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Says Council Making Big 'Leap Forward'

By Father Placid Jordan, O.S.B.

Rome — (NC) — The ecumenical council is making a "leap forward," said Archbishop Hyacinthe Thiandoum of Dakar, Senegal, at a press conference here reviewing the past week's debate in the council.

Bishop Believes Council May Run Five More Years

ST. LOUIS—(NC)—The ecumenical council may last three — or even five — years more, Auxiliary Bishop George J. Gottwald of St. Louis said here.

Bishop Gottwald, back from the council's second session, said it would take "a minimum of three years" to cover all the draft proposals before the council and noted that other council Fathers have speculated that it might require five years.

This would be on the basis of an annual session of several months' duration, he indicated.

He said the council would be lengthened by the large amount of work to be done rather than any delay.

"We Americans are used to doing things quickly, but most of the bishops know that what we are doing takes time," he said in an interview. "In general, everyone is pleased with the progress of the council."

BISHOP GOTTWALD said extending the council over several years will not mean a delay in promulgating its decrees.

Instead, he said, Pope Paul VI will probably approve and publish each one as it is adopted by the council.

The Bishop said he does not think the idea of a "council by correspondence," as some have suggested, would be satisfactory. He said conducting the council largely by mail would make it harder to reach decisions.

He said the "immediate effect" of the council's decisions on the liturgy, whose publication is expected soon, will be "limited" because it will be up to national conferences of bishops to decide how the decree will be implemented in their area. Full implementation in the United States will take about a year, he predicted.

MAJOR FEATURES of the liturgy reform will include use of the vernacular in instructional parts of the Mass and steps to involve the congregation more directly in the liturgical action, he said.

"All these things will go to better instruct the people about what it means to be a Catholic," Bishop Gottwald said.

The archbishop said that the issues now pending — collegiality of bishops and sacramental character of the episcopacy — are of such transcendental importance that the current session cannot end unless they are clarified.

CERTAINLY, Archbishop Thiandoum added, "a reversal of the position we have taken cannot even be considered. We must not call a halt in midstream."

The African prelate was alluding to the crucial conflict that has arisen as a consequence of the Nov. 8 debate, when sharply opposite views were expressed by Joseph Cardinal Frings of Cologne, Germany, and Alfredo Cardinal Ottaviani, secretary of the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office and president of the theological commission of the council.

In the opinion of observers here, it is up to Pope Paul VI to decide how to overcome the impasse caused by the passive resistance of a council minority.

"**TWO MEN ARE** blocking everything," a council Father said, referring to Cardinal Ottaviani and Father Sebastian Tromp, S.J., secretary of the theological commission, which is supposed to revise the schema On the Nature of

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Keys to Cathedral

Pope Plans 'New Vitality' for Rome

Rome — (NC) — Pope Paul VI, on taking possession of his Cathedral church, the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, said he hopes to give "new vitality" to the parishes of his See of Rome.

Fifty cardinals and 1,200 Patriarchs, archbishops and bishops were among the more than 20,000 at the stately rites which lasted more than four hours.

THOUSANDS LINED the route the Pope took across Rome from Vatican City to the Lateran.

The Pope received the keys to the basilica, symbolizing his assumption of full powers as Bishop of Rome, when he reached the entrance. He himself offered Mass at the basilica's main altar.

In a discourse after the Gospel, the Pope recalled that the Lateran Basilica had been the scene of five ecumenical councils and that its history marked the progress "sometimes slow and painful, sometimes free and victorious, of the mysterious passage of Christ through time."

"**TODAY,**" HE SAID, "this basilica, as never before in the long centuries of its existence, holds almost all the world's episcopate to receive splendidly and solemnly the latest of her pontiffs, the lowliest and most humble" in the whole line of popes.

"He has no right to enter here as Lord and Master," he said, "other than the irrefutable right of having been canonically elected Bishop of Rome."

Speaking to the cardinals, patriarchs and bishops, the Pope said:

"Brethren, it seems to Us that no other place in the world, no other hour than the present one, gives Us the happiness to celebrate, to experience in a practical way,

this living charity, this mystical presence of Christ in mankind: 'I am with you.' He is here with Us and for Us."

THEN, SPEAKING of Rome, he said: "We realize that Our relations with the city are different from those of past centuries. We no longer have temporal sovereignty over the city, but We retain spiritual sovereignty. This does not mean a lessening of Our love for Rome. On the contrary, We love her with a more open heart, with more obvious disinterestedness and with more dutiful diligence. Our pastoral relationship with Rome must become even more vigilant and effective because of the greater needs and because of the new problems which this immense metropolis is now posing for religious life."

After praising the religious traditions of the Romans, the Pope said:

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JIM BEATTY, world's record holder in the indoor mile and one of the all-time great distance runners, will be guest speaker at the Charlotte Catholic High School football banquet Saturday, November 16. A former Charlotte schoolboy and University of North Carolina star, Jim was recently named to the staff of the North Carolina fund, working in the youth opportunity program.

'NEW' HOUSE IN FAYETTEVILLE OPENED BY OBLATE FATHERS

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, with the approval of his Excellency, Bishop Waters, have converted the former rectory of St. Patrick's parish in Fayetteville, North Carolina, into a Mission House. The residence will be known as the DeMazenod Mission House, named after the priest-founder of the Oblates, Eugene DeMazenod.

The Reverend Paul J. Frank, O.M.I., veteran missionary of the Eastern American Province's parochial band of preachers has been named first Director of the residence.

The Oblate Fathers have staffed the parishes of St. Patrick's and St. Ann's for over three decades. The transferral of St. Patrick's by his Excellency to a newer section of the city occasions the opening of this House. Known throughout the East Coast as specialists in the preaching of parish missions, novenas and retreats this will, however, mark the first such House to be opened by the Oblate Congregation in the Southeastern section of the United States.

Anti-Semitism Draft Issued

VATICAN CITY — (NC) — Following is the text of the communique issued on the statement on anti-Semitism issued to the ecumenical council Fathers (Nov. 8):

This morning there was distributed to the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council a draft on "The Attitude of Catholics Toward Non-Christians, Particularly Toward the Jews" (De Catholicorum Habitudine ad Nonchristianos et Maxime ad Udaeos).

This draft was prepared over a period of two years by the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, of which Augustin Cardinal Bea is president. It is to form the fourth chapter of the schema on ecumenism, the first three chapters of which had already been submitted to the bishops.

THE DOCUMENT is entirely religious in its contents and spiritual in its purpose. It is out of an ever-growing appreciation of the Church's sacred heritage that the council pays attention to the Jews, not as a race or a nation but as the chosen people of the Old Testament. The clear and unequivocal language of the text gives the secretariat confidence that no other motive will be read into it than that of the all-embracing love of the late Pope John who himself had wished that the theme be prepared for the council Fathers.

The draft deals first with the deep bond that ties the Church to the chosen people of the Old Testament. According to God's merciful design, the Church has its roots in the covenant made by God with Abraham and his descendants. This plan of salvation for all mankind finds its culmination in the coming of Jesus Christ, son of David and descendant of Abraham according to the flesh. Through Him the divine call first given to the chosen people of old is extended through His Church to the entire world.

A SECOND POINT the draft makes is that the responsibility for Christ's death falls upon sinful mankind. It was to atone for the sins of every man that the Son of God willingly offered Himself on the Cross. The part the Jewish leaders of Christ's day played in bringing about the Crucifixion does not exclude the guilt of all mankind. But the personal guilt of these leaders cannot be charged to the whole Jewish people either of

his time or today. It is therefore unjust to call this people "deicide" or to consider it "cursed" by God. St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, assures us that God has not rejected the people whom He has chosen.

The document presented goes on to affirm that the Church can never forget that it was from Abraham's stock that Christ, His Blessed Mother and the Apostles were born.

In keeping with its objectives, the council document does not propose to deal with the various causes of anti-Semitism. However, it does indicate that the sacred events of the Bible and, in particular, its account of the Crucifixion, cannot give rise to disdain or hatred or persecution of the Jews. Preachers and catechists, the text states, are admonished never to present a contrary position: furthermore, they are urged to promote mutual understanding and esteem.

IT IS CLEAR, therefore, that both the contents and purposes of the document are purely religious. It cannot be called pro-Zionist or anti-Zionist since it considers these as political questions and entirely outside of its religious scope. In fact, any use of the text to support partisan discussions or particular political claims or to attack the political claims of others would be completely unjustified and contrary to every intention of those who have composed it and presented it to the council.

Some recent newspaper accounts have mentioned the immediate possibility of an officer observer to the Second Vatican Council delegated by the World Jewish Congress. The incident referred to is not a recent one but took place in the summer of 1962. The Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity did not consider the proposal seriously at that time and is not doing so now.



AN ECUMENICAL GIFT — Sister Elizabeth Anne, R.S.M., of Saint Joseph's Infirmary, Atlanta, is shown receiving an autographed picture of Pope Paul VI from 14-year-old Stephen Bagley, who has been seriously ill in the hospital for the past three months. Some time ago Stephen wrote to the Holy Father, asking for an autographed picture, explaining that he wanted to give it to Sister, "Because she has been so good to me." Stephen is a Baptist, and Sister Elizabeth Anne commented, "It is a lovely ecumenical present."