

Manila Observatory Inaugurated In QC

By **ANTONIO MA. NIEVA**
Herald Staff Member

The multi-million-peso Manila observatory, operated by Jesuit priests at Loyola Heights, Quezon city, was inaugurated yesterday afternoon.

Rufino Cardinal Santos, Archbishop of Manila, officiated at the blessing of the observatory complex, including its main office, underground seismic vault and solar research building.

The invocation was given by Monsignor Jose Jovellanos, Vicar General, followed by a short address by Fr. Francisco Araneta, S.J., president of the Ateneo de Manila University; and Fr. Francis X. Clark, S.J., Father Provincial of the Society of Jesus in the Philippine province.

Fr. James Hennessey, director of the observatory, spoke on the maintenance and background of

the scientific station.

The scientific research station in Diliman, operated solely by the Jesuits, is a voluntary member of the Seismic Sea Wave Warning System of the Pacific. Tremors in the Pacific ocean are recorded locally and flashed to the Honolulu observatory, in Hawaii, where they are transmitted to other observatories.

The Manila observatory has a complete library in the field of physics and applied mathematics and other international scientific journals.

Before, the Jesuit observatory was located on Mt. Mirador, Baguio, where it was rebuilt after its properties were destroyed in Manila during World War II. Several foundations are supporting maintenance of the observatory.



Ateneo Observatory Blessed

Rufino J. Cardinal Santos (center) officiates at the blessing ceremony for the new buildings of the Manila observatory at the

Quezon City. Flanking the cardinal are Monsignor Benjamin Marino (left) and Father James J. Hennessey, S.J., director of the