

Waldheim to visit Pope next week

By ALISON SMALE
Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria — President Kurt Waldheim, barred from the United States because of alleged links to Nazi atrocities, will meet with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican next week in the first foreign visit of his year-old presidency, a spokesman said yesterday.

Since July 1986, when he won an election marked by allegations that he aided in the persecution of Jews and partisans while serving in the German army in the Balkans in World War II, Waldheim has often appeared diplomatically isolated. He has made no official visits abroad.

His spokesman, Gerold Christian, said Waldheim would go to Rome on June 24 and would return to Vienna on June 27. The president already was scheduled to visit Jordan July 1-5.

The Vatican said Waldheim would pay an official visit on June 25. Such visits usually include a private meeting with the pope, a public exchange of speeches and a ceremony playing national anthems.

Waldheim, a Roman Catholic, will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Alois Mock, Christian said.

Christian said Waldheim had received the invitation to the Vatican several weeks ago, but the spokesman refused to be more specific.

Mock's spokesman Gerhard Ziegler, reflecting a general satisfaction

in Vienna over the invitation, said "it is very gratifying" that the pope would receive Waldheim.

Ziegler said Waldheim would make an official visit, unlike the private audience the pope granted President Reagan earlier this month.

"With this visit, things are being put in perspective," Ziegler said.

An official at the Vatican said privately: "The pope never invites someone for an audience. The request for an audience is always made by the other party."

"In a private audience, the stress is put on the person, while with an official audience, the stress is put on his being the head of a state, Austria, which has diplomatic relations with the Holy See. With Reagan, the emphasis was more personal."

Noting that the pontiff had visited Austria in 1983 and would do so again in September 1988, he described Waldheim's audience as part of a routine exchange of official visits.

Echoing Ziegler's words, in a different sense, the Vatican official concluded: "You have to put this visit in perspective."

The announcement of the visit coincided with a visit to Rome this week by all of Austria's Roman Catholic bishops.

Austrian officials refused to say if this played a part in the Vatican visit. There are traditionally strong links between Austria's Roman Catholic church and Mock's conservative People's Party.

In New York, the World Jewish Congress, which has made many of the allegations against Waldheim, said his scheduled visit with the pope was "a tragedy for the Vatican and a sad day for Catholic-Jewish relations."

"This is the pope who met with (Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser) Arafat. This is the pope who refuses to recognize Israel," said a statement from the congress. "This is not the first unsavory character whom the pope has received in audience."

Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, president of the Synagogue Council of America in New York, said of the scheduled meeting: "It's an affront to the survivors of the Holocaust and to the victims, and as a consequence we will have to reassess our relationship with the Catholic Church."

Israel and the Vatican do not have diplomatic relations. Vatican sources have said the main obstacles include the dispute over Jerusalem's sovereignty, part of which Israel captured from Jordan in 1967, and the Palestinian problem.

The Vatican visit was announced a day after Waldheim hosted a dinner for U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who holds the post Waldheim relinquished in 1981 after nine years.

De Cuellar is in Vienna for a U.N. conference on drug abuse. The dinner in his honor was one of the rare international occasions hosted by Waldheim since he became president.

'This is not the first unsavory character the pope has received.'

—World Jewish Congress

Christian said Waldheim also has received invitations to visit Libya, Uganda and unidentified Western European and Eastern European states. He refused to be more specific.

Until Wednesday, the only trip Waldheim had planned abroad was the state visit to Jordan's King Hussein.

Hussein arrived for a skiing trip in February and was the first head of state to be welcomed by Waldheim.

U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz and other visiting dignitaries snubbed Waldheim at the opening of the 35-nation conference on European security and cooperation last November.

U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, now in Vienna for the U.N. drug conference, put Waldheim on a Watch List of undesirable aliens in late April.

The U.S. Justice Department said it had evidence that Waldheim aided in the deportation of thousands of Jews and partisans who later died in Nazi death camps.

Waldheim has consistently denied any wrongdoing and has criticized the U.S. action, as did many Austrians.

Review board clears judge of taking cash

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A state inquiry board has cleared a Common Pleas Court judge of any misconduct in an investigation of cash gifts from union officials, an attorney said yesterday.

The Judicial Inquiry and Review Board has asked the state Supreme Court to reinstate Judge Joseph P. McCabe Jr., according to Timothy J. Savage, the judge's attorney.

The review board, in a preliminary vote, also recommended the permanent removal of at least eight judges, according to Philadelphia Inquirer sources. The judges will argue their cases early next month before the board members make their final decision, the paper said.

Meanwhile, the state Supreme Court ruled yesterday two judges who invoked their constitutional right against self-incrimination have 30 days to provide information about gifts or face losing their jobs.

Common Pleas Court Judge John J. Chiovero and Municipal Judge Joseph R. Glancey refused to answer a question about gifts on their financial disclosure forms, citing the Fifth Amendment.

McCabe and 14 other Philadelphia judges were suspended Jan. 31 after federal prosecutors named them as recipients of the gifts from leaders of Roofers Union Local 30-30B.

A union messenger told authorities he delivered cash to McCabe in 1983 and 1984.

Accepting cash violates no law unless a judge agrees to rule favorably in exchange for the gift.

Two judges and almost two dozen union members and associates have been indicted in the case.

The Judicial Inquiry and Review Board petitioned the high court Monday to reinstate McCabe, his attorney said.

"He's relieved," Savage said. "He's very anxious to get back to work because that's what he enjoys doing."

Savage said McCabe will return to work as soon as he receives formal notification from the state Supreme Court.

The judicial inquiry followed a two-year investigation by the FBI and U.S. attorney's office of the Roofers Union. The FBI secretly recorded union leaders in December 1985 discussing how much cash they would give to several judges and other officials.

"A five for Joe McCabe," Local 30-30B business manager Stephen Traitz Jr. says on the tape.

But prosecutors said McCabe was out of town when Traitz's messenger delivered cash envelopes to judges in 1985.

Attorneys for Chiovero and Glancey argued the financial disclosure forms were unconstitutional.

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