

Vatican's Strict Neutrality In Present World War Analyzed

ZURICH (NC)—Enormous problems and difficulties facing the Holy See with regard to the maintenance of its neutrality in a war-divided world and of keeping this position comprehensible to all nations and peoples are analyzed in an important article which has ap-

peared in the newspaper Die Tat, here.

Entitled "Vatican Policy in the Second World War," the article points out how the difficulties that neutral nations must overcome in preserving their status are greater in extent and more complicated in the case of the Vatican.

The article says in part: "In a war involving almost the entire globe if the other neutral States do not find it easy to maintain their position of even to make it comprehensible to both conflicting parties it is still more difficult for the Holy See to convince the world of its complete non-participation."

In the years 1914-18, because of this neutral stand the Papacy was attacked by one side as being flagrantly pro-German and by the other as being in league with the sworn enemies of the German people. Impartial historians have long since acknowledged that the noble-hearted Benedict XV foresaw the future more clearly than all the contemporary statesmen, and that had his counsel been heeded Ver-

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Cardinal Leme Dead At 60 In Rio Janerio Was Noble Patriot

RIO DE JANEIRO His Eminence Sebastiao Cardinal Leme do Silva, Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro, died Saturday at the age of 60 after a series of heart attacks.

The sudden death of the noted Prince of the Church has been felt here as a great blow to Brazil, as His Eminence was a national figure and a distinguished patriot, greatly respected and loved throughout his native land.

The Brazilian Government, in honor of the Catholic dignitary who has contributed so much to the welfare of his country, decreed special funeral honors and his passing has been the cause of mourning by all classes in the nation.

A life spent as a zealous and devoted priest and prelate, was summed up by His Eminence in his last words: "I endeavored to love and serve Our Lord, His Holy Church and souls with all the fervor of my beloved vocation."



Cardinal Leme do Silva, Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro

Friends of Russia Ignore Religion In Sympathy Plea

WASHINGTON (N.C.)—Those who would promote greater sympathy and wider support for embattled Russia among the people of the United States have done their cause.

By great service in completely ignoring religion and freedom of conscience in a prospectus of a Congress of American Soviet Friendship to be held in New York City Nov. 7 and 8.

As a means of promoting better understanding between the Soviet and American Peoples, the program announces, there will be panel discussions on the following subjects:

- 1. Science, Exploration and the War
- 2. Public Health and Wartime Education
- 3. Women in the War
- 4. Child Care in Wartime

In a statement of the aims of the Congress also silent on the subject of religious freedom, Joseph E. Davies, Honorary Chairman, announces that the Russians are "fighting our fight when they fight Hitler." He tells of the "magnitude of the sacrifices they have made in our common cause." He lauds the Russians for "holding the fort for world democracy." And he repeats the declaration contained in the announcement of the panel discussion subjects that the purpose of this movement is to promote better understanding and cooperation between our two great peoples.

There are those among Washington observers who promptly ask: "What better way to promote this mutual understanding than through an examination of the attitude of the rulers of Soviet Russia toward that vital one of the four freedoms—freedom of religion?" There are, they remind, millions of Americans who will never "understand" a regime which persists in its stand against Chris-

his last words "I endeavored to love and serve Our Lord, His Holy Church and souls with all the fervor of my beloved vocation."

No New Cardinals Likely Until War Ends

VATICAN CITY That His Holiness Pope Pius XII will create any new Cardinals before the restoration of peace is improbable it has been stated in authoritative quarters here.

This statement was prompted by a secular news agency report which asserted that the Holy Father would soon hold a Consistory, and that he would name eight new members of the Sacred College, four of them in petto. This report was declared to be unfounded.

The expression "in petto" is Italian and means "within the breast" or "secretly," and applies to the creation of a Cardinal, whose name for the time being the Pope does not disclose.

Convent Pupils High In India Tests

KODAIKANAL, India A notable record has been made by the Presentation Convent here, with the preparation of nine candidates for the Cambridge University senior examination, all of whom were declared successful. In addition, 13 out of 15 candidates for the Cambridge junior examination passed it.

2 Priests, 2 Nuns Reported Slain In Solomon Islands

By George Barnard

LONDON (NC)—Official sources here affirm that Japanese killed the four Catholic missionaries—two priests and two nuns—whose death by bayoneting at Tasimbok, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, was reported earlier.

It is also reported now that a fifth missionary, Sister Edmee, escaped.

Both priests and the three nuns belonged to the Mariast Mission at Ruavatu. Missionary officials here have no independent information regarding the deaths, and officials sources have no further details than the above, and the fact that the priests were Father Henry Engberink, a native of Utrecht, Holland, and Father Arthur Duhamel, a native of the United States and that the nuns are believed to have been French. They were bayoneted in the throat.



MELBOURNE (NC) Bishop John Aerts, Vicar Apostolic of Dutch New Guinea, and seven other Catholic missionaries in the Kai Islands, in the Arafura Sea, north of Australia, have been put to death by the Japanese, according to word reaching here through the Netherlands Indies Information Service.

The report asserts to be based upon eye-witness accounts of Japanese activities on July 13. It says the Bishop, Missionaries and others were brought together in a re-



Rev. Arthur Duhamel, S.M., of Lawrence, Mass. (top photo) and the mission station at Ruavatu, Guadalcanal, where it is reported that he and three other missionaries, including two nuns, were slain by Japanese invading forces. Father Duhamel, a Mariast priest, was ordained in Washington in 1937 and has been in the South Solomons Vicariate since 1939. (N.C.W.C. Photo)

stated area and shot down. The killings were said to have taken place at Langgoer. The Bishop was reported to have ordered that the Mission laundry be destroyed before the Japanese occupied the island, and it was thought that this may have led to his being killed. It was also said other missionaries in that area had been removed elsewhere on the island.

WASHINGTON (NC) The four Mariast Missionaries whose death on Guadalcanal at the hands of Japanese invaders has been reported from London elected to remain at their station an extremely difficult mission post despite the dangers of war it was pointed out at the Mariast College at the Catholic University of America here.

They elected to remain with

Italian Cardinal Rebukes Officials Preaching Hate

VATICAN CITY (NC-Radio) Public affirmations by responsible persons that it is necessary to hate one's enemies has caused His Eminence Giovanni Battista Cardinal Naselli-Rocca, Archbishop of Bologna, to point out that fraternity among all men is a fundamental principle of Christianity which does not cease to hold true in time of war.

His Eminence calls attention to this fact in an article just published in L'Avvenire d'Italia of Bologna.

their flock it was said, and they have paid the high price of their heroic fidelity to God and to duty. By this supreme sacrifice they have carried on the great Catholic and Christ-like tradition of the true missionary zeal and devotedness.

Father Arthur Duhamel, S.M., the American priest reported slain, was born at Lawrence, Mass. Oct. 19, 1908, and went out to the South Pacific Missions in 1939. The Rev. Henry Oude-Engberink, S.M. also reported slain, was Father Duhamel's immediate superior. He was a native of the Netherlands. The two priests were known to have been stationed at Ruavatu, Guadalcanal when the Japanese began their invasion of the Solomon Islands, and the mission station is believed here to have been the scene of the tragedy.

Father Duhamel had written to Mariast here that his mission has the least number of conversions, was the hardest to work in the whole Vicariate, and that "our only hope is the bush, for other missions flourish in the more settled parts."

BENEFORD, Mass. The Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary, whose motherhouse is at the Convent of St. Therese of Lisieux, here, have identified as Sister Sylvia of France and Sister Odilia of Italy, the two nuns who are reported to have been slain by the Japanese at a mission station in Guadalcanal Island. The Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary are strictly a missionary community for the South Sea Islands and the British West Indies.