

Pope offers Mass, forgives attacker

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II rose from his hospital bed and celebrated Mass Sunday for the first time since he was wounded, and doctors said barring setbacks he will fully recover from the bullet wounds of a would-be assassin four days ago.

Dr. Emilio Tresalt, chief of the medical staff at the pope's hospital, said in reply to questions the pope will fully recover unless there are setbacks. He said the pope will soon be moved out of the intensive care ward — perhaps on his 61st birthday Monday — and should be able to leave the hospital "in about a month."

The pope sat in a chair for about a half hour, a medical bulletin said, after saying in a tape-recorded Mass that he forgives "that brother of ours who shot me."

The papal message, in a soft but unfaltering voice, was

played to a throng in St. Peter's Square. It brought relief and tears to listeners, who were hearing the pope for the first time since he was wounded Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Rome's police headquarters said two — not three — bullets are believed to have been fired by the accused Turkish gunman, wounding the pope and two American pilgrims who were in St. Peter's Square. No major leads were reported in the investigation of whether the shooting was a conspiracy. Some newspapers, quoting unnamed sources, hinted at a second gunman, but police publicly denied this.

"With deep emotion, I thank you for your prayers and I bless you all," the pope said in a message which was recorded at Rome's Gemelli Policlinico Hospital and played over a loud-speaker a short time later for the crowd in St. Peter's Square.

Poles pray for Pope, ill cardinal

WARSAW, Poland — Poles wept at the sound of Pope John Paul II's voice Sunday, and in Krakow, where he was once archbishop, 380,000 faithful prayed for his recovery from gunshot wounds. Banners proclaimed, "Queen of Poland, Return Our Pope to the World."

Poles also prayed Sunday for the dying primate of their Roman Catholic Church, Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski, who once was John Paul's mentor and who for 33 years was the embattled church's unwavering leader.

The huge iron gates of Wyszynski's Warsaw residence were adorned with purple and red tulips Sunday, and inside, the bed-ridden 79-year-old cardinal was in serious condition with what church officials have described only as a "gastric illness."

Turkish ambassador says Agca paid off

NEW YORK (AP) — The Turkish ambassador to the United States said Sunday that the man accused of wounding Pope John Paul II last week in Rome was a "professional killer" hired and shielded by an unidentified international right-wing political group.

Ambassador Sukru Elegdad also alleged that the group moved Mehmet Ali Agca through seven European countries prior to the shooting, providing him with money and false identities after his escape from a Turkish prison in 1979.

"I understand this man has been taken over by some international terrorist organization," Elegdad said on ABC's "Issues and Answers" interview pro-

gram. "He is a professional killer, he is killing. I understand this has become his profession," Elegdad said.

Elegdad said the group paid Agca by depositing money in his mother's bank account. He said "\$4,000 or \$5,000" was found in the account after the 1979 murder of Turkish newspaper editor Abdi Ipecki.

"There is a correlation between these large sums of money and the murderous actions of Mehemet Ali Agca," Elegdad said, adding that information in the hands of Turkish officials indicates Agca received "several" large payments through his mother's account.

Power plants emperiled

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's electric power system is vulnerable to major interruptions from sabotage or terrorism, and the federal government is doing little about it, the congressional auditing agency says.

The power system has never suffered a national disruption or a long-term regional disruption, the General Accounting Office noted, but is "highly vulnerable because its components are widely dispersed, operated in a low manpower environment, have minimal security and are highly interdependent."

A GAO report released last week said the agency's investigators studied an unidentified region with 120 separate utilities.

"An attack on just eight substations could result in widespread power outages, with cascading blackouts throughout the electrical grid.

In addition, major metropolitan areas in the region could be without power for several days and be subject to rotating blackouts for over a year," the report said.

"Damage to four substations could actually place one city on interruptible power for up to a year," it warned. "One substations's key components could be damaged using a rifle and leave an important defense-related facility without power."

The Emergency Electric Power Administration in the Energy Department has only two staff members, working less than full-time, working on emergency planning, the report said.

In December 1979, the EEPA administrator said the two-person planning program was "barely alive," the GAO added.

Demos protest Reagan benefit cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — While other Democrats are branding Pres. Reagan's latest Social Security plan "inhumane, unfair" and "a rotten thing to do," the chairman of the House panel charged with fashioning the legislation says he can work with the administration proposals.

"We're going to try to find some common ground," Rep. J.J. Pickle, D-Texas, chairman of the House Social Security subcommittee, said in an interview.

He said the major difference between the legislation his subcommittee has been working on and the Reagan proposals is that "he has deeper cuts and more abruptly."

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, D-Mass., called the Reagan plan "despicable" and "a rotten thing to do." He suggested that few members in Congress would be "stonehearted enough to vote for it."

Senate Democratic Leader Robert Byrd said Reagan's call

for a 10 percent cut in Social Security benefits by 1986 is "inhumane, unfair" and that Congress will not accept it.

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