contribute to starvation among the poor.

It marked the 10th anniversary of the bishops' landmark 1983 pastoral letter, "The Challenge of Peace."

The new statement says that to work for real peace, the United States needs to avoid the temptation of isolationism and make substantive new commitments to international justice, Third World development, human rights and nonviolent conflict resolution.

It calls for the United States — "the world's largest supplier of weapons" —

to take the lead in reversing the global arms race.

And it says that total elimination of nuclear weapons should be not just an ideal but a concrete U.S. policy goal.

Archbishop John R. Roach of St. Paul-Minneapolis, who introduced the statement as head of the bishops' International Policy Committee, said he had "enormous respect for" Bishop Gumbleton's positions. He said that the questions Bishop Gumbleton raised about the church's role in raising a prophetic voice against war were among the most

Continued on page 18