

Pope returns with challenge: Set example of virtue, freedom

NEWARK, N.J. — Pope John Paul II returned to America on Wednesday as a self-described pilgrim for peace, echoing Pope Paul VI's 1965 appeal to the United Nations: "No more war, war never again."

The pope told President Clinton and about 2,000 Catholic schoolchildren gathered to meet him at the airport that the ideals behind the founding of the United Nations 50 years ago are still needed in a world where "ancient rivalries and suspicions still compromise the cause of peace."

At a prayer service later, John Paul challenged countries in the United Nations to "clothe yourselves with humility. In particular, the powerful and the mighty ought to show meekness in their dealings with the weak."

The 1,800 invited guests at the evening prayer service included Clinton, comedian Bob Hope and about 120 cloistered nuns. Some of the nuns left their convent grounds for the first time since taking their vows as long as 50 years ago.

The pope met with Clinton for

about 30 minutes before the service at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Unlike their meeting two years ago in Denver, the pope did not challenge the president's support for abortion rights. Instead, the leaders discussed efforts to forge peace in Bosnia and throughout the world.

"The president asked his Holiness to continue his prayers for peace," said a joint statement from Vatican and White House spokesmen.

In his airport address, John Paul called for America to be a moral superpower in the post-Cold War era, and he reminded the nation's leaders not to forget the poor as Congress considers cuts in social spending.

"Your country stands upon the world scene as a model of a democratic society at an advanced stage of development. Your power of example carries with it heavy responsibilities," the pope said. "Use it well, America! Be an example of justice and civic virtue, freedom fulfilled in goodness, at home and abroad."

Clinton added his belief that Americans must "see to it that children live free of poverty with opportunity for good and decent educa-

tion."

The pope's five-day visit will take him to New Jersey, New York and Maryland. He seemed to be in good spirits as he began his fourth trip to the United States.

"The pope is bringing you the rain — a very important event," he said with a smile at the conclusion of his address at Newark International Airport. The region has been plagued by a drought for months.

Hundreds of people lined the route of the pope's motorcade from the airport to the cathedral.

"You can't describe it. It was like, 'Let me touch the hem of your garment,' but it seemed like he touched me," said Doris Schenck after watching the pope go by on his way to the service. "It's a wonderful feeling just to be in his presence. He made me holy."

After the service, the pope returned for the night to the Manhattan residence of the papal envoy to the United Nations. John Paul is to address the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, exactly 30 years after Pope Paul VI delivered his injunction against war.

Simpson angry about misconceptions

Jurors explain how decision was reached

LOS ANGELES — Speaking out for the first time since his acquittal, O.J. Simpson on Wednesday assailed prosecutors and legal commentators for distorting the trial evidence to make him look bad.

"My basic anger is these misconceptions," Simpson said in a surprise phone call to CNN's "Larry King Live," the latest twist in a case that has shown no shortage of surprises.

Earlier, some of his jurors explained for the first time why they acquitted him in the murders of his ex-wife and her friend. One said a cop lied, another was a racist, and the gloves didn't fit — either on Simpson's hands or at his estate — so she had to acquit.

Simpson, who wasn't seen during his second day of freedom, also offered a brief comment about his first reunion with his two small children, Sydney and Justin, since he was arrested for their mother's murder.

"It's been great," Simpson said without elaboration. He then thanked King and got off the phone.

Simpson's call came during King's

interview with lead defense attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. The lawyer wouldn't say where the meeting with the children took place, or whether Simpson had to elude the more than 100 reporters camped outside his estate.

Simpson called to respond to a woman who called in asking about prosecution claims that a shadowy figure seen moving across the driveway of Simpson's house was in fact Simpson returning from an attempt to hide a bloody glove.

Simpson said testimony from limousine driver Allan Park never showed this — only that there was a person near the front door.

"It was me — walking out of my front door, dropping my bags and going back in," he said. Simpson's defense had said that Simpson was racing around his house at about 11 p.m. packing for a planned trip to Chicago.

Simpson said prosecutors and legal commentators constantly misconstrued the evidence.

"My basic anger is people I've heard say, 'I followed the case.' I've heard experts say, 'This was the testimony today,' and that wasn't the testimony today," Simpson said.

"Fortunately for me, the jury listened to what the witnesses said and not what Marcia Clark's or (Christopher) Darden's or anyone else's renditions of what was said," Simpson said.

In their first full day free from sequestration, some jurors spoke out.

Brenda Moran, a black computer technician from South Central Los Angeles, said a glove found behind Simpson's mansion was key to her decision to acquit Simpson in the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

"Somebody planted it," Moran said, signaling she agreed with the defense contention that Simpson was framed by rogue cops.

The juror discussed the case with more than 100 reporters, who were assembled on the roof of a Beverly Hills parking garage because there wasn't enough room inside the offices of Moran's attorney.

Another black juror, Gina Rosborough said a straw poll taken less than an hour into deliberations was 10-2 in favor of acquittal. One of those voting guilty was black or Hispanic and one was white, she said. The next vote was unanimous.

E-mail

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have bigred accounts. The system can serve up to 25,000 users, he said.

Amy Nickerson, a junior psychology major, is another new bigred user. Like most bigred users, Nickerson mainly uses her account for e-mail.

"I don't have to have a long-distance phone bill all the time," Nickerson said, "and also I can talk to my friends in other states a lot easier." Blaufuss has figured out how to

access the World Wide Web, Netscape and other Internet locales through his modem.

"I'm now omnipotent, if you will," he said.

The system also is useful for "chatting," or talking directly via computer with others who have bigred accounts, James said.

"You can talk to someone who's on Herbie," James said, "but it's a lot faster if both people are on bigred."

Students can apply for a free bigred account at the Computer Shop in the 501 building or the Operations Center in the basement of the Walter

Scott Engineering Center.

Account information such as passwords and account numbers will be ready two to three days after the application is turned in.

If people need help with their accounts, they may call the Operations Center at 472-5653 or the Information Services help desk at 472-3970.

There are still some problems with bigred, James said. The complications primarily have concerned passwords and terminal recognition.

"It's a brand new system," he said. "There are lots of adjustments to be made. It's been a real learning process."

News
in a
Minute



Opal lashes Florida beaches

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Hurricane Opal thrashed the Florida Panhandle with howling wind gusts up to 144 mph Wednesday, flooding homes, knocking down piers along the sugar-white beaches and forcing more than 100,000 terrified people to flee inland. At least one person was killed.

Opal, whose storm center hit the Air Force's Hurlburt Field, east of Pensacola, just after 6 p.m. EDT, was one of the strongest storms to hit the Gulf Coast since Hurricane Camille killed 256 people in 1969.

"I think this one is going to clean our clock," said Tom Beliech, who fled Pensacola. "Erin gave us a deep respect for knowing when to leave," he said, referring to the hurricane that forced a similar exodus two months ago.

At 9 p.m. EDT, Opal was about 45 miles north of Pensacola, moving north at about 22 mph. Maximum sustained winds had dropped to about 100 mph from 125 mph, and forecasters said the storm gradually would weaken through the night as it headed toward southern Alabama.

At least 100,000 were evacuated from a 150-mile stretch of Florida's Gulf coast, from Pensacola to Wakulla Beach south of Tallahassee, as the ninth hurricane of the Atlantic storm season closed in.

Opal, which left 10 people dead in Mexico, spun off at least seven tornadoes and caused flooding from storm surges of up to 15 feet.

Cult leader reportedly confesses

TOKYO — The cult guru charged with murder in a nerve gas attack on Tokyo's subways has confessed to that and other killings, reports said Wednesday. His cult said the confession had been forced.

The cult — Aum Shinri Kyo, or Supreme Truth — and some reports also said the confession was not strong enough to be admissible as evidence. Police would not comment.

Cult leader Shoko Asahara has been charged with masterminding the March 20 subway attack that killed 12 and sickened 5,500. Police believe cult members carried out the attack to fulfill Asahara's predictions of doom.

Asahara has previously denied involvement in the gassing. He also is charged in a nerve gas attack in central Japan last year that killed seven people; with directing the 1989 murder of an anti-cult lawyer and his family; and with involvement in the murder in February of a man who was helping his younger sister try to leave the cult. "In each case, I gave the order and group leaders carried it out," Japan's public television network, NHK, quoted Asahara as telling investigators in a written confession.

But the cult almost immediately drafted a statement quoting Asahara's lawyer as saying the confession had been forced and would be inadmissible.

Regents

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limited but still important:

"It would be great to be voting members on the board," Hurtgen said. "But being non-voting still gives us an influence by having four student regents on a board of eight."

If they would vote, the four student regents would represent a total of about 50,000 people. They would stack up unevenly against the eight regents who each represent a district of 200,000 people. That was one of the arguments against giving student regents a vote, J.B. Milliken, NU corporation secretary, said.

"It's unfathomable for the state of Nebraska to have four student regents control one-third of the board when they represent only a fraction of the state," he said.

The second objection is their one-year terms, Milliken said, because one year is not enough time to become well-versed in the language of the NU system.

University of Nebraska at Kearney Student Regent Dave Bargaen agreed. "We have one year to take a crash course in how the board works, its concerns, debates, policies and by-laws," Bargaen said.

Voting student regents also would violate the one-person, one-vote concept, Milliken said, because a student and a regent would be competing in a district.

Five years ago, though, student regents' votes were registered, and two years ago they were asked to voice their opinions before the regents, Milliken said, so they could

make more of an impact without an official vote.

Payne, who has been a regent for 15 years, said the changes gave students a louder voice.

"They're more active now than they used to be," he said. "They can make motions and discuss them, and their opinion can be counted."

O'Brien said the system encouraged input from student regents.

"They behave responsibly," O'Brien said. "They have ideas and thoughts to contribute and have been responsive to the students' rights and responsibilities."

Even though the board went against the student regents' opposition to a tuition increase, Bargaen said the students' votes can be a lobbyist tool.

"Even though our votes aren't counted," he said, "they are counted for swaying (the regents') opinions."

Bargaen said the system has attracted other universities, namely the University of Colorado at Boulder, to adopt a similar student regent concept.

Some institutions, most of which have appointed regents or trustees, do enlist a voting student regent who represents the entire system, Milliken said. But NU regents and student regents said that system wouldn't work for Nebraska.

"I'd say there's no likelihood of that whatsoever," O'Brien said.

Hurtgen agreed.

"I'd hate to see an appointment by the governor to be a representative of the university," she said. "The way we do it now is very fair, and it gives all students a chance to represent the university."

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