



NEWS

FILE
COPY

DATE: April 7, 1988

FROM: William Ryan

O-202/659-6700

H-202/686-1824

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BCEIA, PRESBYTERIAN/REFORMED
DIALOGUE VOLUME IS PUBLISHED**

WASHINGTON--"Partners in Peace and Education" has become the latest volume to emerge from the Presbyterian/Reformed consultation with the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. Earlier subjects taken up by the consultation, which began in 1965, include women in the church, inter-Christian marriage, the structure of unity, and "Ethics and the Search for Christian Unity" (USCC publication no. 736, 1981).

Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefler of Charleston chairs the Presbyterian/Reformed consultation for the BCEIA.

The topic of the present consultation (Round IV) was the relationship of Church, Society and State in the perspective of the Kingdom of God. The consultation has pioneered in the analysis of the ecumenical implications of social-ethical issues. The volume contains two joint statements: one on peace based on the 1983 pastoral letter of the National Conference of

/more

NATIONAL CATHOLIC OFFICE FOR INFORMATION

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

2/BCEIA

Catholic Bishops, "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response" and related Presbyterian/Reformed statements, and one on education. The peace documents themselves, along with three background papers on the church-state issues concerning public and private education, are included.

Study questions are provided as well to encourage laity and clergy to take part in similar discussions with other interested persons. "The volume is thus not only a document of the official dialogue," said Dr. Eugene Fisher of the BCEIA staff, who co-edited the book with Dr. Ronald C. White of Princeton University, "but also a practical tool for diocesan and parish level dialogue groups. It should appeal to teachers and those concerned with social issues as well as clergy and active laity."

#####

X,CL