World, Nation, People...in Brief

Pope Asks Senate To Protect Unborn

By Agostino Bono
Vatican City (NC) — Pope John Paul II asked Wednesday U.S. senators to take legislative action to protect the unborn as the U.S. Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., gave him a letter from President Reagan on Catholics and arms control April 13. "As senators of the United States you are in a splendid position to make a contribution to the defense of liberty, the preservation of liberty and the advancement of true happiness for countless men, women and children — millions of whom are yet unborn," the pope told Dole and the other U.S. senators accompanying him. The pope did not elaborate. President Reagan, in an April 4 announcement, said he is sending Dole to seek papal advice on his Nicaraguan policy, which includes mediation by the Vatican in the fighting between the Sandinista government and U.S.-backed rebels. Dole said after the papal meeting that he made a personal letter to the pope but could not reveal its details. "We are not addressing two irreconcilable issues here, but we do address a tripartite issue of great concern to the Holy Father — Central America and arms control," Dole said. The pope did not discuss the issue during the meeting and "we don't anticipate public reaction," said Dole.

Czechs Seek Papal Visit

Prague, Czechoslovakia — Approximately 10,000 Catholics called for a visit by Pope John Paul II to their country during a Mass celebrated at a central Czechoslovakia village believed to be the burial place of St. Thomas, a slave. Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek, Czechoslovakia's primate, who read a letter from the pope during the ceremony, said last April that he invited the pope to visit the country. Vatican officials said that a visit is unlikely.

Brazil's Archbishop Resigns

Vatican City — Pope John Paul II has accepted the resignation because of age of Archbishop Helder Camara of Brazil's Archbishop Resigns. Camara, who heads the bishops' conferences in Brazil, announced April 15 that it was too early for a papal response to the resignation. The Vatican said the decision was made by Pope John Paul II because he received numerous requests for a delay. "Many bishops' conferences asked to be given more time for consultations now that they will also have to deal with the 1983 extraordinary synod," Archbishop Josef Tomko, secretary general of the synod, told National Catholic News Service after the Vatican issued the announcement. In January the pope, in a surprise announcement, said an extraordinary synod would take place Nov. 25-29 to analyze the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and to mark the 20th anniversary of the end of the council.

Archbishop Delivers Offer

San Salvador, El Salvador — Archbishop Arturo Rivera Dumas said he brought President Jose Napoleon Duarte a proposal from rebel groups for a third peace meeting. The archbishop, who has led church efforts to mediate the Salvadoran civil war, said that the president would respond to the rebels "as an opportunity." He gave no details of the proposal. Statements issued after the meeting provided no details of the dialogues. Duarte received the Nanostrin rebels last December. Rivera Dumas said that some good came out of the previous meetings. He said the first established a commission to oversee planning for future talks. In the second round both sides were able to "present their positions," he said.

Sanctuary City

Sister Rose Marie Cammin, director of Centro Presente, a Cambridge refugee support organization, addressed the Senate. By a 54-4 vote, the council declared the entire city of Cambridge a sanctuary (NC photo).

40 Years Later, Priest Recalls Experience in Concentration Camp

By Diane Gianelli
NC News Service

On April 11, 1945, the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division dispatched its medical battalion to deliver assistance to a little camp about 60 miles southwest of Berlin. "We came upon a world of such horror and tragedy," said Dominican Father Edward Paul Doyle, the Catholic chaplain whose division liberated Nordhausen, as a member of the infamous Buchenwald. "We've seen pictures, but being there outvies them all," he said.

Father Doyle, now 77 and a chaplain in Rhode Island, was interviewed in conjunction with 40th anniversary commemorations of the liberation of the concentration camps. "Nationally "Days of Remembrance" were being held the week of April 14, culminating in an April 21 "Evening of Remembrance" in Philadelphia bringing together librarians and survivors of the camps.

The events were being sponsored by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, a group of Congress in 1983 to coordinate Holocaust remembrance programs.

There were about 1,000 survivors at the Nordhausen camp, Father Doyle recalled. "But they were just barely alive." "After we took care of the living, we buried about 5,000 bodies on a hill outside the town. All mutilated, beaten and starved skeletons.... We went into town and rounded up able-bodied men to come and help us bury them. They said they were unaware of the goings-on at the death camp."

Father Doyle said. The priest said that he himself had no idea what to expect before he arrived at the concentration camps.

Many people blame God for allowing the Holocaust to happen, Father Doyle said, but he said he sees it as a "tragic failure of man."

"It isn't God who failed," he said. "It's man who failed."

We need God more than ever, if this can happen to a man."

After the war, Father Doyle, who rose to the rank of major, returned to teaching theology and personal guidance at Providence College and other institutions. He now serves as chaplain at Summit Medical Center in Providence.

At every event he meets the 101st Division for a reunion, and every year the division holds a memorial service for the thousands they buried at Nordhausen, as well as for those who went before them.

Bishop Announces Nine Reappointments

By Diane Gianelli
NC News Service

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following diocesan reappointments:

Father William Barrett, from pastor St. Monica's Church, Rochester, to chaplain at Cape Cod, Dryden.

Father Lewis Brown, from associate Immaculate Conception, Ithaca, to chaplain at U.S. Navy.

Father Robert Collins, from rector Becket Hall, chaplain Mount St. Mary and Sabatical, to pastor St. Thomas More Church, Rochester.

Monsignor George Corazza, from pastor St. Francis Xavier, Rochester, to supporting pastor at both St. Francis Xavier and Holy Redeemer churches, Rochester.

Father Thomas Erde, from pastor St. Mary's Parish of the Deaf, Rochester, to St. Mark's Church, Rochester.

Father Robert G. Kreckel, from pastor Church of the Resurrection, Fairport, to pastor St. Mary's of the Assumption, Livonia.

Father William Leone, from pastor Holy Redeemer, Rochester, to pastor of both Holy Redeemer and St. Francis Xavier, Rochester.

Father Tom Miller, from Tabasco mission team, to pastor Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester.

Father Patrick Seelman, TOR, from associate St. Stephen's Church, Geneva, to pastor of Assisi, Auburn.

Bishop's Parish in Tabasco Mission

Tabasco, Mexico — Monsignor George Corazza, pastor at both St. Francis Xavier and Holy Redeemer churches, Rochester, said in a letter to the people that the Bishop has reappointed him to the Tabasco mission team, to pastor Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester. The Tabasco team includes several members of the Dominican order, who have worked there for many years. The mission is located in the remote town of Tabasco, where the people are predominantly Catholic. The mission team provides medical and educational services to the town's inhabitants, who are mostly indigenous and speak a language different from Spanish. The reappointment comes as the parish continues to serve the community, which has a population of about 10,000 people. The mission team is known for its dedication to serving the community and providing support to those in need. The parish is currently working on several projects, including the construction of a new school and the renovation of existing buildings. The mission team is also involved in providing medical care to the community, including the treatment of common ailments and the prevention of diseases. The reappointment is a sign of the Bishop's support for the mission team and its work in the community. The mission team is grateful for the Bishop's support and looks forward to continuing its work in the parish.