



IN THE ROSE GARDEN of the White House (May 3) President Lyndon B. Johnson greets Felix Mika and Father Anthony Matula of Panna Maria, Texas, where the mosaic copy of the famous Black Madonna of Czestochowa will be placed on exhibition. At right is Felix V. Snoga, postmaster at Panna Maria. (NC Photos)

## Nuclear War Called Press Debate Topic

SAN FRANCISCO — (NC) — The moral issues involved in modern nuclear warfare should provide the Catholic press with material for a "great debate which has already been over 20 years in getting underway," a noted professor and author told the 56th annual national convention of the Catholic Press Association here.

One of the principal speakers at a general convention meeting on "War and Peace and the Catholic Conscience," William V. O'Brien, chairman of the Institute of World Policy at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., told the delegates that such a debate is necessary because to date the "Catholic reaction — official, semi-official, and lay — to the moral dilemmas of nuclear war has been, on the whole, uneven, inconclusive and unsatisfactory."

He traced the Church's position on warfare through history, sum-

marizing that "since the time of St. Augustine the prevailing attitude of the Church has condoned so-called just wars."

**SPEAKING OF** the emerging distinction between Catholic "just war" advocates and Catholic pacifists in the United States, he pointed out that, traditionally, the pacifist has never been backed by Catholic teaching.

"It can be stated as a fact, not as a debating point but as a clarification of the state of the question today," O'Brien said, "that the official teaching of the Church on war has repeatedly rejected pacifism."

He emphasized that "this fact is not to suggest that a strong case for pacifism and particularly for nuclear pacifism is not conceivable," but simply that "such a case has not been convincingly made to those who speak authoritatively for the Church on such questions."

## Missionaries Show 14% Gain Over Two Years

WASHINGTON — (NC) — A total of 9,292 Catholic missionaries from the United States are serving overseas, according to a report on overseas missionary personnel compiled and soon to be published by the U.S. bishop's Mission Secretariat.

The number, as of last Jan. 1, represents an increase of 1,166 missionaries for a 14 percent gain over the 8,126 serving overseas on Jan. 1, 1964.

Included in the current total are 3,948 priests, 901 Brothers, 200 scholastics, 3,693 Sisters, 1 novice, and 549 lay men and women.

Gains were reflected in the number of missionaries in all continents with the exception of Europe and North America where slight numerical decreases were shown, the survey showed.

Most significant increases were in Latin America where a total of 3,241 missionaries represented a 32 percent gain over the 2,456 working there in 1964.

# UNICEF to Weigh Family Planning Aid

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y.—(NC) The major policy decision before the forthcoming session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund is whether or not UNICEF should assist government sponsored family planning programs on the request of the government concerned.

The board meets in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, May 19-31. It will have before it a report on "the possible role of UNICEF" in such programs, which it requested at its last session after considerable discussion and in response to a U.S. proposal. It will also have before it two requests for assistance to family planning, one from India and the other from Pakistan.

The report itself is an attempt to justify UNICEF's entry into this field, and includes a number of generalizations and assumptions which can be questioned on the basis of other U.N. documents. Given UNICEF's original mandate, the whole question is posited in terms of family planning as a contribution to child welfare.

**THE REPORTS** concludes with the recommendation that UNICEF should consider requests from governments where the latter consider "that the need for these services (family planning) has a high priority in respect to children's health and welfare."

UNICEF will give advice on techniques, persuade any country to adopt or extend family planning services, or provide contraceptive devices or equipment. A government request would be "considered with the resources that can be made available to the particular country."

If the Executive Board approves the recommendation, it is expected that UNICEF assistance will be in the form of stipends for trainees and other aids (teaching equipment, etc.) for training programs for family planning personnel in maternal and child health centers, since these centers already account for a major portion of UNICEF assistance.

**THE RECOMMENDATION** concludes: "Recognizing that family planning services can be no more than one aspect of a comprehensive program for children,

UNICEF's main effort and objective should continue to be the extension of services benefiting children and the general improvement of the condition of children and their preparation for life, by all available means."

Premise of the report is reflected in its statement that "a government's decision to include family planning as part of the maternal and child health services may be based on consideration of the welfare of mothers and children, and of human rights, and need not be linked to a policy of moderating the rate of population increase."

## Baby Shortage Now Worrying East Europeans

MUNICH — (NC) — East Europe's communist leaders are now worried about their birth rate problem: Too few babies are being born.

The three basic reasons for the low birth rates are, according to Radio Free Europe: East European nations have more women than men in their populations; abortions are legal; and the use of contraceptives is becoming widespread.

The RFE survey released here quoted a Hungarian doctor as saying recently, "We have to reinstate the respect due motherhood or this may have a catastrophic effect within a few decades."

East Europe is faced with the problem of having some of the world's lowest birth rates coupled to a steadily aging population.

The baby shortage is most acute in Hungary, East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

In Hungary, which has the lowest annual birth rate in the world, 180,000 abortions were performed last year.

Some of the reasons for this, Radio Free Europe says, are the lower tax rates on married but childless couples, inadequate family allowances, short maternity leaves and a shortage of large, family-size living quarters.

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