

New Pope promises 'ministry of love' will mark reign

Vatican City (AP)—Pope John Paul II promised Tuesday that a "ministry of love" would mark his reign as the 264 pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

The former Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Krakow, Poland, also took a trip outside Vatican walls on his first full day as leader of the world's 700 million Catholics.

In a televised sermon delivered under Michelangelo's fresco "The Last Judgment" in the Sistine Chapel, the pope pledged to carry on the church reforms launched by the Second Vatican Council of 1962-65 and to follow the guidelines laid down by Paul VI and John Paul I.

Vatican officials, meanwhile, announced that John Paul would preside at a Mass at

his installation on Sunday. The announcement made no mention of a coronation, implying that he would continue the pattern of John Paul I, who refused to be crowned the temporal ruler of the church.

Associated Press datelines

From Warsaw, Polish Communist leader Edward Gierk sent a message to the pope, saying his election "fills Poland with great satisfaction" and that he was "convinced that further development of relations between Poland and the Apostolic See" would come about.

A Polish government spokesman, Kazimierz Kakol, said passport restrictions would be eased to allow a "large number" of Poles to travel to Rome for the installation. He did not say how many visas would be granted. Poles normally have to wait three to four weeks to obtain a travel visa.

In his first papal sermon, the 58-year-old pontiff warned that the "general criteria of loyalty to the Vatican Council" must not affect loyalty to the basic doctrinal truths of the church.

Civil suit loses

Washington (AP)—Two policemen accused of using excessive force in shooting to death a fleeing burglary suspect lost an appeal to the Supreme Court Monday to block a civil damage suit against them. The two officers, John Moats and Robert J. Rockwell of Omaha had won their case before a jury which dismissed the suit. But the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last May 30 ordered a new trial.

Without comment, the Supreme Court allowed the order for the new trial to stand. The appeals court held that under the circumstances of the case the police appeared to use excessive force when they shot and killed Roy Lee Landrum early in the morning of Aug. 15, 1975. The officers said they saw Landrum climbing out of a window of a service station and they said he refused to halt when they ordered him to stop.

Landrum died on Nov. 7, 1975, from a gunshot wound in the back. His mother, Leslie Landrum, sued the policemen for \$4 million.

While the appeals court ordered a new trial in the suit, it said the officers could offer as a defense that they acted in good faith when they fired at Landrum.

To prove good faith, the court continued, the officers would have to show that they believed either that Landrum used or threatened to use deadly force in committing the burglary, or that there was a substantial risk he would cause death or serious harm to someone else if he were not stopped.

Lawyers for the two men argued that the appeals court ruling had "created turmoil within the federal court system" because it ran directly counter to other appeals court rulings that have upheld the right of police to fire at fleeing suspects.

Drinking deaths

Washington (AP)—An estimated 10 million Americans are problem drinkers or alcoholics, and drinking may be to blame for as many as 205,000 deaths a year, federal health officials reported Tuesday.

The risk of death from disease, or violence is two to six times greater for the problem drinker than for the population at large, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism said in its third special report to Congress.

But the acting director of the institute said the report also has good news, including statistics showing a decline in deaths from cirrhosis of the liver, a drop in per capita alcohol consumption and a rise in the number of alcohol treatment programs.

"As a nation, we seem to be getting a handle on the problem," said Loran D. Archer, the acting director.


The report estimated that drinking problems cost society about \$43 billion in 1975 in lost production, medical bills, accidents and other expenses.

Alcohol may be involved in up to one-third of all suicides, half of all murders, half of all traffic deaths and a fourth of all other accidental deaths, the report said.

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