

NEWS

FILE

DATE: April 18, 1988

FROM: William Ryan

O - 202/659-6700 H - 202/686-1824

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DIALOGUE WITH WORLD JEWRY DESCRIBED IN NEW VOLUME

WASHINGTON--The Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews at the Vatican has published a "unique, authoritative" volume documenting its official dialogue with world Jewry since the Second Vatican Council.

Entitled "Fifteen Years of Catholic-Jewish Dialogue 19701985," the volume chronicles the progress and issues of the new
relationship between the Catholic and Jewish communities
stimulated by the Council. Its publication was described as an
unusual joint venture between the publishing houses of the Holy
See and the Pontifical Lateran University.

The volume contains 20 selected papers delivered at the official meetings of the International Catholic-Jewish Liaison Committee (ILC) over the years. The ILC is organized on the Catholic side by the Holy See and on the Jewish side by the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), an umbrella group of five major Jewish organizations worldwide (American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith Inter-

/more

NATIONAL CATHOLIC OFFICE FOR INFORMATION

1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

national, the Israel Jewish Committee for Interreligious

Consultations, the Synagogue Council of America, and World Jewish

Congress).

Dr. Eugene Fisher of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops is the only U.S. Catholic member of the ILC. He contributed two of the 20 papers selected for the volume: on Education, 1978, and on "The Evolution of a Tradition," 1985, analyzing the development of Catholic thinking on the relationship since the Second Vatican Council. Other contributors include leading Jewish and Catholic scholars from Europe and Israel.

Also included in the volume are the texts of 10 key documents of the Catholic Church on Catholic-Jewish relations, and an historical note on the history of the ILC.

According to its editors, the volume "will provide a basic instrument for historical and religious research" and an "invaluable aid for spiritual teaching, catechesis and theological studies for laypersons, pastors and rabbis."

"Fifteen Years of Catholic-Jewish Dialogue 1970-1985" is available from the Pontifical Lateran University, Piazza S. Giovanni in Laterano 4, Vatican City 00120, Italy. It is 358 pages and costs \$35 per copy (\$40 for the deluxe edition), including postage.

#

X,ISR