

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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PACEM IN TERRIS -- COMMUNIST VIEW

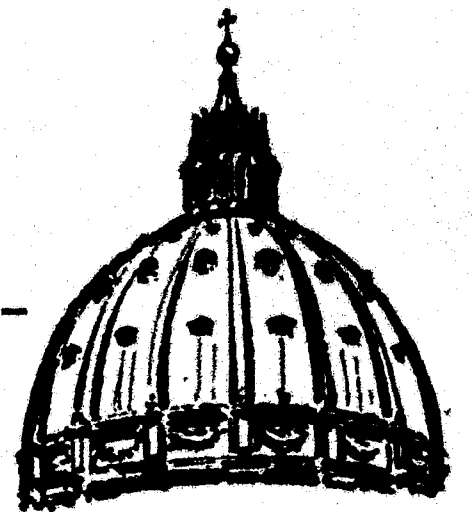


It seems safe to observe that no papal encyclical has ever attracted such immediate and universal attention as Pope John XXIII's Pacem in Terris -- immediate because it has the advantages of the ever improving methods of rapid communications but universal as well because the ecumenical spirit has its attention focused on the Pope of ecumenism. And Pope John disappointed no one in his great peace encyclical.

Comments on the encyclical by various groups, however, point up the human tendency to find only what one wants to read. The Communists, for instance, focused on the encyclical's plea for peace negotiations, overlooking the core of the message with its insistence on human freedom and dignity.

Vatican Radio issued the following reminder with regard to the Communist interpretation or emphasis:

"The Communist press underlined with particular insistence the call for the settlement of controversy through meetings and negotiations, the exhortations to overcome racial and ideological barriers, the proposals for general disarmament.



"Doubtlessly, these subjects constitute an important part of the encyclical, but they do not exhaust its contents. The central nucleus of the encyclical -- from which derive all its directives about the nature and significance of public power, about the relations between political communities and about the national community -- is constituted by the dignity of the human being, his rights, his duties."

Every Catholic college student should feel obliged to read and study this historic papal document. All the world is talking about it. Intelligent participation in discussion demands first hand knowledge. Don't be satisfied with comments and hearsay. Read it. Study it.

A Timely Quote

"There is no statement more revealing than one from a graduate who says that he never had a chance in school to study the encyclicals because there was no course available and so he is not equipped to take any leadership in social and economic reform. This is a reflection of a whole attitude that permeates American education. Many students have come to expect...to be spoon-fed a balanced and easily digested educational diet. They do nothing for themselves unless it is assigned. Intellectual competence, professional competence and competence as a Catholic layman all require intensive work, personal ingenuity and

the acceptance of responsibility for one's education."

Dr. William H. Conley, director of the "Study of Catholic Education," a Carnegie study conducted by Notre Dame, in Today magazine.

Blood Bank Low

The last plea for blood was made a little more than a month ago. A few responded, but the deposit side of the Notre Dame Blood Bank has not kept up with the withdrawals. Demands have been constant and rather heavy. Moreover, summer is approaching, and there should be a supply on hand to carry us through summer emergencies. Fifty pints wouldn't be any too many. Do we have fifty generous Notre Dame students willing to give their blood for love of their neighbor? Stop in at 116 Dillon to arrange for an appointment to give your donation.

Masses at K-S

The program of more active liturgical participation in the Sunday Masses in Keenan-Stanford Chapel will continue for the remainder of the semester. Though the new schedule -- 8:30, 9:45, 11:00, and 12:15 -- began with the first Sunday of Lent there was never any intention that it be only a Lenten experiment. We are grateful to Father McAuliffe for having given the program its impetus. Next Sunday Father Sherrer, chaplain of Lyons Hall, will take over direction of the program.

In Your Charity

Please pray for the following. Deceased: sister of Pete Duranko of Stanford (killed in an automobile accident); father of Paul Keck of Morrissey; grandmother of Len Kuberski of Pangborn; father of Charles E. Seghers, '47. Ill: Regis Amann of Farley; Eddie Mahon, Chemistry Department supply room.