

1-28-1969

Anglican Bishop C. Edward Crowther to Speak at UD

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Recommended Citation

"Anglican Bishop C. Edward Crowther to Speak at UD" (1969). *News Releases*. 3314.
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News from

**THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT**

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DAYTON, OHIO 45409 AREA CODE 513 461-5500 EXT. 500

DAYTON, Ohio, January 28, 1969 --- Anglican Bishop C. Edward Crowther, who was asked to leave South Africa in 1967 because of his concern and work for the black population of that country, will visit in Dayton this Monday, February 3, at the University of Dayton. The Bishop, who is now attached to the Center for Study of Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara, California, will talk on "The Church in the World Today," in UD's Immaculate Conception Chapel at 8 p.m.

The talk, which is under the co-sponsorship of UD's Religion in Life, Central Women's Organization and Union Activities Organization and LEARN, the Anglican Organization of Dayton, will touch on South African apartheid, race relations throughout the world, Biafra and the urban and suburban situation in the United States. Bishop Crowther has just returned from Biafra where he spent two weeks as a representative of the United States Government.

Bishop Crowther, who was born and raised in England, received worldwide notice when he was arrested by South African police in June, 1967, and told that he would have to leave the country in two weeks. He had upset the South African government since he went to the country in 1964. He had been elected to the post of Bishop of Kimberley and Kuruman by the Anglican Cathedral Council. At the time of his election he was the Episcopal Chaplain at UCLA and had been active in civil rights in the United States.

Shortly after his appointment, several hundred African people had been "forcibly removed from their homes which they had occupied for up to sixty years. They were sent from Holpan to Mamuthla, about 70 miles from Kimberley. I drove immediately to this place to find conditions of indescribable suffering and squalor...No provisions for housing or food or sanitation had been made..." Bishop Crowther made this statement before the United Nations General Assembly's Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa in February, 1968.

In that same statement, he said: "It suggests something of the incredible difficulty facing those who in the nightmare land of apartheid seek to work for the spiritual and physical interests of all races...."

"Shortly after my arrival, it became apparent that the blind spot in the conscience

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of most white South Africans was the question of race," he continued. "Everything possible was done to make me accept the status quo. 'When you've been here long enough you will understand our situation,' was a most frequently heard comment of those who wished me to defer judgement on what could be seen of poverty, humiliation and degradation all around..."

In his book, "Where Religion Gets Lost in the Church," Bishop Crowther, who taught criminal and constitutional law at Exeter College in England before his ordination to the Anglican priesthood, writes: "The Church in the United States, in Britain, and everywhere else I have visited since my deportation, is faced with problems similar to those raised in this book. Wherever it is uttered, 'black power' is the cry of disillusionment from the depth of long-frustrated hope that the white man will ever really voluntarily change..."

He covers many aspects of religion today and its relation to the social ills and upheavels including the "hippie" movement.

(According to Mr. John Britt of UD's School of Education, Bishop Crowther could be available for a press conference sometime during Monday. If news media desire such a conference, call Joe McLaughlin at UD, 461-5500, Ext. 500. Mr. Britt's Ext. is 338.)