

Church Seen Target Of False Reports On Priests In Brazil

By Msgr. Joaquim Nabuco

RIO DE JANEIRO, (NC) — A campaign in the press, or rather, in a few journals—led by Senhor Joel Silveira and directed against the foreign clergy and nuns in Brazil is in truth, a campaign against the Catholic Church. The accusations one by one have been refuted by Senhor Otonio Lopes, President of the Association of Catholic Journalists, in a series of articles appearing in *A Falta*, Rio's Catholic weekly. Senhor Silveira, on the other hand, has not been able to substantiate one of his allegations.

Not a Barrows in a story printed in this country and copyrighted by the *Chicago Daily News*, goes a long way to excite charges of this sort. He writes from Panama; the reports concern priests in Brazil and he gives as his authority a speech made in Peru, by a man who in turn is said to have obtained his information from outside Brazil.

Pledge President Full Support In Brazil's Crisis

RIO DE JANEIRO, (NC) The National Board of Catholic Action was received by President Getulio Vargas, Senhor Amoroso Lima, national president, as spokesman, assured the Chief Executive of the solidarity of Brazilian Catholics in the present crisis.

"We are the Brazil that prays, not to shun action, but to act better," he said. "Brazilian Catholic Action is Catholic by virtue of its supreme principles, active by virtue of its natural scope and it is also most heartily Brazilian. It is this, Mr. President, that brings us here in this grave moment of our history. We are one in body and soul, acting under the inspiration of our spiritual chiefs, and anxious to serve our country and to defend her honor and sovereignty."

Immediate and thorough investigation by both civil and ecclesiastical authorities in Brazil has shown that the stories circulated are absolutely false without any foundation whatsoever and that the behavior of the foreign Religious in Brazil is, in every respect, what it should be friendly to the country of their adoption.

Refuted Stories Reappear

There is both a similarity and repetition in these stories about Brazil as circulated in the press of the other American Republics, although different localities are sometimes used. Stories refuted by this correspondent in a dispatch dated Sept. 4 and released by the N.C.W.C. News Service Sept. 7, have reappeared in substance in the press of the United States six weeks later.

Last summer it was a nun in a convent at Laguna, Florianopolis, who had a radio concealed in a tomb, now it is "a German priest in the town of Florianopolis" operating a short-wave radio "in the cemetery vault of his church." Laguna is a town near Florianopolis, the Capital of the State of Santa Catharina, which might account for the report that "a third priest was taken into custody for maintaining a secret radio setup in Sant Catharina since Catharina is the Spanish, and Catharina the Portuguese for Catharage."

All of these stories might well have as their foundation the fact that the Rev. Antonio Revering of Florianopolis was questioned by the police, who unequivocally established his innocence. Father Revering has been well known for his anti-Nazi attitude from the very beginning and on one occasion, was subjected to insult by the German Consul for this very reason. The sincerity of his devotion to Brazil is also vouched for by his ecclesiastical superior.

The persistent circulation of such stories has a bad effect on mutual relations between Brazil and other members of the United Nations, and causes annoyance at home and embarrassment to Brazilian diplomats abroad. The foreign Religious of Brazil are not in the service of the Axis, but the circulation of such stories about them does serve the Axis cause.

Pope In Peace Plea Expresses Hope For Religion In Russia

VATICAN CITY, (NC-Radio) — Particular importance is attributed here to the radio message which His Holiness Pope Pius XII broadcast to Portugal last Saturday, in which he consecrated the Church and the

world to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This, it is pointed out, was a solemn act comparable to that of Pope Leo XIII in 1889, when he consecrated mankind to the Sacred Heart. The solemn precedent was specifically recalled in the broad-

cast to Portugal, which marked the observance in that country of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the apparition of the Blessed Virgin at Fatima.

A profound impression has been created by the Holy Father's moving appeal for peace.

It is noted that one of the prophecies connected with the apparition of the Blessed Virgin at Fatima says of the present war that it will end when humanity is consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Hope for Russia

The Sovereign Pontiff's allusion in his broadcast to religious conditions in Russia, and the hope for future improvement, also left a deep impression. Beseeching the Blessed Mother to extend her protection, Pope Pius prayed: "Give peace to the peoples separated by error and discord, and especially to those who profess such singular devotion to thee that no home was ever without thy venerated icon, today often hidden and reserved for better days; give them peace and bring them back to the one fold of Christ under the one and true Shepherd."

This passage was contained in the conclusion of the Sovereign Pontiff's prayer, and was not available textually immediately following the broadcast. The conclusion of the Holy Father's prayer to the Blessed Mother follows:

"Extend thy protection to the infidels and to all those still in the shadow of death; give them peace and grant that they may be illuminated by the sun of truth and that they may repeat with us before the One and Only Saviour of the World, 'Glory to God on high and peace to men of good will.' Give peace to the peoples separated by error and discord and especially to those who profess such singular devotion to thee that no home was ever without thy venerated icon, today often hidden and reserved for better days, give them peace and bring them back to the one fold of Christ under the one and true Shepherd."

"Obtain peace and complete freedom for the Holy Church of God, bring an end to the overwhelming flood of materialistic neo-paganism and enkindle in the faithful the love of purity, the practice of the Christian life, and apostolic zeal, so that the servants of God may increase in merit and number."

Pledge of Salvation

"Lastly, as the Church and the entire human race were consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in order that placing all our hopes therein it became the sign and pledge of victory and salvation, so from this day forward may they be perpetually consecrated to thee, Our Mother and Queen of the World, and to thy Immaculate Heart, that thy love and patronage may hasten the triumph of the Kingdom of God and that all the nations, at peace again with one another and with God, may call thee Blessed and that, with thee, we may raise our voices to resound from pole to pole in the chant of the eternal Magnificat of glory, love and gratitude to the Heart of Jesus, in which alone we may find truth, life and peace."

MYRON TAYLOR'S VISIT TO VATICAN



Photographed during Myron Taylor's official visit to the Vatican in September, this photo, first to arrive in America, shows Mr. Taylor, President Roosevelt's personal representative at the Holy See, on a tour of the Vatican buildings. Shown (from left): Mr. Taylor, Rev. Dr. Walter S. Carroll of Pittsburgh who has relatives in Rochester, Harold Tittmann, secretary to Mr. Taylor, Bishop Alexander Evumoff, Director of the Information office and Archbishop Antonio Riberi.

North Africa Arena of U. S. Armed Forces Was Glory of Early Church

(By N.C.W.C. News Service)

"There is no doubt that after the Roman Pontiff, the first Archbishop of all Africa is the Bishop of Carthage."

These words of Pope Leo IX are inscribed in letters of gold around the walls of the central nave of the Cathedral of St. Louis erected in the vicinity where the Crusader King of France died in 1270.

Today, the Cathedral stands between two advancing armies who seek to rid Africa of aggressors, and the world of the regimen for which those aggressors stand a regimen which not only interferes with man's right to worship God unhampered by man-made regulations, but also derides another fundamental and natural right the dignity of man.

This is not the first time that armadas have ridden at anchor in harbors along the Mediterranean coast of Africa—the galleys of Hamilcar and Hannibal set out from these ports and those of Scipio blockaded them 21 centuries ago, nor is it the first time that the desert sands ran red with the blood of those who died in defense of a conviction.

The shores of North Africa are impregnated with the blood of thousands of early Christians whose bodies were torn to pieces by literally wild beasts. The names of some of these early martyrs, 20 centuries later, are mentioned every hour of every day as priests around the world offer up the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Eucharistic Congress in 1930

But the attention of the world was centered upon the history of the early church in Africa where the Father of the Faithful had under his jurisdiction 400 Bishops in the first centuries of the Christian era, when the Thirtieth International Eucharistic Congress was held at Carthage in May, 1930. This great world Catholic event commemorated the fifteenth centenary of the death of St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (today Bone, Algeria), marked the first centenary of the establishment of the French Protectorate which led to the restoration of Christianity after centuries of complete Moslem domination, and it fulfilled the aspiration of the Permanent Committee on International Eucharistic Congresses that, before the Committee had been in existence 50 years, an International Congress should be held on every Continent.

The significance of the See of Carthage in the history of the Church was emphasized at that time by the distinguished French Catholic historian and Academician Louis Bertrand when he addressed the Congress on "the great religious metropolis, Carthage." "We are here," he said, "to honor the ancestors of our Faith—men who,

lived before us, believed even to the shedding of their blood in the real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament, in the Lord and the promise of Christ. This is my body. This is my blood. I am with you all days, even unto the consummation of the world."

Hundreds of Shrines

Visualizing the early Christian city on the basis of ruins revealed to the modern world through the persistent efforts of the great archaeologist and White Father, the Rev. Alphonse Delattre, the historian said that these ruins extend from Egypt through Crete and

Tripolitania (modern Libya), Tunisia and Algeria, and up to modern Morocco the nation of the world upon which American thoughts are focused this week. He recalled the famous words of St. Augustine: Africa is full of the bodies of holy martyrs. Here at Carthage," he said, "there were at least 22 Basilicas." It is a too little known fact about North Africa, he continued that nowhere, not even in Pontifical Rome, has such an abundance of Christian ruins been found, and so intact, so interesting. There is nothing to equal them elsewhere along the Mediterranean.

Slovenian 'Columnists' Attendance At Mass Surprises Italians

LONDON The loose labeling of all combatants as either "Reds" or "Fascists" created a situation which surprised the Italians who have at Gorizia near Udine a concentration camp for "Communists" engaged in widespread guerrilla tactics against the invader in Slovenia, northern Yugoslav Province.

When Mass was announced in the camp 5,000 of the supposed Communists turned up. They sang hymns in their own tongue, said the Rosary aloud and finished up with invocations for their country, for their families and for peace.

Benefit In Will

Cleveland The probate of the will of Dr. Thomas A. Costello, retired physician here, who died October 15, discloses that the bulk of his \$50,000 estate has been bequeathed to Catholic charities here.

The behavior of these Catholics has shaken the Italian soldiers' belief in the necessity of using harsh measures against such people. It is stated in official Yugoslav circles here.

It is said here that 31,000 Yugoslav men and boys have been rounded up and sent to Italy. This it is said means practically the whole male population between the ages of 16 and 50, in the Italian-controlled Yugoslav Slovenia.

Canadian Archbishops Flay Magazine For Misrepresenting Church In Quebec

QUEBEC, (NC) — Nine Catholic Archbishops of Canada, meeting here, have protested against an article which appeared in the magazine *Life* on "French Canada."

Similar protests against the same article have been voiced in statements issued by Adelard Godbout, Premier of Quebec, and His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec.

The latest protest was issued over the signatures of Cardinal Villeneuve, the Most Rev. W. M. Duke, Archbishop of Vancouver, the Most Rev. J. C. McGuigan, Archbishop of Toronto, the Most Rev. J. H. MacDonald, Archbishop of Edmonton, the Most Rev. J. T. McNally, Archbishop of Halifax, the Most Rev. Alexander Vachon, Archbishop of Ottawa, the Most Rev. Joseph Charbonneau, Archbishop of Montreal, the Most Rev. Norbert Robichaud, Archbishop of Moncton, and the Most Rev. Georges Cabana, Coadjutor Archbishop of St. Boniface.

Leaves False Impression

The text of their statement follows:

"The Archbishops of Canada, assembled in a solemn meeting in the City of Quebec, vigorously protested against the article entitled 'French Canada' which appeared in *Life*, on Oct. 19, 1942.

"This article attributes to the Catholic Church in Quebec Province certain ideas, views and attitudes which represent the Catholic Church of French Canada under an unfavorable and false light. It leaves with the reader an absolutely incomplete and false impression of the Church's action and influence on the religious and social life of the Catholics of Quebec province.

False and Abusive

"We express in the strongest terms our complete disapproval of this article, which is not only false and prejudicial to the good name of the Church, but also is a flagrant abuse of the 'good neighbor' laws and of the natural laws of justice and truth.

"We observe in particular: "1. The author of this article ignores that the laws of the Catholic Church are the same the world over and that they are not applied differently to the people of Quebec

Province. The seeming difference comes from the fact that in most of the districts of Quebec everyone is a Catholic and all, consequently, behave spontaneously as Catholics in private and public activities.

"2. The pastor, as in all our Catholic parishes, is the 'father' of his people, and all naturally go to him with their problems and difficulties.

Part Taken by Wardens

"3. The author of this article should have learned the preponderant part which the wardens, elected by the people and regulated by the civil laws of the Province, take in the administration of the Church properties.

"4. He also ignores that in the Province of Quebec, as in all the other Provinces of Canada, the elementary schools are administered by trustees elected by the people. He does not seem to know that in this province, supposedly 'priest ridden,' a greater liberty is accorded to the national and religious minorities than in the other Provinces of Canada and much greater even than in the United States."